BISA / PSA Teaching & Learning Network Webinars

What Makes a Good Online Lecture?

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Outline

- The role and place of an online lecture
- Synchronous or asynchronous?
- The format: text only? Voiced over? Video?
- Alignment matters
- Your audience and you
- Student engagement
- Online lecturing as an opportunity
- Summary
- Comments and questions

The Role & Place of an Online Lecture

- The lecture as a part, not the totality, of a course

- Alignment with:
  - Programme
  - Course
  - Learning objectives
  - Learning outcomes
  - Your students' situations

Synchronous or Asynchronous?

- My preference? Asynchronicity
  - Replicability vs adaptability, flexibility

- Technical considerations
  - Network bandwidth
    - Whether streamed or not
  - Machine capability

- But context matters, e.g. time constraints

Format

- Text/static images
- Voiced over – pptx and ppsx
- Video

- Technical considerations (again)
  - Network bandwidth
    - Whether streamed or not
  - Machine capability
  - Your skills base (and your time)

Alignment Matters

- The usual considerations apply

- What are your students studying (why?)?

- How does your course fit into their programme of study?
  - Learning objectives
  - Learning outcomes

- What does your lecture need to achieve (in respect of course and programme)?

Your Audience and You

- Diversity, equality and inclusion considerations abound
- Where/how are your students studying?

- Synchronicity
  - Allow video off
  - Provide multiple means for participation (NB: think about management matters)
- Don't assume technical competence

- Your personal characteristics

Student Engagement

- Non-replicability issues
- Loss of non-verbal cues

- Know your students
  - As cohort or individually
- Speak to them directly
- Move beyond knowledge acquisition
  - Make connections

- Be flexible – adapt as necessary
  - Requires regular polling of students

Opportunities

- Value-added
  - Guest lectures (alignment issues apply)
  - Shared classrooms
  - Shared materials

- Considerations
  - Intellectual property
  - Student (and academic) overload
  - Solidarity

Summary

- Be sure you know what your lecture is there for
- The usual rules of pedagogy apply, you're just experiencing (probably) new constraints
- Make decisions bearing in mind your programme, your course, your students' and your own situation
- There are advantages as well as disadvantages in this circumstance.

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Thank you for your attention.

Comments and questions, please