Getting Started (Again) with Online Learning

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June 25, 2020
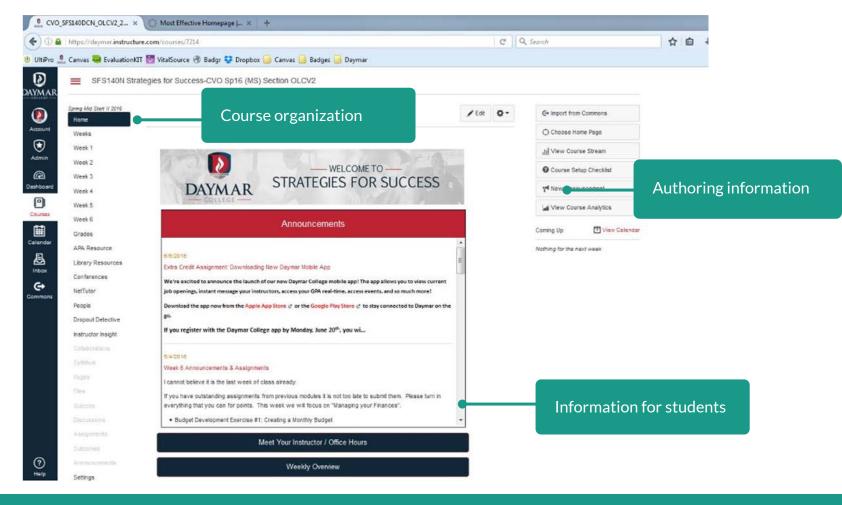
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What is online learning?

Online learning is any learning that occurs almost entirely online

- **BC:** Over 80% of content is delivered online
- Typically has no face-to-face meetings

What are some examples of online learning?

Terminology

- Asynchronous vs. Synchronous
- Cohort-based vs. self-paced
- Instructor-led vs. self-paced

Course organization

Authoring information

Information for students

1. Learning Management System: Synchronous and Asynchronous

UIcelandX: Sheep101
Sheep in the Land of Fire and Ice

Grazing in the North

To provide a short overview of plant herbivore interactions in northern ecosystems we have Professor David Hik from Simon Fraser University in Canada. Herbivores are animals that eat plants. Whether they are small like a caterpillar or large like a sheep, they play important roles in processes that determine the functioning of both **natural and managed ecosystems. First by** consuming plants and second by being food for predators, herbivores represent a central link in the flow of energy in the cycling of nutrients in nature. For example, imagine a goose in summer eating grass. The plant provides the goose with energy and nutrients, nourishment that allows it to grow and reproduce. But some of the

DAVID HIK
SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

2:04 / 6:00   ▶ Speed 1.0x

Video (and Readings)

Knowledge check #2
🔖 Bookmark this page

Assessment

Quick concept check
2 points possible (ungraded)
1. Animals that eat plants are called

[Select an option ⌄]

2. Carrying capacity is...

○ the maximum number of herbivores we can have in an ecosystem, irrespective of the resources available

○ the minimum number of herbivores we can have in an ecosystem, given the resources available

○ the maximum number of herbivores we can have in an ecosystem, given the resources available

Show all posts ⌄   by recent activity ⌄

💬 Post here your questions about this section
Please post here if you have any questions about this section. We will try to answer them as soon as possible, but we also encourage you to respond to questions posted ...   3
📌 Pinned   👤 Staff

❔ In case of Pakistan
Sheeps are consider as best grazer in mountaneous area especially in Pakistan. In one of the Forest Policy of Pakistan, it was one of the objective to remove the Goat fro...   2

❔ Grazing management and grazing pressure
I understand there is great complexity in many of the systems being considered and they differ based on location, even within a country. Having done some research in g...   6

❔ [deleted]
[deleted]   8

❔ How would non-managed sheep survive winter?
In non-domesticated sheep populations, how would they manage to overwinter? Are these animals' wild counterparts (ancestors?) native to places with year-round grazin...   2

❔ What animal is at 4:12 in video?
I know this is a bit off topic, but can someone ID the animal featured at 4...

💬 winter feed
Who is growing the winter fodder for the sheep and where is it grown?

Discussion Forum

💬 Selective grazing?
Hello Isabel, are sheep known for selective grazing ? Thank you! Anita

2. MOOC Platform: Massively Open Online Course: Asynchronous
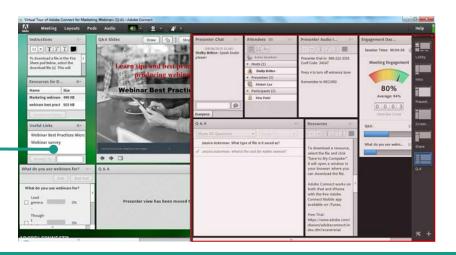
Images / Breakout Rooms

Chats/Polls/Features

3. Web Conferencing System: Synchronous and Instructor led

What are the benefits of online learning?

Access to:

- Continuous learning
- Resources, materials, expertise, people
- Curriculum and content supports
- Online community of peers, learners, practitioners
- Build (certain types of) content knowledge
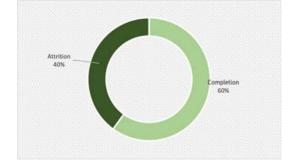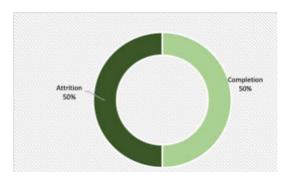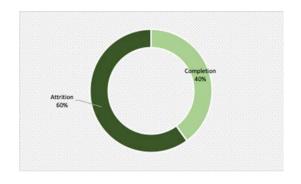- As part of a blended system, can be as effective as face-to-face learning

What works in online online learning?

Here's what the research tells us:

- **Synchronous** is better than asynchronous
- **Cohort-based i**s better than self-paced
- **Instructor-led** is better than self-paced
- Course completion and satisfaction with **online course**=Satisfaction with **instructor**

Attrition

Achilles Heel of Online Learning: Dropping out; incomplete assignments; dropping in and dropping out; non-attendance; failure to complete course work

How can we reduce attrition/increase completion of online courses?

1. **Pay attention to course design:**

Design intentionally for online medium

Design courses that are mostly:
- Synchronous
- Cohort-based
- Facilitator-led

Make students work together (pairs, teams)

Employ multiple ways of learning. Students learn from:

- Each other
- Instructor
- Activities
- Content

COURSE DESIGN CYCLE
Personal Instructional Strategy

REFLECTION

1 COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:
What will the students know, be able to do, and what will they value when they complete my course?

2 ASSESSMENT:
What evidence do the students and instructors have of success?

3 LEARNING ACTIVITIES:
How will I conduct class to assist students in their learning/success?

4 ALIGNMENT & SYLLABUS:
Do the assessments and learning experiences align with learning outcomes? Is the workload for myself and students reasonable and sustainable? Do I communicate course organization?

5 ANALYSIS & ACTION:
What is working and not working in my course? What changes will be incorporated in the next offering?

CONTEXT:
(e.g., class size, student background)

REFLECTION

Texas A&M University Center for Teaching Excellence | cte@tamu.edu | cte.tamu.edu

1. Design for the online medium

Use a variety of content

Simple Learning Resources

Simple learning resources are non-interactive resources such as documents, PowerPoint presentations, videos or audio files. These materials are non-interactive in the sense that learners can only read or watch content without performing any other action.

These resources can be quickly developed and, when they match defined learning objectives and are designed in a structured way, they can be a valuable learning resource even though they don't provide any interactivity.

Interactive e-lessons

The most common approach for self-paced e-learning is Web-based training consisting of a set of interactive e-lessons. An e-lesson is a linear sequence of screens which can include text, graphics, animations, audio, video and interactivity in the form of questions and feedback. E-lessons can also include recommended reading and links to online resources, as well as additional information on specific topics.

Electronic simulations

Simulations are highly interactive forms of e-learning.

The term "simulation" basically means creating a learning environment that "simulates" the real world, allowing the learner to learn by doing. Simulations are a specific form of Web-based training that immerse the learner in a real-world situation and respond in a dynamic way to his/her behaviour.

Job aids

Job aids provide just-in-time knowledge.

They can take several forms and be delivered on different platforms (e.g. computer, printed document, mobile phone). They usually provide immediate answers to specific questions, thus helping users accomplish job tasks. Technical glossaries and checklists are a few examples of simple job aids, but sophisticated expert systems can also be developed to assist workers in complex decision-making.

2. Prepare instructors to teach online

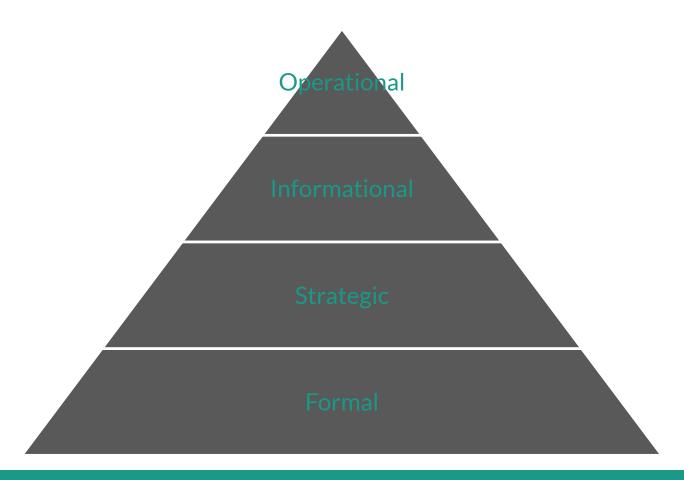**Not just how to use technology to teach but how to teach through technology**

- Content
- Blend pedagogy, technology and content
- Understand various online technologies and what they are good for
- Troubleshoot technology
- Assess learners and learning
- Manage and support online learners
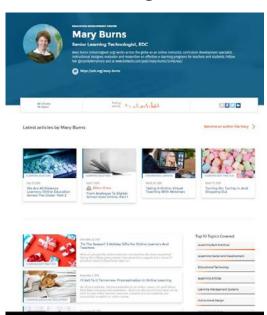- Promote/Model effective online communication
- Establish online presence

3. Prepare students to be successful online learners

They're not the digital natives we thought they were...

3. Prepare students to be successful online learners

Thank you!

countykerrymary