Zoom Video Conferencing

Zoom is the official video conferencing service of ICERM and Brown University. ICERM uses both Zoom Meetings and Zoom Webinar for our events.

Downloading Zoom

- The Zoom Meetings client is available for macOS, Windows, and Linux from the Zoom website.
- Zoom is available for iOS on the App Store and Android on the Google Play Store.

FAQs & Zoom Support Pages

Zoom's full user guide and knowledgebase available at https://support.zoom.us/. Some commonly used Zoom features with direct links to their support pages on Zoom's website are below.

- How do I raise my hand? - Meeting controls for attendees
- How Do I Share My Screen?
- Managing Participants in a Webinar - for organizers and session chairs

Meetings vs. Webinars

Zoom Virtual Meetings

Zoom Meetings provides meetings with video, audio and screen sharing for up to 300 real time participants.

- ICERM uses Zoom Meetings for informal talks and discussion, working group meetings, and virtual social events such as coffee break sessions and workshop receptions.
- Zoom Meetings allow all participants to control their own microphones, cameras, and screen sharing so they can see, chat, and collaborate with each other.
- For officially scheduled workshop events, ICERM's IT staff creates the Zoom sessions and shares the links with all participants. A member of ICERM's IT staff also monitors the Zoom session to provide any technical support should the need arise.
- During long-term programs, ICERM can support a limited number of recurring working group meetings on Zoom.
- All attendees, speakers, and session chairs are encouraged to review our Zoom Meetings Guide.

Zoom Webinar

Zoom Webinar is an add-on to the Zoom Meetings service that allows more formal webinar broadcasting and live-streaming outside of Zoom.
ICERM uses Webinar for most formal workshop talks. 
- Webinar attendees will be in view-only mode but can still raise their hand to request microphone access or use chat to ask questions.
- Most ICERM Webinars are live-streamed on the icerm.brown.edu website via Panopto.
- All attendees, speakers, and session chairs are encouraged to review our Zoom Webinars Guide.

Technical Comparison for Organizers

Meetings

- Zoom Meetings allow all participants to see, chat, and collaborate with each other.
- All participants can control their own microphones, cameras, and screen sharing by default.
- These sessions can be recorded but not live streamed.

Webinars

- During a webinar, participants are put into two categories: “panelists” and “attendees”.
- Panelists can use video, audio, and screen sharing just like in a normal Zoom meeting.
- Attendees have a “view-only” experience of the panel, but can also use audio with permission from the Webinar hosts for asking questions during talks.
- Attendees in Webinars can not see the participant list during sessions.
- Webinar also includes Q&A and Polls features.
- Q&A is a specific chat area for attendees to ask questions to panelists.
- Polls allow panelists and webinar hosts to poll the attendees to vote on questions/topics during the webinar.