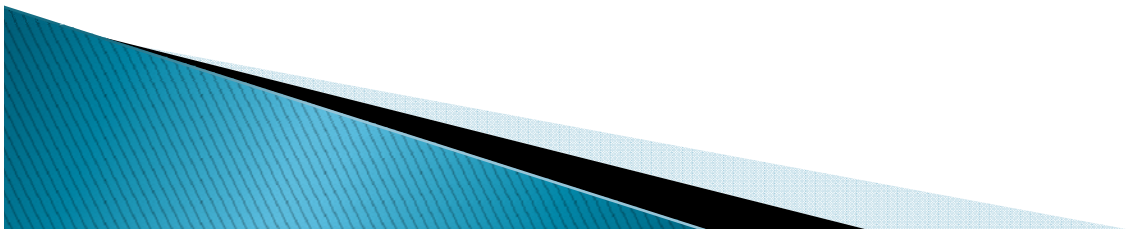


Developing and Engaging Social Work
Learning Communities Through Unique
“Online” and “Hybrid” Course Delivery
Methods for Future Program Success

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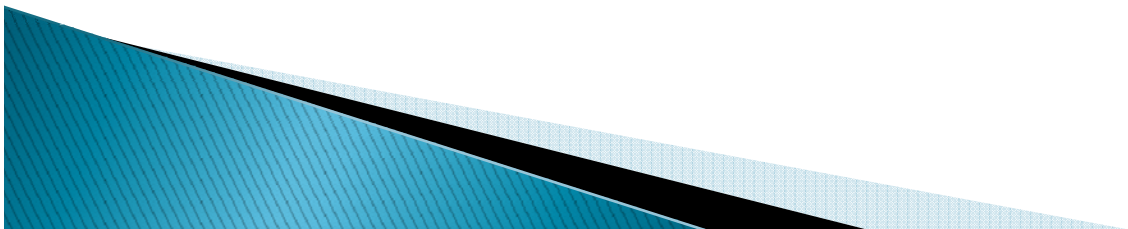


- ▶ According to (Draves, W. A., 2002), “Online learning will constitute 50% of all learning in the 21st century. It is creating tremendous opportunities for teachers, trainers, business owners, educators, consultants, associations, volunteer and part-time teachers. The internet is doing for our society what the automobile did for it in the last century, and lifelong learning is the engine that is driving our information age economy” .



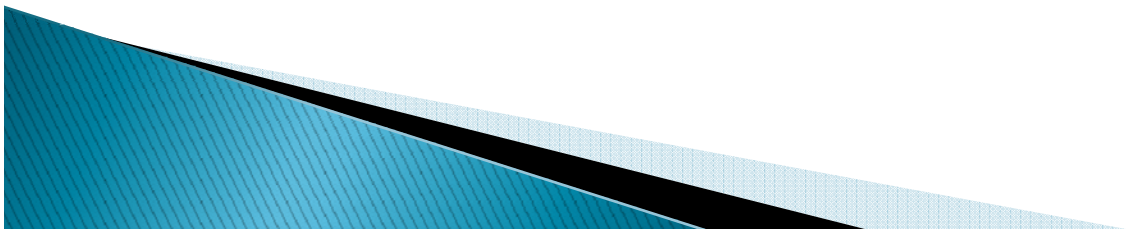
Definition of Hybrid Courses

- ▶ Hybrid
 - (Adjective) composite; formed or composed of heterogeneous elements
- ▶ Hybrid Course
 - Combines at least two methods of educational delivery
 - Most often
 - Traditional Classroom instruction
 - Electronic or Web-based

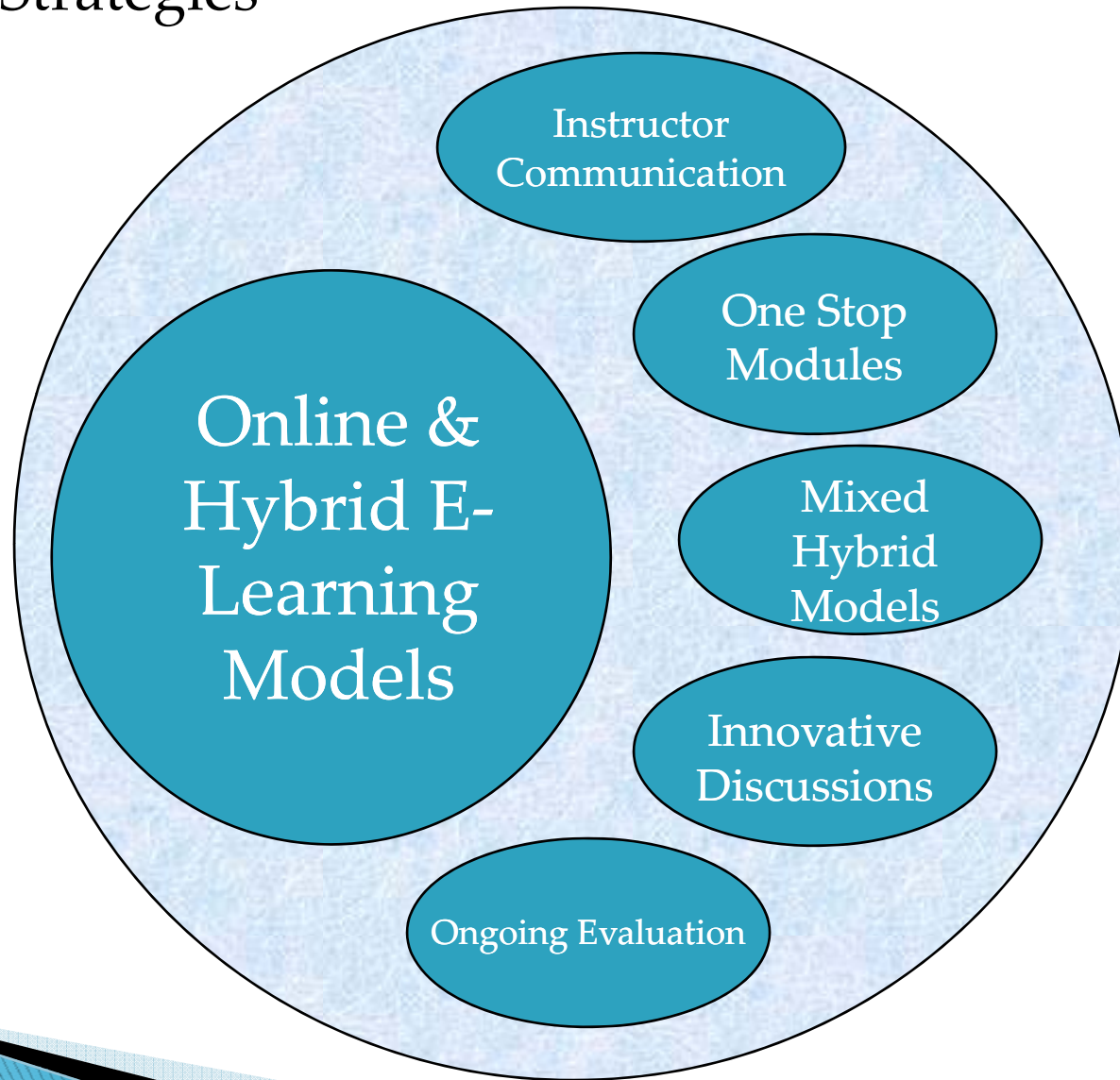


Adult Learning Theory: Andragogy


- ▶ Adult learners want to:
 - Solve Problems
 - Apply New Knowledge Immediately
- ▶ Adult learners are:
 - Autonomous
 - Self-directed
 - Practical



Online & Hybrid Learning Best Practice Skills & Strategies

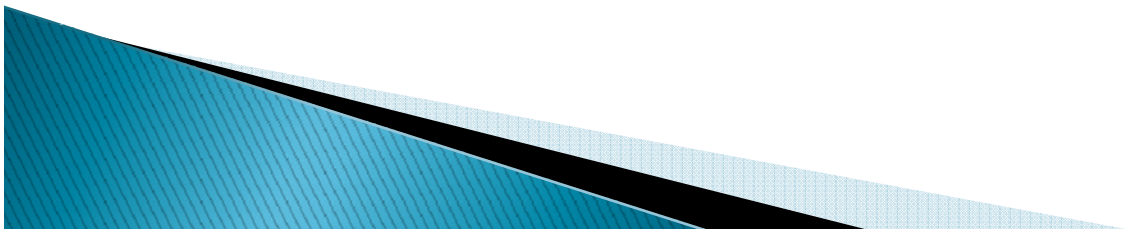


Why Use Hybrid Teaching Models

- ▶ Highest Success Rate – Research
 - ▶ Combines Strengths of Two Methodologies
 - ▶ Addresses Multiple Learning Styles
 - ▶ Flexibility of Scheduling
 - ▶ Increase Student Access to Higher Education
 - ▶ Increased Retention of Material
- 

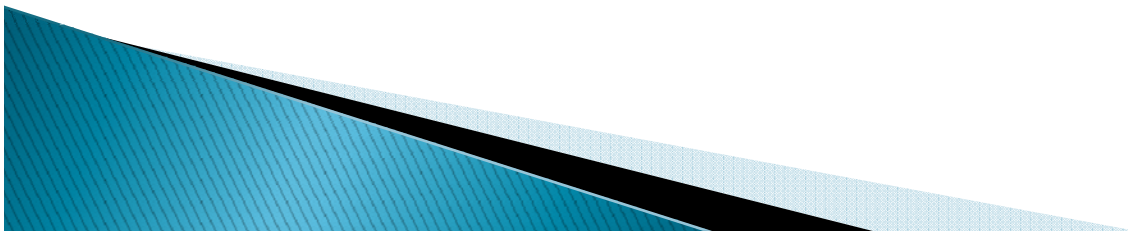
Comparison Study

- ▶ Graduate HBSE - Same Instructor
- ▶ Compared Hybrid Distance Ed Class with On-campus Class
- ▶ No statistically significant difference
 - Level of Satisfaction
 - Grades
 - Perceived Access to Instructor
 - Time Spent on Course



Advice

- ▶ Know your own technological skills and limitations
- ▶ Determine students minimal skill level
- ▶ Be ready to assist students who are neophytes
- ▶ Respond to students individually and as group
- ▶ Group emails work better than announcements

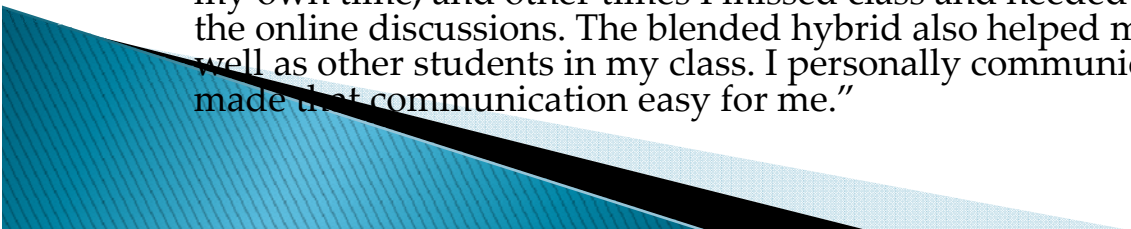


Advice

- ▶ Keep technology to minimum during in- class sessions
- ▶ Set up office hours
- ▶ Establish friendly open atmosphere
- ▶ Positive re-enforcement
 - Initially respond to all students individually
 - Address students by name

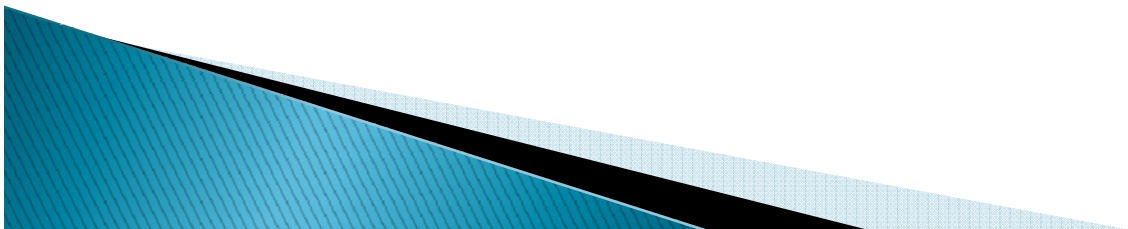


Student Evaluation Reflections

- ▶ “I found that the blended hybrid class worked best with my work schedule and allowed me extra time to work on class work. I prefer online classes just because I get to decide the time frame in which I could do my work. given the freedom of only have to be on campus one day helped me get all the course work completed. I really enjoyed the online discussions. Being able to view different opinions of the various topics broaden my mind to the many dimensions of a single issue and that there is never an easy way to fix a social problem.”
 - ▶ “Having this be a hybrid class was beneficial. The in class lecture time once a week was good. Having Thursday to complete assignments and work online was helpful.”
 - ▶ “I think the most strong point of the blended hybrid model is the time flexible and discussion. I have a hard time to express my opinion in the class so through the online part, I could participate in the discussions. Also the films that we watch in class were very effective. My experience with the online portion of the class is the time flexibleness. It is really strong point of the online portion. I had to keep in track the schedule of the discussions and assignments. Also, the due date was confusing to me at first. About the online discussion, it helped me a lot expressing my opinions. It was very interesting because I could know everyone’s opinions and think about it.”
 - ▶ “ I really enjoyed the blended hybrid model for this class. One of the strengths is having class once a week. Because our class is on Tuesdays, my Thursday time is open to do research, homework, or reading for this class or maybe another class if I am caught up on my work. Thursday opens up time for me to watch the videos for this class. Some video's I had to watch on my own time, and other times I missed class and needed to watch and take notes to participate in the online discussions. The blended hybrid also helped me stay in contact with the professor as well as other students in my class. I personally communicate well through email, and this course made that communication easy for me.”
- 

Student Evaluation Reflections

- ▶ “I really enjoyed this class. I really like history and have in the past not really been a big fan of anything about US history. I was really skeptical about the online stuff. I am not one to get on the internet a whole lot. So this really made me nervous. I now have the hang of it and it is so close to the class being over. That is quite ok though because now I know how to do it. I really liked the discussions. I learned a lot about myself and also discovered that I can have an opinion without being judged. I felt comfortable discussing very touchy subjects and others made sure that what they said was done in a tasteful manner. I really learned a lot in this class and you Professor Christenson made it very interesting. Thanks for being a great Professor and I really look forward to having you next semester for Policy. Take care.”
- ▶ “I think what made this class a good learning experience, besides the curriculum, was the professor. I appreciated the interjections in the discussions. I looked forward to additional guidance and the questions addressed to make me think more critically about given topics.”
- ▶ “This class has taught me a lot about the kind of person that I am and where I fit in with the social work practice. The discussions have been amazing and have allowed me as well as everyone in the class voice our opinions openly and without concern of what others would say. I have learned a lot about other aspects of the field and other positions in which people are helping our community members.”



Student Evaluation Reflections

- ▶ “The class discussions have helped me to more clearly realize what my values are, where they came from and how my personal experiences have shaped them. Through this class I have learned the importance of personal values and the influence they have on how a person perceives and reacts to situations. It was very interesting to read the views of the other students through the web postings.”
- ▶ “I like hybrid classes more than on-line classes because there is more connection to other students and the teacher. I like the online component because it allows me to do assignments at my convenience. “
- ▶ “We were able to go at our own pace online and everyone had the chance to speak and ponder the discussion.”
- ▶ “It was easier for me to express my opinions online-talking in front of people is difficult for me.”
- ▶ “I got the ideas and feedback of others which incited new thinking.”

