Blended Learning A to Z: Myths, Models, and Moments of Magic

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What I will discuss...

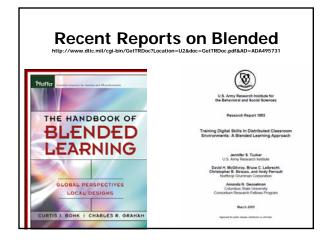
- 1. Definitions of blended learning
- 2. Advantages and disadvantages
- 3. Models of blended learning
- 4. Examples of blended learning
- 5. Two online frameworks of mine

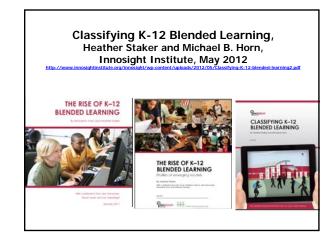


Myth #1: If you read the enough research you will be able to know the impact of blended learning.

- 1. Improved Pedagogy
 - More interactive instead of transmissiveAuthentic, real world, etc.
- 2. Increased Access/Flexibility
- 3. Increased Cost Effectiveness



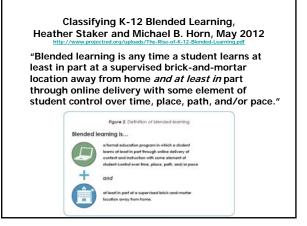




Myths #2: Blended learning is easy to define. Myth #3: Blended learning is hard to define. Blending Online and F2F Instruction

"Blended learning refers to events that combine aspects of online and face-to-face instruction" (Rooney, 2003, p. 26; Ward & LaBranche, 2003, p. 22)



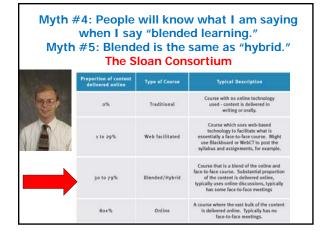


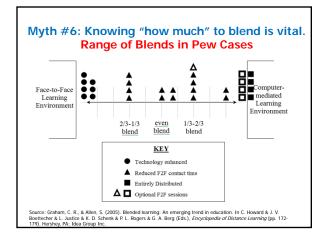
Classifying K-12 Blended Learning, Heather Staker and Michael B. Horn, May 2012

One critical part of the definition of blended learning is that it involves "some element of student control of fime, place, path, and/or pace." Digital Learning Now! describes

- Path: Learning is no longer restricted to the pedagogy used by the teacher. Interactive and adaptive software allows students to learn [in a method that is customized to their needs].

http://digitallearningnow.com/wp





Myth #7: Blended learning works everywhere. Where is Blended Beneficial?

- Intro Classes (Spanish, psych, algebra, biology)
- AP Classes
- · Classes with low success rates
- · Classes with students working part-time
- **Required classes**
- Students are rural or spread over a distance
- Classes with certification or standardization
- · Classes with new requirements or standards
- · Writing intensive classes, theory classes, etc.
- · Lab classes?

Examples of Blended Learning

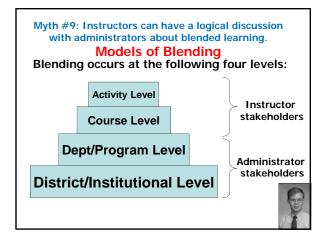
- Put assessments/reviews online
- Online discussions
- Online labs
- Put reference materials on Web
- Deliver pre-work online
- Provide office hours online
- Use mentoring/coaching tool
 Access experts live online

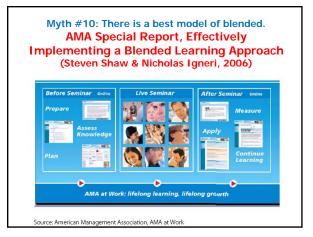


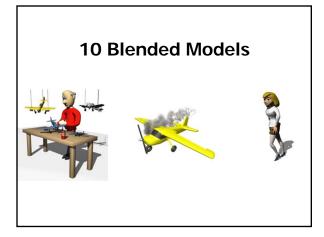
Myth #8: People learn more in face-to-face settings than blended or fully online ones. Fully Online and Blended Learning Advantages

- 1. Increased Learning (better papers, higher scores)
- 2. More effective pedagogy and interaction
- 3. Course access at one's convenience and flexible completion (e.g., multiple ways to meet course objectives)
- 4. Reduction in physical class or space needs, commuting, parking, etc.
- 5. Increased opportunities for human interaction, communication, & contact among students
- 6. Introverts participate more

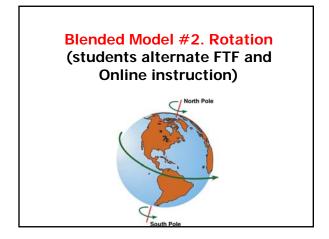


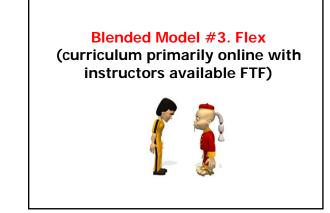


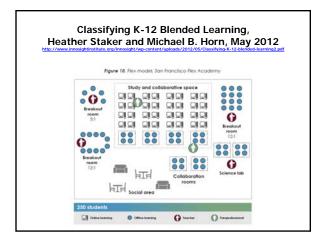


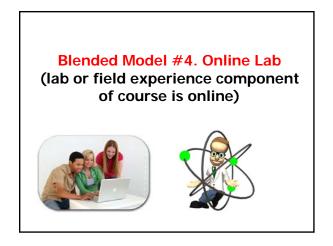


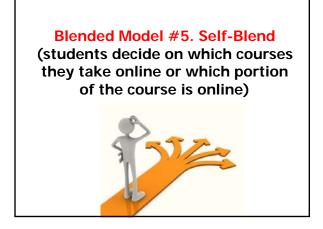




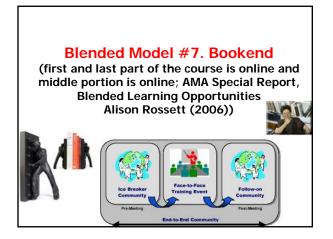


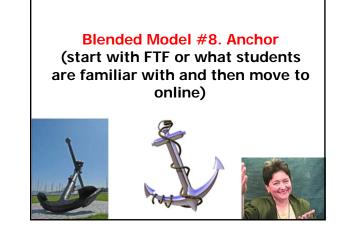


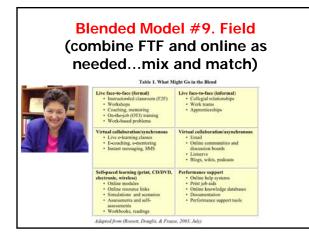


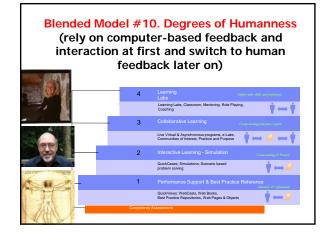












Part II: 13 Fully Online and Blended Learning Problems and 13 Solutions



Problem Situation #1: Brief FTF Experiences

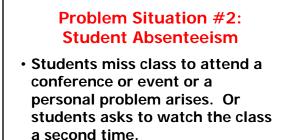
 Face-to-face (FTF) experiences are brief, one-week journeys. Need to need to build selfconfidence, create social supports, teams, camaraderie, etc.

Ok, Million Dollar Question: What can you do in 1 week?



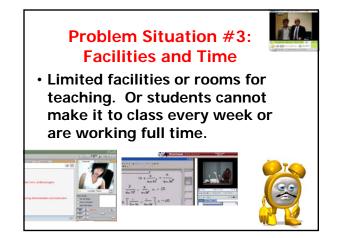
Blended Solution #1+. Sample Activities for Brief Meetings

- 1. Assign web buddies, email pals, critical friends based on interests, confidence, location, etc.
- 2. Ice breakers—paired introductions, corners.
- 3. Solve case in team competitions with awards.
- 4. Test technology in a lab.
- 5. Assign teams and exchange info for small teams using text messaging.
- 6. Library (digital and physical) scavenger hunt.
- 7. Do a podcast documenting the meeting.
- 8. Have everyone create a blog on the experience.
- 9. Open an e-portfolio for each student
- 10. Brainstorm how might use technology in program.









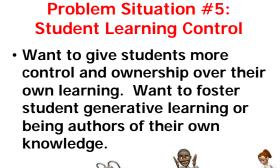


Problem Situation #4: Web Supplemental Activities

· Fail to finish class discussion or other activity in time. Or desire to integrate the Web more in your face-to-face instruction or outside of class. Want to provide course resources and activities for students to explore.









Blended Solution #5. Wikibook or Wikipedia Editing or Critiques Ask students to critique a wikibook or



Problem Situation #6: Preparedness for the Profession

· Students are not prepared for their professions when they graduate. Or want to better apprentice students into their chosen profession. What to provide opportunities to work with practitioners, experts, mentors, and coaches in authentic learning environment.





Problem Situation #7: Collaborative Skill Deficit

• Students need collaboration and teamwork skills. Want to build virtual teaming skills in class activities or work with learners in other locales or situations.



Blended Solution #7. Online Role

Play (Tulane University, Exercise for Renewable Energy, Freeman Sch. of Business, roles include power traders, electric utility analyst, independent power producers & utility dispatchers)



Problem Situation #8: Student Reflections and Connections • Students are not connecting

 Students are not connecting content. They are just turning pages and going through the motions. Minimal student reflection is seen.

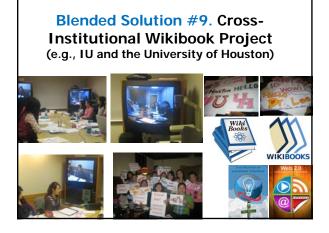




Problem Situation #9: Learning Community

• There is a preference for creating an online learning community in order to increase student learning and retention in the program. Such a community might be in a single class or across a series of classes.

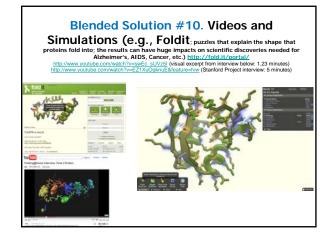




Problem Situation #10: Need to Visualize Content

• Content is highly visual in nature and difficult to simply discuss in class. Or students have a preference for visual learning.









Problem Situation #12: Preference for Auditory Learning

• The content is heavily verbal or words. Or students have a preference to listen to a lecture or hear an instructor deliver a lecture.





Problem Situation #13: Lack of Instructor Presence

• Students need to see or hear from the instructor. They need a sense that the instructor is supporting their learning. They prefer face-to-face but are willing to try online.



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Again, this talk covered...

- 1. Definitions of blended learning
- 2. Advantages and disadvantages
- 3. Models of blended learning
- 4. Examples of blended learning
- 5. Predictions for blended learning
- 6. Challenges for blended learning



