Title of Session: Online Teaching and Learning
Moderator: Roger Goodson
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Room: Online Teaching and Learning Group

YakanZ: Hello everybody, I want to attend the conference called "online teaching and learning". What should I do?

WendyRo joined the room.

BjB: just stay here, Yakan...you are in the right place

BjB: Welcome to this month's Online Teaching and Learning, everyone!

BjB: a reminder if you are new to Tapped In to go to the Actions menu in the top right of the chat and select DETACH

BjB: you can also go to Actions and select Larger Text

BjB: we usually start all Tapped In discussions with introductions....

BjB: so please tell Roger where you are located and what you teach or hope to teach

BjB: I'm a retired communication teacher located in Pennsylvania

RogerMG: Hello all. My name is Roger Goodson, I am a professor at a University in the San Francisco Bay area, or the USA. I note we have a number of people from Turkey here. Please introduce yourselves (USA people too) and what your interest is in online teaching and learning.

JenniferMa joined the room.

ChrisDi: My name is Chris, I live in Staten Island, NY and teach Forensics and Biology at New Dorp High School

JenniferMa: hello everyone!

BjB: welcome, Jennifer. We're just starting intros

YakanZ: Hello, I'm Zehra YAKAN a student in Turkey.

JenniferMa: My name is Jennifer Maldonado. I am a school counselor from San Diego Texas.

FatmaMA: ı am fatma from Turkey and live in Istanbul but a university student in Bolu

WendyRo joined the room.

RogerMG: Yes.. please introduce yourselves and let us know what your interests are in online teaching and learning.

BibiA: My name is Bibi, a PhD candidate in Rutgers University and I'm taking Tapped In as my context.

CatherinIS joined the room.

BibiA: for my dissertation

YakanZ: I will be an English teacher soon, so I want to learn something useful.

CatherinIS: Are we introducing ourselves...sorry I got here late?

BjB: Welcome, Catherine and Wendy....we're just finishing up introductions

WendyRo: My name is Wendy. I am a high school teacher interested in incorporating online learning into my classroom.

CatherinIS: I teach middle school math in Hampton VA

AytenB: I am Ayten. I am a ELT student in TURKEY

RogerMG: Yes. Please introduce yourselves. And 'Detach'

FatmaMA: I interest in online teaching and learning because we have a course in university called 'computer Assited Language Learning', so ı want to know more about online teaching and learning and how I can use it at my teaching

BjB: a reminder if you are new to Tapped In to go to the Actions menu in the top right of the chat and select DETACH

WendyRo: thanks

LashondraR: I am the Founder and President of Bridging The Gap Learning Center in Newport News VA. I am interested in training my staff on how to use more Tech when working with our students.

YakanZ: I have the same reason for attending the conference with Fatma because I think we are at the same university.

RogerMG: For those who just arrived, I am Roger Goodson, and I am a professor in a university in the San Francisco Bay area of California, USA. I have been teaching online for about a decade

now and also teach workshops on teaching online.

AytenB: I am here the same reason like Fatma and Yakan

RogerMG: Let me start by stating that using computers and other devices to taach online is a 'tool'. It is not a replacement for good teaching which inspires learning.

YakanZ: I want to add something new to my knowledge of teaching using the teachnology.

LashondraR: ABSOLUTELY!

WendyRo: I think technology has great potential for individualizing education for students; that's why I want to learn more about online learning options

RogerMG: Yakan. What do you do now with technology?

RogerMG: Wendy. I agree.

RogerMG: How many of you have ever taken an online course?

JenniferMa joined the room.

RogerMG: Welcome back Jenn

YakanZ: I search for new ideas in Elt to get some more knowledge.

JenniferMa: sorry, my computer goes out.

WendyRo: I recently signed up for one; it starts next week.

CatherinIS: with the cut in budgets some schools are doing away with books and want to reduce paper...I would like to learn more about online teaching to deal with these cuts

ChrisDi: I am taking a quasi-online course we meet a few times in campus but mostly on Elluminate

YakanZ: Sorry, could you be slower? I cannot follow you.

FatmaMA: I take online course which is called CALL

JenniferMa: Has anyone heard of getting high school credit through an online classroom. Like having the high school teacher do the class online

RogerMG: Chris. I assume that is called a hybrid or blended course.

BjB: Yakan, make sure you detach your chat by going to Actions in the top right of the chat

window

ChrisDi: Yes

YakanZ: Really? How?

BjB . o O (that will make it easier to follow the rapidly scrolling text)

WendyRo: Jennifer: My high school offers online classes to supplement traditional courses. Students who want to get ahead or catch up on credits can take them.

RogerMG: One of the issue with online chats, like this, is that it's easy to get off the topic . . .we call that 'hi-jacking' the learning space.

YakanZ: It is great Wendy!

AytenB: What is hi- jacking ?

CatherinIS: I think to online classes are harder...u have to be very dedicated

RogerMG: So. I'm going to continually bring us back to focus. So far only a couple of people have responded to my question about having taken an online course.

ChrisDi: I agree, I love the online classes but I feel like a lot of the time is wasted with technical instruction since many people are not technically savvy

ChrisDi: if that's how you spell it

BjB hopes Roger doesn't have to start SHOUTING!

RogerMG: Catherine. Good point. Online learning works best with mature learners who have good time management skills. That is, for full online courses.

YakanZ: I haven't attended one, Roger.

CatherinIS: I have "tried" taking a few

CatherinIS: I wasn't very successful

RogerMG: My reason for asking if anyone has ever taken an online course is VERY relevant to teaching one.

WendyRo: That's exactly why I signed up to take one. I figured it would be hard to implement online learning without some hands-on experience to see what I like and don't like about it.

YakanZ: How can we teach it Roger?

RogerMG: So, what did you learn about being a student online Catherine?

CatherinIS: You have to be very dedicated to actually go online and respond to discussions and send in your homework on time.

CatherinIS: I do better with a class I have to actually attend and see the teacher face to face

LashondraR: I have taken an online course as well.

CatherinIS: I feel that in an online class I had to "teach" myself too

LashondraR: I do agree Catherin. Try taking school finance on line!!

RogerMG: **YakanZ** One has to get the perspective of being an online student first . . .everyone knows how to be an in-class student. Being an online student is different. So, to get that perspective, and understanding the issues and problems online learners will have when you attempt teaching online, you should try taking an online course first . . .then design a good online course.

YakanZ: I think so Catherin, it is more useful, but we can use online courses when we have no chance of face to face communication with students.

RogerMG: True Catherine. My point exactly. So, online learning will not be a 'good fit' for people who are not dedicated. There is no teacher looking over your shoulder to 'force' you to go online and into discussions.

RogerMG: Yakan Are your students in areas outside of the city?

YakanZ: Yeah, in our course called CALL, we have mentioned it. I have just remembered when you explained how it is.

WendyRo: Catherine's concerns are similar to mine. I teach special education, so I worry that many online courses seem to be very reading intensive. I'm working on ways to make my online modules more interactive and visual so they are more accessible. I've learned I need to learn more about technology.

YakanZ: No, I am not a teacher yet.

FatmaMA: our course is not online teaching as far as I understand

ChristyGr joined the room.

RogerMG: Wendy. The strength of online learning is 'interactivity', not just doing a lot of reading and posting assignments.

BjB: welcome, Christy

ChristyGr: hi

RogerMG: Hi Christy. Welcome.

ChristyGr: thanks

WendyRo: That is my hope. I'm not sure the one I'm registered for is like that.

CatherinIS: but most online classes I have experience aren't interactive

BjB: Roger is asking the participants if they have taken an online course before they try to teach one

CatherinIS: they are just posting assignments and discussions that you are required to respond to

YakanZ: We can teach a skill based lesson through it, which is useful.

ChristyGr: I have not taught an online class

LashondraR: I have not taught an online course.

YakanZ: In what other areas can we make use of it?

BjB hopes Roger is going to mention Professional Development

YakanZ: What do you think the disadvantages of online courses are?

RogerMG: In order to teach in any situation, one has first to know what it is to be a learner...one must develop empathy for the learner in the classroom . . .and likewise, online. So, some experience in online learning is useful before attempting to design an online course.

WendyRo: Oh, me too, Bj!

BjB . o O (can be an online course or online PD for a school or district?)

YakanZ: Absolutely, Roger.

RogerMG: OK. Enough with this first point . . .now Professional Development (let's abbreviate it to PD) is a BIG topic. Where would you like to take this . . .let's narrow it down a bit.

WendyRo: We're doing an online PD in our district this year, but it's being implemented very poorly and not really working.

WendyRo: I'm interested in how to find good PD to learn more about designing online learning -- both theory and practice

RogerMG: Wendy. Tell me, please, why is it not working . . .what is poor about the design?

ChristyGr: My district has never done an online PD

YakanZ: Wendy, could you give some more details about it?

WendyRo: It has videos on different topics. We were told we could choose which topics we wanted to focus on, but all year we have been told which one to do. The entire faculty is required to watch the same set of videos (on differentiation)

WendyRo: Then we get together every month to discuss what we watched

ChrisDi: that hardly seems like it's being done online

WendyRo: The information in the videos is outdated and unhelpful for the most part

WendyRo: Exactly, Chris!

CatherinIS: I took a class on how to use blackboard in your classroom

YakanZ: So, what is the problem, Wendy? I could not get it.

RogerMG: Wendy. Good example of what not to do in PD . . .do not design for one thing and then do another. Never give choices unless one is willing to 'live' with them in the classroom as well as online.

RogerMG: I'm going to give you a simple design system now. It's called ADDIE (like a person's name) It's very easy to remember.

ChrisDi: great thank you

BjB: if Roger shows any URLs, hold down the ctrl key on your keyboard when you click on the URL

LashondraR: Sounds good!

BjB . o O (or turn off pop up blockers)

RogerMG: A - Analyze the situation, students, what is needed; D = Design the learning objectives and instructional activities that you wish to engage students with in order to meet those objectives. D = Develop the entire design and BE specific. I = Implement the development in all its phases with the students. E = Evaluate the learning outcomes as result of the implementation.

RogerMG: Then . . .go back and analyze the results and go through the entire process again, tweaking where necessary, to improve results the next time you teach the lesson, course.

RogerMG: Use the Evaluation to modify your instructional activities so they more closely meet the learning objectives.

RogerMG: Always remember. What we're after is LEARNING, not just students memorizing and getting the right answer. If you're teaching ESL, then students have to 'use' the language and not just 'know' isolated words.' (I'm using this example as we have ESL teachers here.)

ChrisDi: What type of assessment is best in an online course for the Evaluation

RogerMG: Chris, the assessment is based on the learning outcomes. These have to be clearly and specifically stated. Without that, creating an effective evaluation will fail.

WendyRo: I'm working on designing online modules to supplement my instruction within my English 11 course. I think I'm bogged down in the first D -- my goals might be a bit ambitious for having never done it before.

FatmaMA: the design you have talked about can be used during the teaching and learning process but how can ı use ADDIE at the beginning of my teaching process for a effective teaching.

RogerMG: Wendy. Well, we always have to start with where the learners are...where are they? What ages . . .what do we know about cognitive development of students at those ages? What are they capable of? And not? Asking questions is where we start with the design.

YakanZ: Later?

RogerMG: Fatima I think Wendy is asking the same question.

WendyRo: They are in high school. Not experts at using technology, which is part of why I want to get them using it more.

FatmaMA: then, if it is not appropriate for my students or my teaching,the questions will go on

RogerMG: Wendy. OK . . .so cognitively, they are missing a lot of 'foundational knowledge' in various fields of study.

YakanZ: If it is not for your students, you choose or design a new one, Fatma.

WendyRo: Yes. And they tend to have reading deficits, so I need to design lessons and activities that will strengthen their reading but not rely too heavily on it.

RogerMG: Wendy. Find out what 'they don't know', but are curious about.

WendyRo: related to technology or course content?

YakanZ: If they are interested in the activities, they will participate more.

RogerMG: Fatma: There will always be quesitons . . .determining which are the most important ones, at the moment, for your students are the most important ones to focus on.

YakanZ: Roger, can we design one ourselves?

RogerMG: Well . . .for instance. While I have been working here, with you, I have also been downloading tunes to my Ipod. Do your students have Ipods?

WendyRo: absolutely!

ChrisDi: Yes and podcasts are an easy and great way to teach

ChrisDi: they are great "tools"

RogerMG: Of course Yakan.

RogerMG: There you go Chris . . .to the fingers right off my laptop:-) Exactly, start where they are with technology . . .then (gently) lead them somewhere they haven't been.

YakanZ: Think that we have a problem during the process. What should we do at first, Roger?

RogerMG: If I were to use ADDIE to design a course, or a class within a course, I would start by 'thinking' (that's the analysis part) of where I want to go, and where the learners are now. The first part is always 'inquiry' asking yourself lots of questions . . .and when you do not have the answer . . .go find out . . .like join TI and ask . . .ask other teachers . . .OHHHH AND ask the students/learners:-)

ChrisDi: asking the students definitely makes sense lol

WendyRo: This process sounds very similar to the process of designing a traditional course.

RogerMG: One of the things I am interested in in my research is the difference between 'students' and 'learners' The term students is strongly related to people who are enrolled in a school, program, course. . . .it is actually, if you think about it, a bureaucratic term . . .and it views the 'student' as passive and not active.

RogerMG: Learners are active, engaged in their own learning, want to learn . . .are self-motivated.

ChrisDi: I never thought of it that way, that's an interesting take

ChrisDi: and to do an online class we must have learners

YakanZ: I think the term learners includes "students"

RogerMG: Every time you 'think' the word 'student', try substituting 'learner' for it. It makes a difference in how you 'think' about what you are doing.

FatmaMA: I agree with yakan

LashondraR: I think that there are "students" who are self motivated as will..

FatmaMA: but a student is also a learner

LashondraR: Oops as well

RogerMG: Fatma . . .a student MAY be a learner . . .but a student may also just be a student . . .passing her/his time in the institution. Waiting to get out.

WendyRo: I like that because it doesn't let the students/ learners off the hook. They have to take ownership for their own learning instead of expecting it to be given to them.

RogerMG: Learners are curious.

FatmaMA: is not a matter of motivation?

AytenB: but students can be curious too

YakanZ: Students are also curious, aren't they?

CatherinIS: I don't understand why the play on words.....does it really matter if you call them students or learners

YakanZ: no, I think. Let's turn to our topic.

RogerMG: Helping people, no matter what ages, should be helping them to become 'responsible' learners, responsible for their own learning. We want them to 'learn how to learn.' That should be the goal of any education program.

RogerMG: For instance: Let's take ESL as an example again.

RogerMG: If I get the foundational knowledge for a language I no longer need the teacher (at least not full time) I can learn it own my own if I HAVE A REASON TO learn it . (E.g. I'm going to travel to another country, live there, etc.)

RogerMG: Learners are neither passive nor 'stupid' . . .they will learn if they 'see' a reason. Otherwise, they will spend their time 'learning' other things.

YakanZ: I think so, Roger, because intrinsic motivation is crucial in learning.

RogerMG: ABOSOLUTELY ! Yakan .

WendyRo: I see this as another potential benefit from online courses -- offering students flexibility to choose courses they are interested in, not just the ones their school can afford to offer in-house. Of course, for them to have true flexibility, curriculum/course requirements would have to adjust.

FatmaMA: then you mean it would be better if every teacher try to train a learner. Instead of teaching them something make them provide their own learning

RogerMG: So then, back to ADDIE. How do we analyze and design so that we can reach the learners though 'intrinsic' (motivation) means?

RogerMG: Fatma Both.

RogerMG: Learners love learning...that's pretty intrinsic.

YakanZ: I think we should make students aware of their reasons for learning it at first.

YakanZ: If they know why they are learning it, they will make effort to do so.

RogerMG: When I was in secondary school I never read the books assigned for reading. I found other books far more interesting and read much more of them than was required for the courses...I never did 'score' well on the tests about the books the teacher wanted me to read.

WendyRo: Part of designing instruction to meet their intrinsic needs is similar to traditional teaching -- find out what they're interested in and tie the instruction to it as much as possible. Another part is technology-specific. If you can make the technology interactive and stimulating, students could be drawn in that way.

FatmaMA: if we supply them something from their real life we can easily increase their intrinsic motivation

WendyRo: That's why I think schools need to be more individualized and flexible in what they require from students

RogerMG: 'Yes Wendy. I agree.

CatherinIS: but you can't always teach them what they are interested in

RogerMG: Yes Fatma

ChrisDi: I think a lot of students will be motivated to learn the content simply because they are

using technology. It interests them evident by their constant focus on a blinking screen whether it being texting or being online or in front of video games. Technology alone is a motivator for many students

YakanZ: At first we should learn what their interests are, but how?

JeffC joined the room.

CatherinIS: but other times they do awesome activities with the technology and they don't really "learn" anything

RogerMG: Catherin . . .No. You cannot...but, you can get them (force them) to focus on other things . . .does this develop a love of learning?

CatherinIS: I think it can

CatherinIS: I have students who enter my class hating math...it does not interest them....but by the end of the class they have developed the love of learning math

CatherinIS: they just have to feel good about what they are learning

CatherinIS: and feel that they can learn it

WendyRo: I think so, too. Some of the reason students don't like learning about a subject is that it is difficult for them. Once they start seeing success with it, it becomes more fun.

YakanZ: They should enjoy learning it.

WendyRo: People naturally enjoy doing things they are good at.

ChrisDi: that's true

RogerMG: Idris Shah, once wrote that 'learning is the alternation of stress and relaxation, with sloganization leading creating the stress' (sloganization in this case is like forcing a student to learn multiplication tables by threat of failing them.

YakanZ: When they feel the success, they don't want to leave it.

RogerMG: Everyone loves to feel success. Yakan (even me:-)

FatmaMA: if you make students become aware of their capacity to learn something I believe that they will be successful but you have to be patient at that process

YakanZ: of course, Roger, but at first they should realize this sense.

WendyRo: Yes, Fatma. You have to start where they are.

YakanZ: And you should learn their needs.

FatmaMA: and then think how I make them reach where ı want

RogerMG: Fatma . . .Yes . . .you need to reward them. Encourage their success . . .but with a small challenge attached . . .not a big one . . .a small one that can lead to more success in learning.

YakanZ: Therefore, the teacher has the responsibility here.

WendyRo: That's another nice thing (potentially) about online learning -- students can work at their own pace. In traditional classrooms, once you've tested on the unit, most of the time you just move on even if some students get left behind.

CatherinIS: that is so true Wendy

RogerMG: OHHHhhhh The teacher has LOTS of responsibility.

RogerMG: But the teacher should be working towards 'putting themselves out of business.'

YakanZ: Yes, but there is not direct relation with the teacher and they cannot keep eye contact with him or her, which is important in teaching.

LashondraR: I agree, students should become more independent self motivated learners.

WendyRo: Unless we work in technology like Skype, Yakan

FatmaMA: Roger..you mean instead of being controller they should be provider

YakanZ: What is it, Roger?

RogerMG: It's like teaching a child how to ride a bicycle . . .you guard them against falls at first, then on to training wheels, and finally you watch them bicycling on their own. Same thing. They don't need you anymore for that task.

LashondraR: Not always the sage on the stage but the guide on the side..

RogerMG: Lashondra Exactly. But . . .you've got to become the guide who knows when to 'let go'

RogerMG: Lot's of teachers never learn to 'let go' . . .they like the controlling role.

YakanZ: You should show the way to the student to go.

WendyRo: But hopefully once they get past me, they are looking for a teacher who can take

them farther. I still have teachers even now, as I think we all do.

RogerMG: Yes Yakan.

LashondraR: yes and trust that you have taught them well and trust that they are capable...

FatmaMA: you should supply the student the feeling of confidence

RogerMG: There will always be lots of other people who 'need to learn how to ride a bicycle' :-) You will never really be out of a job . . .just with those learners who can do it on their own . . .then you can feel successful (your reward.)

CatherinIS: all teachers need to buy into it....i feel that I do a good job getting students to think but then the next year they get a teacher who likes to TEACH and the students stop thinking

YakanZ: You should let the students take the responsibility of their own learning, but be a guide in this process.

RogerMG: Catherin . . . Ahhhh, but they will always remember you . . .not the one who spoon feeds them like babies.

YakanZ: But, how can we do this through online courses?

CatherinIS: it's all about the activities you choose to give through online courses

RogerMG: Yakan Same thing. ADDIE (ask the questions . . .know how the online learner thinks and feels)

YakanZ: How, Roger?

FatmaMA: I agree with Yakan. I think face to face interaction is important in teaching but it is somehow not possible with online teaching then how can we handle this problem

WendyRo: That's the biggest concern I hear from my fellow teachers with regard to online learning

WendyRo: *losing the face-to-face

YakanZ: By the way, is there a limitation of the number of students in these online classes?

AytenB: but it shouldn't be

BibiA: Thanks Prof. Roger....I'm sure you're pointing to me

BibiA: Hi all, Please take a moment to read my post

RogerMG: Bibi has an announcement.

BibiA: My name is Bibi Alajm, a PhD candidate in Rutgers University, NJ. I'm conducting a dissertation research on "knowledge sharing behavior in online communities". I'm taking Tapped In as my research context.

AytenB: thank you Prof Roger

BibiA: I'm inviting you to participate in a survey I'm conducting for my dissertation. This is the link.

BibiA: http://snurl.com/bibisurvey

AytenB: Yes Bibi

RogerMG: I've already taken it and I recommend it!!!

BibiA: If you are in Tapped In for the last two to three months you are my potential subjects

BjB . o O (your participation in Bibi's survey will also benefit the Tapped In community, so please take a minute and fill it out. I've already done that too)

BibiA: please make the time to fill the survey, there are incentives from AMAZON.COM

BibiA: The survey is short and there are incentives from amazon.com for those who are interested.

WendyRo: So if I just joined Tapped In, I don't fit the profile?

BjB: when you click on a url hold down the ctrl key

RogerMG: I want to thank you all for the interesting session. You will receive a transcript of it. I am grateful for your active participation.

BibiA: you need to have some interactions to report on it

WendyRo: Do the ones in this session count?

YakanZ: Thank you Prof Roger!

BibiA: Thanks Prof., please don't hesitate to spread the word about the survey within TAPPED IN

BjB: http://snurl.com/bibisurvey

BjB: yes, Wendy

YakanZ: But I couldn't open the site.

FatmaMA: it was a pleasure for us thank you Prof. Roger

BibiA: of course,

BjB: try later when you get your transcript, Yakan.

WendyRo: Ok. Will do. Thanks, everyone!

BjB hopes all our friends in Turkey are able to go to bed and get some sleep!

BjB: Thanks, Roger...what a great discussion!

YakanZ: Thanks BjB!

FatmaMA: thanks everybody

FatmaMA smiles

AytenB: thanks a lot

LashondraR: Thank you so much.

AytenB: good night!

YakanZ: THANKS EVERYONE in the conference!!!

BjB: The next OTL is April 29

BjB: I hope to see you all there