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THE IMPORTANCE OF HYBRID TEACHING AT HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

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DOI: 10.52773/tsuull.conf.teach.foreign.lang.2024.8.5/PMAZ5539

Abstract: *Hybrid –teaching has become common when pandemic situation required all organizations to have remote mode of working. In this article, hybrid-teaching is being discussed and its importance is going to be shed light on it. A hybrid teaching model is when some students receive in-class, face-to-face instruction while other students receive out-of-class, online instruction. It may be a 50/50 mix, or it may be that three or four students receive virtual instruction while the rest are in the classroom as usual. Hybrid teaching became much more common during the COVID-19 pandemic when school districts limited classroom sizes and gave parents the choice of whether to have their children "attend" in class or from home. However, this model is sticking around because it offers a variety of benefits to districts, teachers, students, and parents.*

Keywords: *hybrid teaching, blended learning, face-to-face, self-paced learning, language, management system.*

Hybrid teaching, also known as blended learning, is an educational approach that combines traditional face-to-face instruction with online

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learning activities. It aims to leverage the benefits of both in-person and online instruction to create a more flexible and engaging learning experience. Hybrid teaching is important for several reasons, each of which contributes to enhancing the quality of education and addressing the evolving needs of students and institutions:

Flexibility: Hybrid teaching provides flexibility in learning, allowing students to access course materials and engage in learning activities at their own pace and convenience. This flexibility is particularly beneficial for students with work or family commitments, those with disabilities, or those who prefer a more self-directed learning approach.

Accessibility: By offering a combination of in-person and online instruction, hybrid teaching can enhance accessibility for students with diverse needs. Online resources can be made available in multiple formats, and accommodations can be provided for students with disabilities. This ensures that all students have equal opportunities to access and succeed in their education.

Enhanced Learning Experience: Hybrid teaching combines the benefits of traditional face-to-face instruction, such as real-time interaction with instructors and peers, with the advantages of online learning, such as multimedia resources and self-paced learning modules. This blended approach can result in a more engaging and interactive learning experience that caters to different learning styles and preferences.

Increased Student Engagement: Hybrid teaching encourages active learning and student engagement through a variety of instructional methods, including group discussions, collaborative projects, and multimedia presentations. Online platforms can also facilitate communication and collaboration outside of the classroom, fostering a sense of community among students and promoting peer learning.

Preparation for the Digital Age: In today's digital age, proficiency in online communication and technology is essential for success in both academic and professional settings. Hybrid teaching equips students with digital literacy skills and familiarity with online tools and platforms, preparing them for the demands of the modern workforce.

Cost-Effectiveness: Hybrid teaching can be more cost-effective for institutions compared to traditional face-to-face instruction. By leveraging online resources and reducing the need for physical classroom space,

institutions can optimize their resources and accommodate larger numbers of students without compromising the quality of education.

Adaptability to Changing Circumstances: Hybrid teaching provides flexibility and adaptability to respond to changing circumstances, such as public health emergencies, natural disasters, or other disruptions that may impact traditional modes of instruction. By incorporating online components into their courses, institutions can ensure continuity of learning and minimize disruptions during times of crisis.

Here are some key aspects of hybrid teaching:

Combination of In-Person and Online Instruction: In hybrid teaching, students participate in both in-person and online learning activities. This could involve attending lectures or seminars on campus while also accessing course materials, assignments, and discussions online.

Flexibility: Hybrid teaching offers flexibility in terms of when and where learning takes place. Students can engage with course content and complete assignments at their own pace and schedule, while still benefiting from the structure and interaction provided by in-person sessions.

Technology Integration: Technology plays a central role in hybrid teaching, facilitating online communication, content delivery, and collaboration. Learning management systems (LMS), video conferencing tools, interactive multimedia resources, and online discussion forums are commonly used to support hybrid learning experiences.

Personalized Learning: Hybrid teaching allows for greater customization and personalization of learning experiences. Students can access additional resources and support online, participate in asynchronous discussions, and receive feedback on their progress through digital assessment tools.

Active Learning Opportunities: Hybrid teaching encourages active learning through a variety of instructional methods, including group discussions, collaborative projects, hands-on activities, and multimedia presentations. Online platforms can be used to supplement in-person instruction with interactive simulations, virtual labs, and multimedia resources.

Accessibility: Hybrid teaching can enhance accessibility by providing alternative modes of participation for students with diverse learning needs. Online materials can be made available in multiple formats, and

accommodations can be made for students who require additional support or accommodations.

Pedagogical Considerations: Effective hybrid teaching requires careful planning and consideration of pedagogical principles. Instructional strategies should be aligned with learning objectives, and assessments should accurately measure student learning outcomes. Faculty may need training and support in designing and implementing hybrid courses effectively.

Conclusion

Overall, hybrid teaching offers a flexible and adaptable approach to education that combines the best aspects of in-person and online instruction. By leveraging technology and embracing innovative pedagogical approaches, hybrid teaching can enhance student engagement, promote active learning, and support diverse student needs. Hybrid teaching offers a dynamic and innovative approach to education that combines the best of both traditional and online instruction. By providing flexibility, accessibility, and enhanced learning experiences, hybrid teaching can help institutions meet the diverse needs of their students and prepare them for success in the digital age.

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