

**Title of Session:** Online Teaching and Learning

**Moderator:** Roger Goodson

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**RogerMG:** I need some help. I did 18 weeks of student teaching some years ago, but the term 'Pre-Service teacher' didn't exist then. What is it?

**BJB2:** student teaching?

**RogerMG:** Student teaching . . .was like an internship.

**BJB2:** right

**JaimeEK:** preservice really addresses any teacher candidate prior to being certified

**BJB2:** oh, nice definition, Jaime. Thanks

**RogerMG:** OK . . .and are there still teaching internships (aka student teaching?)

**RogerMG:** Jamie?

**BJB2:** yes. Candidates are in a classroom with a certified teacher

**JaimeEK:** yes...also called the professional semester. I don't know why they change the names of things all the time

**KristenC:** Yes Roger..that is what I am doing right now

**JeffC:** edumacationalese, Jaime!

**VeronicaYR :** Hello. Veronica here, and yes I am a student teacher

**RogerMG:** ic. So, how long are they there, and what do they have to do while there (e.g. journals, lesson plans, teaching, seminars?)

**NicoleZ:** I am a student teacher too from Houston TX

**RogerMG:** OK . . .We're off and running here at OTL Downs!!!! Introductions first please.

**JaimeEK:** At our school the students are there for the entire semester with fulltime teaching responsibilities for at least 4 weeks

**KristenC:** Roger...we are there for 12 weeks. We basically take over the class

**VeronicaYR:** I am a student teacher from Houston as well

**KristenC:** so we do everything a normal teacher would do

**RogerMG:** Thanks for the feedback on preservice.

**EdithH:** I'm a student teacher from Houston as well.

**KristenC:** it's a lot of work and we don't get paid, but its valuable experience

**VeronicaYR:** Same here! Full time teaching responsibilities for 4 weeks!!!! The best part, no pay...

**NicoleZ:** We are there for 14 weeks and do observations and then teach

**KristenC:** I'm in Houston...what universities are you guys from?

**EdithH:** Student teaching is over tomorrow though! I'm excited and sad at the same time

**VeronicaYR:** I agree! I don't know what I would have done without the experience

**NicoleZ:** I was lucky because I got to teach from the first day and had free range

**RogerMG:** I am Roger Goodson, I have an Ed.D. in Administration, Planning and Social Policy. I teach at Notre Dame de Namur University's School of Business and Management (FT) in Belmont CA.

**RogerMG:** Intros?

**EdithH:** I'm Edith Hernandez...currently student teaching in Humble ISD in Humble Texas

**KristenC:** I am from Houston and I attend the University of Houston. Tomorrow is my last day of student teaching!!!

**JaimeEK:** Hi, I am Jaime. I am a the Director of Clinical Experiences in Education at Illinois College

**KristenC:** Oh.. I see...

**RogerMG:** Thanks Edith

**RogerMG:** Thank you Jamie

**JenniferNK:** Hi, I'm Jennifer and I'm a student @ Texas A & M - Kingsville

**TedC:** I'm Ted Chadwick, economics teacher at Helix High School in La Mesa, CA

**RogerMG:** Thanks Jenn

**RogerMG:** Thanks Ted.

**NicoleZ:** my name is Nicole from Houston, TX

**VeronicaYR :** Hi my name is Veronica Rebollar student teacher at Houston Independent School District

**RogerMG:** Thank you Nicole

**KristenC:** Is this session an hour or an hour and a half?

**RogerMG:** Thanks Veronica

**RogerMG:** It's an hour Kristen

**KristenC:** cool

**RogerMG:** OK, So we have quite a mixture in terms of where people are in their careers. What brings you all here to OTL?

**JeffC** is here to see what new cool things are out there (and to share a bit).

**NicoleZ:** class requirement...but I am sure I will use it once I become a professional teacher

**RogerMG:** brings you all here . . .

**KristenC:** It sounded interesting and there were three to pick from tonight and I needed to pick one..

**JenniferNK:** same here.. I'm taking an education class

**JaimeEK:** I am interested in hearing more about integrating Technology in Teaching. We need help with that!

**VeronicaYR :** Same here Nicole...

**TedC:** ed tech class at San Diego State

**KristenC:** I would also like to know some good ideas about integrating technology

**EdithH:** Well, at UH they emphasize a lot of technology integration into our teaching and I thought this would be a good session to choose

**RogerMG:** OK. Let's start with integrating technology into teaching. How many of you have ever taken an online course?

**NicoleZ:** I have

**SarahMcal:** I have taken several online classes

**JenniferNK:** I have

**JenniferNK:** and am going to again soon

**EdithH:** yes, I've had several online classes

**JaimeEK:** I am currently in one this semester

**KristenC:** Yes I have had several

**RogerMG:** So. I'd like to hear each of you give a VERY brief critique of the online courses you have taken. What worked well in them, and what did not work so well..

**NicoleZ:** the directions are too vague and I don't feel as connected to my teacher to ask for help

**KristenC:** As far as my online courses went, as long as the website was easy to navigate it seemed to work out well! except if you did not check it everyday you would get completely lost in the class...

**JaimeEK:** My course is called Technology in the Classroom. It is excellent! The professor is available and helpful and I am learning a lot. I am a bit overwhelmed about incorporating what I am learning though.

**VeronicaYR:** well, we are taking one now, and she is requiring too much! She is organized, but somewhat confusing! It would be great if we had met face to face at least one time to be sure that we have all the requirements and expectations

**EdithH:** Well, you just have to have good discipline to be on top of things when you take an online course and like Nicole says, I don't feel any connection to my teachers

**NicoleZ:** the classes where the professor has at least one meet and greet helps with that

**JenniferNK:** everything went well for me and it was because the professors actually put

everything you need there and made it easier for you

**SarahMcal:** I liked the idea of being able to take the course and complete assignments on your own time, however I seem to always have trouble adding attachments. Also, I find myself getting confused with deadlines and assignments

**KristenC:** Sometimes I feel as though I do not have a hold on what is going on in the class, but the descriptions of assignments are good and the teacher is always available through email..

**JenniferNK:** yea and mine always responded fairly quickly

**KristenC:** Meeting face to face is good and I recommend it, but considering our teacher's incident with her family at the beginning of the year, I understand//

**EdithH:** that's true...the professors are good at responding quickly with an online course

**SarahMcal:** Fortunately, our online professors are always available to answer questions and help in any way to solve problems

**NicoleZ:** one thing I notice about online teachers is that they are a lot more strict with the grades

**MireyaRa:** Yes I have to agree as well

**EdithH:** very true!

**JenniferNK:** When I took History online, my teacher did powerpoints along with a recording of her lecture so you actually heard her talk. It was more interesting that way. She had a neat personality

**VeronicaYR:** I mean its cool to integrate technology in your lesson planning esp when dealing with today's generation! They are very tech savvy and love to incorporate it into their learning

**KristenC:** Sometimes the due dates are all messed up...

**KristenC:** or the webct does not work...but other than the minor stuff its pretty good to take an online course

**MireyaRa:** I agree with Kristen

**VeronicaYR:** same here

**MireyaRa:** There can be technical problems.

**JeffC:** did any of your professors incorporate real time chat, like we're having here now, or use an audio/video online system to communicate with you real time at all?

**NicoleZ:** I am still a face to face lecture kind of girl I only take online classes if there is no other option

**SarahMcal:** I took an ESL class online and the grader (who we were requested to refer questions to) did not respond to emails and did not grade consistently. It was difficult to keep up to date and on top of assignments when the professor is not available to help you.

**JenniferNK:** Mine used the bulletin board or whatever its called a lot.

**KristenC:** We had videos once...and there is a discussion board

**VeronicaYR:** Yes. Orientation about the course was a power point presentation.

**KristenC:** so I guess in a sense, yes

**JenniferNK:** Yes the discussion board that's it.

**NicoleZ:** yes we have an online chat meeting every Monday with one of my classes now

**JaimeEK:** No. I think that would have been helpful and interesting. Sometimes the discussion board format seems phony

**MireyaRa:** She was going to have chats.

**RogerMG:** OK. We've got some really good positives here, and some negatives. Let's start with the positives. For a good online course (and any course for that matter):

**EdithH:** yeah, but no real life chats like we're having now

**SarahMcal:** I do really like that you can access all of your information for the class and deadlines for assignments where ever you are, as long you have internet connection.

**CaroleMc:** we seem to be posting about chats, and you're now seeking some positive responses about their use, that right?

**JaimeEK:** Communication has to be good and in a realistic time

**RogerMG:** Directions need to be precise, and this includes directions regarding the technology itself . . .if using WebCT or Blackboard in particular.

**KristenC:** yes I agree Roger

**JaimeEK:** Students have to be self-disciplined

**JenniferNK:** Definitely

**MireyaRa:** Yes totally.

**RogerMG:** There are two kinds of online courses . . .full online courses and hybrid/blended courses.

**EdithH:** most definitely!

**KristenC:** Hybrid blended?

**SarahMcAl:** That's where my problem lies- the self-discipline

**JenniferNK:** I haven't heard of hybrid/blended

**EdithH:** me neither

**MireyaRa:** Me either.

**KristenC:** me either

**VeronicaYR :** me either

**CaroleMc:** now I agree with that, clear instructions both outside and within the LMS system are essential - so blending some online work and communications with f2f is what we're about in Australian colleges

**KristenC:** Yeah I tend to forget about my online stuff too

**RogerMG:** A hybrid/blended course is one that is about one third of two thirds online and the rest is done f2f.

**RogerMG:** (f2f=face to face)

**MireyaRa:** o.k.

**JenniferNK:** oh face to face.

**VeronicaYR :** ok

**EdithH:** oh okay...yeah, I had several classes where we met face to face, but assignments were due online

**RogerMG:** Personally, I prefer hybrid classes as you can personalize the class more and people get to know one another.

**VeronicaYR** : Me too!

**SarahMcal**: I agree

**KristenC**: yeah I have had a ton of those too

**MireyaRa**: That is true.

**JaimeEK**: I do miss not actually meeting the people

**RogerMG**: Yes. all of my classes are paperless classes. All work is submitted online.

**CaroleMc**: chats is one part of the communication online, discussion forums is another, and we're now very keen on using virtual classrooms where voice is prominent - e.g. Elluminate Live

**RogerMG**: save a tree. ☺

**KristenC** smiles

**VeronicaYR** : lol

**VeronicaYR** : I agree

**MireyaRa**: That's right.

**JenniferNK**: For all the online classes I have taken, you had to schedule a time with the testing center to take all of your tests. It wasn't with your actual teacher there either.

**RogerMG**: Another critique, above, was 'not feeling connected to the teacher.'

**CaroleMc**: Roger - that is the way of it here in Oz too, paperless, so everything can be done in a WebCT shell or a Moodle group.

**RogerMG**: This is important. If the learners don't know you're there, or there for them, this is a formula for failure.

**CaroleMc**: creating an engaging environment online with learners is a critical step in establishing social connectivity

**KristenC**: I agree Roger...it works that way in the classroom too

**MireyaRa**: That is true.

**RogerMG**: Teaching online requires more work than teaching f2f.

**TedC:** that's why I have avoided online classes...lack of a student-teacher relationship

**VeronicaYR :** I agree Roger

**NicoleZ:** yes very true

**EdithH:** I agree

**VeronicaYR :** It sure does

**KristenC:** Yeah, I think learning online takes more work too...its just convenient...

**JenniferNK:** I take them in the summer so that I get more done in a year.

**CaroleMc:** Ted, many of our teachers also resist because of that 'feeling', so blending is a good way to begin

**JaimeEK:** I would think that you really have to prepare a lot to teach online

**NicoleZ:** I think maybe a weekly reminder to the students via email would help keep them updated, and help them feel closer

**MireyaRa:** True, but you can save on gas.

**SarahMcal:** I agree Carole

**VeronicaYR :** That's a great idea Nicole

**MireyaRa:** I would have to agree with Nicole.

**EdithH:** me too

**JenniferNK:** Yes I saved a lot of gas not having to drive to my community college over the summer all the time. It was a 45 min trip.

**VeronicaYR :** Esp with us student teaching!

**CaroleMc:** we need to cater for a widely distributed population of learners in NE Victoria and enabling learners to do some of their learning online is a bonus and saves \$\$\$\$ for them.

**RogerMG:** I put in roughly about 3 hours a day (at different times of the day) on average reading and responding to learners work and posts . . .as well as working with new assignment at the teacher/learner interface.

**KristenC:** Yeah or even just an automated email that goes out when the website has been updated

**NicoleZ:** ooh that too

**JenniferNK:** I like that idea Kristen

**KristenC:** Or when something has 24 hours before its due

**CaroleMc:** Roger, how does your college build in and support those hours for your online classes, is it adequately recognized?

**VeronicaYR :** I know!!!! That truly messed me up with all of the assignments that were due

**JaimeEK:** Good question Carole

**KristenC:** Yeah we have a ton due Saturday...

**MireyaRa:** yes

**KristenC:** Like 5 or 6 things

**SarahMcAl:** Wow that is a lot of time. I would think that it could become difficult to understand or relate to your student's work when you do not know them personally.

**EdithH:** yeah, so much!

**KristenC:** I agree Sarah

**JenniferNK:** I agree also.

**CaroleMc:** teaching online Kristen, means often your weekends are skewed to another quieter time in the week - may not be a Sat/Sun - this is the way of it for me

**RogerMG:** In preparing a new course it is rare for me to spend well over a hundred hours just putting it together. (If I do it in the summer, which I find works best, I can spread out the development of a new course over several weeks or a couple of months. This actually works best for me as it gives me time to think and get feedback from other professionals where I teach.

**RogerMG:** that is, it is NOT rare for me to spend that amount of time.

**MireyaRa:** wow

**KristenC:** wow that's a lot of time!!!

**CaroleMc:** exactly Roger, that is how we are currently tackling our development and PD here in our Summer - the course will be live in Feb 2008.

**SarahMcal:** Oh my goodness...

**EdithH:** wow! a

**JaimeEK:** It is harder to make changes as you go along with online course...like when you get to know your students and their needs?

**JenniferNK:** Wow I wouldn't have imagined that it could take so long!

**NicoleZ:** I would think it would take a long time to get an online course set up, but I didn't realize that much time and energy

**KristenC:** Carole, I wasn't making a reference to it being a Saturday, I was just agreeing that we had a lot due all at the same time..

**NicoleZ:** good point Jaime

**RogerMG:** There is an upside to it however. The upside, is that once prepared, if I teach it again I just have to tweak it a bit and this takes far fewer hours . . .more like 10 or so.

**NicoleZ:** that's why I said earlier that online course grades are much harsher

**SarahMcal:** Very true.

**MireyaRa:** true

**VeronicaYR :** Def a positive Roger

**KristenC:** Yup

**CaroleMc:** now that's a good point Roger, the preparation one puts in initially pays off in spades

**KristenC:** yeah it does...kind of like student teaching and not getting paid.. will pay off later

**CaroleMc:** My apologies Kristen - thanks for the heads up on that

**RogerMG:** Putting a course up online make you have to think through the production of the course differently than when we prepare for f2f courses.

**CaroleMc:** absolutely

**RogerMG:** You can 'see' the course coming together and what fits (or doesn't fit)

**EdithH:** what makes it different...if I may ask...

**EdithH:** oh, nevermind, you just answered that

**SarahMcal:** I would also believe that it may be more difficult to design the assignments to specifically meet the needs of your students if you do not necessarily know your students - what they know, their learning styles, etc

**CaroleMc:** in my opinion the teacher/lecturer/developer team must consider ALL parts of the learning to be done online to ensure that it is sequential, meaningful, collaborative, engaging and up-to-date

**KristenC:** I agree Sarah

**VeronicaYR :** Good point Sarah

**EdithH:** I agree Sarah

**JenniferNK:** yes

**RogerMG:** Yes Edith ...if you are a visual person you can 'see' the course. That's harder to do in a f2f venue where we tend to only plan by the week or month.

**NicoleZ:** Not only that but you can't tell what your students are learning

**NicoleZ:** on an everyday basis

**MireyaRa:** True Sarah, that is something that the professor has to think about in preparing their material.

**RogerMG:** Well, Yes and no Nicole.

**CaroleMc:** Sarah, part of the course we are developing focuses on 'different learning styles' as it is a course for teachers - so we ensure that we model our online materials to suit many different styles

**KristenC:** That's important

**SarahMcal:** That's great!

**EdithH:** very important

**RogerMG:** I use an LMS (Learning Management System) called Moodle. It's free,

online Blackboard and WebCT (which by the way, Blackboard owns.)

**VeronicaYR** : ok

**KristenC**: we use WebCT

**NicoleZ**: ok

**JaimeEK**: Our IT people love moodle

**VeronicaYR** : oh, we are taking our course on WebCt

**JenniferNK**: yea we use WebCT too

**EdithH**: yeah, we use webct

**MireyaRa**: yes

**CaroleMc**: yes we use WebCT or VISTA and Elluminate Live plus intensive f2f  
residential

**TedC**: my course I am taking now uses moodle..very organized

**VeronicaYR** : Its pretty good to me, but sometimes undergoes tech

**SarahMcal**: How is Moodle different from WebCt?

**JenniferNK**: I haven't heard of Moodle.

**SarahMcal**: I have not heard about moodle

**KristenC**: what is moodle?

**NicoleZ**: but I don't see how I can really tell if they are learning what I am teaching or  
just taking other peoples ideas

**VeronicaYR** : ?

**EdithH**: I've never heard of moodle

**MireyaRa**: Me either.

**CaroleMc**: I like Moodle for its simplicity to manage, and that it enables much greater  
flexibility for learner's styles

**NicoleZ**: In the classroom at least I see the ah hah from my students faces

**RogerMG:** The LMS tracks all of my students access, grades (I use rubrics for all of their work so they get fairly rapid feedback) quizzes are online and graded in a way that allows the learner second and third chances at getting it right, providing them with automatic feedback as to what the problem was with a wrong answer.

**KristenC:** That's how WebCT is...

**VeronicaYR :** WOW...that's awesome.

**SarahMcal:** That sounds great. Similar to WebCT

**RogerMG:** Right Veronica.

**JenniferNK:** That's not how mine worked... that's great

**MireyaRa:** Yes that's true.

**CaroleMc:** our learners get a real buzz out of virtual classrooms - they can be heard and the use of emoticons and other ways of communicating understanding are used to advantage

**KristenC:** wow that's cool Carole..I wish we had that!

**MireyaRa:** I like the instant graded quizzes.

**JenniferNK:** Yea that's always nice

**SarahMcal:** What are some common difficulties that you tend to run into when teaching an online class?

**NicoleZ:** But webct doesn't give immediate feedback does it

**MireyaRa:** Good question.

**SarahMcal:** And how do you handle/resolve/prevent them?

**RogerMG:** Well, I like to get rapid feedback to. There's an old psychological principle there: the more rapid the feedback the more reinforced the response.

**VeronicaYR :** No it does not that's why I was impressed with Roger's tech choice

**CaroleMc:** one of my tasks today is to produce a quiz for WebCT - first entering the questions and answers into Respondus (an offline task using Respondus software) then uploading it to the WebCT shell. Easy - done in about 30 minutes

**KristenC:** Do you have a list of the students in your class? If a student is not turning things in do you try to contact them?

**EdithH:** okay i don't know what happened...I just got disconnected!

**CaroleMc:** yes, yes, and yes, to the notion of rapid feedback to reinforce

**RogerMG:** An important part of teaching anything online is that the directions have to be VERY specific. And this is also true of how things are graded. As I wrote, I use rubrics a good deal, but the syllabus for the course contains a grading table that lists points learners receive for performing at certain levels of the rubrics.

**VeronicaYR :** That was good Roger! It is a psychological principle

**RogerMG:** Tx Veronica :-)

**VeronicaYR :** I agree...I need to be clear on all expectations and requirements!

**SarahMcal:** That is great. When the learner knows what to expect, then there is no excuse for confusion

**MireyaRa:** Yes I agree.

**JenniferNK:** That's for sure

**NicoleZ:** My problem is I have trouble reading rubrics I don't know why but if you put it in a chart instead of writing it out I get lost

**EdithH:** I agree

**RogerMG:** I think that may be related to an earlier critique that 'online courses are more demanding.' Or at least I read the comment that way.

**NicoleZ:** and every rubric I see is in chart form

**KristenC:** I agree

**RogerMG:** In a f2f class there can be a great deal of leeway.

**NicoleZ:** they are demanding : )

**RogerMG:** things can change rapidly

**VeronicaYR :** We were just talking about a problem we had with our grades. I thought that I did everything that was asked and expected of me and I still did not get a good grade

**MireyaRa:** yes they are

**NicoleZ:** YES!!!

**NicoleZ:** that is so true Veronica

**EdithH:** Yup!

**JenniferNK:** Things change all the time in most of my classes.

**VeronicaYR :** I want to know why I received the grade that I did!

**JaimeEK:** I think that since you don't meet in class, you do have more work in an online course

**SarahMcal:** One issue that I have with online classes- WebCT- is that I tend to get lost in the different folders and lose track of assignments and their locations

**RogerMG:** That sounds strange Veronica.

**MireyaRa:** They can be tricky.

**KristenC:** yeah I do that too

**NicoleZ:** that happens to me Sarah too

**EdithH:** me too....well, only this semester for me really

**VeronicaYR :** I know!

**KristenC:** hah yeah this semester has been crazy

**MireyaRa:** Yes it has been.

**RogerMG:** Yes. The folders in WebCT can be confusing if not set up for easy access.

**SarahMcal:** It seems like once you have a clear understanding of all of the assignments, you click on another folder and find another assignment due! (If I spent more time on WebCT, I would probably have a better idea of how the site is organized)

**RogerMG:** I don't use folders.

**RogerMG:** I use topics.

**VeronicaYR :** Topics?

**KristenC:** Yeah same here Sarah..but it is hard to spend time on WebCT when you have no time!

**VeronicaYR :** I get confused because there are like 3 or 4 different topics in each folder!

**RogerMG:** Each week a different topic with a number of links and a minimum of two asynchronous online discussions.

**CaroleMc:** yes, to that about WebCT folders, we have a team working on the construction - so making it logical and easy to access is part of the job - this ensures speed for the lecturer

**MireyaRa:** I agree.

**SarahMcal:** Fortunately, the course that I am taking now is very organized and has an orientation that walks you through each assignment and the submission method

**KristenC:** Student teaching takes up my whole day and then I am exhausted and want to do nothing else!

**VeronicaYR :** EXCATLY!!!!

**JenniferNK:** That is what my government teacher did.

**NicoleZ:** I want to go back to the fact that grades in online courses are so different from f2f...is that a good or bad thing

**SarahMcal:** I completely understand Kristen!

**KristenC:** Yeah, 3113 has been very specific...no problems with that class yet!@

**SarahMcal:** Good point Nicole.

**NicoleZ:** Should grades be based on the feeling of the teacher or an exact science of turning in work on time with every thing correct

**RogerMG:** Nicole. I have to do the grades to satisfy 'the system.' However, it's achievement that I am really looking for.

**VeronicaYR :** I have had a problem with 3113 because I was so overwhelmed with my student teaching and I have a part time job!

**CaroleMc:** Nicole, when in blending mode the online grades are only used for formative assessment, we use a competency based assessment model, learners must demonstrate competency live

**SarahMcal:** I would think that they are more specific to the student's actual work, rather than taking into consideration of effort and ability

**EdithH:** well, except that it took me a little while to know that we had to do teacher hotline assignments and they aren't posted on the assignments folder

**MireyaRa:** Yes I agree with Veronica.

**NicoleZ:** that's better

**TedC:** online grades are more objective

**KristenC:** Well turning it on time and it being correct is the online thing... f2f the teacher knows her students personally and tends to alter grades

**RogerMG:** Ted. Do the online courses you have taken use rubrics?

**MireyaRa:** That is true Edith.

**SarahMcal:** Yes.

**CaroleMc:** we now explore potentials for having learners video themselves performing a competency to ensure authenticity

**JaimeEK:** I agree with Ted.

**SarahMcal:** Sorry- I'm not Ted

**SarahMcal** smiles

**KristenC:** Yeah, I found out today about the teacher hotlines...I did them today while my kids were in PE

**TedC:** yes, they do use rubrics..we are creating a webquest right now

**CaroleMc:** what do you use for your webquests Ted?

**VeronicaYR :** I thought this course was set up for those student who needed it for financial aid reasons and it's the most demanding course I am taking!

**RogerMG:** I find if the rubrics are well done in the first place and a point system awarded for different levels of the rubric that I have far fewer questions and complaints about grading than I had in full f2f classrooms.

**TedC:** questgarden, I believe that is the name of the site

**VeronicaYR** : Really?

**CaroleMc**: ah yes I know that one, thanks Ted

**NicoleZ**: really Roger

**RogerMG**: Nicole. Yes.

**MireyaRa**: That is nice. We always have meetings.

**RogerMG**: ?

**BJB2**: <http://questgarden.com/>

**NicoleZ**: My question to you is do you find that you miss that everyday meeting that you would find f2f

**SarahMcal**: Is questgarden a free website?

**BJB2**: no

**SarahMcal**: thanks bjb

**RogerMG**: I meet two days a week with all my hybrid classes, what would be the third day is hybridized/blended online.

**VeronicaYR** : That's is awesome!

**KristenC**: That's cool Roger

**BJB2**: very inexpensive though...two years for \$20

**EdithH**: cool!

**SarahMcal**: Do you give them assignments to complete during that third day?

**VeronicaYR** : I would like a hybrid course a million times

**NicoleZ**: oh so you still see your students see that's different from the online classes I take

**SarahMcal**: I saw that BJB!

**CaroleMc**: so Roger, how many hours a week do you spend in your teaching altogether

**BJB2:** A two year subscription to QuestGarden costs \$20 (US). Blocks of 10 or more subscriptions can be purchased by school districts and other entities at a discounted rate. Write to [billing@questgarden.com](mailto:billing@questgarden.com) for details.

**JenniferNK:** Yea I'd love to have courses like that

**KristenC:** I would too

**JaimeEK:** Thanks for sharing that info BJ

**EdithH:** me too

**VeronicaYR:** Or at least meet once a month/week/ or some kind of communication

**EdithH:** definitely...thanks so much for the info

**SusanR . o O** ( wonders if Roger MG and Carole Mc make use of Skype and some of the web 2.0 apps like uStream in their course preparations )

**BJB2 . o O** ( fyi, there are archived transcripts with Bernie Dodge at [www.tappedin.org/transcripts](http://www.tappedin.org/transcripts) )

**RogerMG:** The assignments for the hybrid/blended part are prepared way in advance. I 'open them up' three weeks at a time throughout the semester so learners can work ahead or catch up.

**SarahMcal:** I see.

**CaroleMc:** Q. for all. Do you have state based or national frameworks or supporting bodies for your elearning materials, strategies, PD etc?

**MireyaRa:** Yes that way the students are clear on what is expected on assignments.

**KristenC:** That's nice

**RogerMG:** I also have TAs who work with me in each class . . .so if I cannot get to a learner, they can.

**SarahMcal:** I'm not sure Carole.

**JenniferNK:** I really don't know.

**NicoleZ:** um I don't know roger

**RogerMG:** Carole. No. I work at a private university.

**CaroleMc:** you may like to have a look at our Australian framework site - many great resources at: ....

**CaroleMc:** <http://www.flexiblelearning.net.au/flx/go>

**EdithH:** oh, that sounds good...someone is there to help when you're not then.

**RogerMG:** Australia has for a long time been a leader in online learning, along with Canada. It has a lot to do with the ruralness of their countries.

**VeronicaYR :** great thanks

**CaroleMc:** Roger, I recommend the use of Teacher Assistants - it is a real boon here for team teaching with WebCT

**RogerMG:** Couldn't do without 'em

**KristenC:** Australia...really??

**EdithH:** I bet

**CaroleMc:** thanks for your commendation for Aussie models

**SusanR .** o O ( and for the Canadian models )

**NicoleZ:** Well thanks for all the information

**EdithH:** Yea, thanks for all the info

**MireyaRa:** yes thanks

**JaimeEK:** Some smaller schools (like where I am) have a bias against online courses

**SarahMcal:** Why so?

**EdithH:** why do you think that is?

**JenniferNK:** yea why?

**KristenC:** yea y?

**MireyaRa:** really

**JaimeEK:** Because the college I work at feels that f2f teaching is best

**SarahMcal:** because you may lose the individualized connections?

**CaroleMc:** If you'd like to look at other Aussie examples of support try this one: ...  
<http://www.tafevc.com.au/>

**SarahMcal:** Thank you Carole

**KristenC:** Thanks Carole

**JaimeEK:** Thanks

**RogerMG:** Jamie, I have heard of that sort of bias before . . .but it is biased:-)

**KristenC:** I'm glad UH likes online courses

**SarahMcal** smiles

**EdithH:** me too!

**MireyaRa:** me too

**KristenC:** I would be at school all the time if they didn't.

**MireyaRa:** lol I agree.

**SarahMcal:** It has made things much easier- especially this being a commuter's campus

**JaimeEK:** I agree. It is frustrating because there is so much that could be accomplished online. we aren't moving forward

**KristenC:** nope...

**CaroleMc:** Jaime, I believe that the impetus for change probably needs to come from advocates like yourself - managing from the bottom up, its not easy convincing others, so it often requires a 'business case' approach that spells out the benefits to learners

**SarahMcal:** I like that our school offers classes as online AND face-to-face so that you can choose what works best for you

**JaimeEK:** Suggestions are helpful! Ideas on how I can start a change?

**KristenC:** I do too Sarah..

**KristenC:** talk to the dean of students at your school...

**KristenC:** or get a group of people to sign a petition....that's old fashioned!! haha

**MireyaRa:** yes that would be a great idea.

**CaroleMc:** Jaime, networking as you're doing today, is the best starting point. Then use a cascading model, where you bring in one other person to a forum for discussion - this opens their eyes to your world - then they pass it on etc.

**RogerMG:** OK Folks. We're almost out of time. Hope this has been useful. We will not be meeting in Dec., as I am off to the Cook Islands. We will be back here same time same station in Jan. 2008

**EdithH:** Thanks so much for the info!!!

**JaimeEK:** Thank you!

**SarahMcal:** Thank you!

**JenniferNK:** Thank you! It was very interesting!

**KristenC:** Thank you so much for all your answers and info!!!!

**CaroleMc:** wow Roger, send us a postcard, thanks for a most stimulating session

**NicoleZ:** good bye to all

**TedC:** thank you, gl student teachers!

**EdithH:** good bye!

**MireyaRa:** Yes thank you for all the information you provided.

**KristenC:** Good bye everyone!!!

**VeronicaYR:** Thank you!!! Good bye and good luck!

**JenniferNK:** bye everyone!