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Syllabus: Blending Your Education



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1. Course overview

This course is about how to design and develop blended education and teaching (a deliberate combination of online and offline learning activities). Based on what we've learned from COVID Teaching and in the [EMBED project](#) you will apply concepts to adapt to a more inclusive and engaging blended learning experience, through guidelines and pedagogies leading to mature and high-quality education.

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2. Learning objectives

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Design, develop, and offer a blended course for campus students, incorporating best practices, experiences, and learning theories
- Redesign courses to be more inclusive and engaging based on what we learned from COVID experiences in teaching
- Implement blended learning solutions for your own situation using the EMBED model
- Evaluate your course and create a course improvement plan

The course has a modular structure and will be designed in alignment with the needs of universities, strong educational concepts and relevant learning objectives.

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3. What we expect from you

As an online student, we expect you to be an active participant in this course by contributing to a positive atmosphere. We want you to question, share and help others by engaging in meaningful discussions.

Regarding deadlines, we expect you to keep on track in order to benefit from learning within a community. This course is meant to be a place where you learn with and from others. In this sense, we would like you to experience collaboration and peer-feedback, so please make sure you follow along with other participants in order to enrich the overall learning experience.

You are expected to [follow forum](#) and [collaboration guidelines](#). Respect the course policies, academic integrity and most importantly your fellow students.

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4. What you can expect from us / the course team

This course is self-paced in the sense that you can jump forward or take more time. Because of that, I as the instructor will be guiding you throughout the course, launching the module content, promoting and engaging in discussions, and providing

feedback regarding your performance. Guidance and support will happen on a regular basis.

Every 2-3 weeks we will have a synchronous webinar where I'm available for questions and where will work in small groups to gain additional feedback.

Response Time: I will try to respond to all your questions and posts within 48-72 hours. If this not possible for any reason, I will let you know.

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5. Course structure

The course is organized in 7 modules. A brief summary of each unit is presented below. Detailed instructions and resources will be provided during the course.

0. Course Welcome (23 March - 5 April)

In the Getting Started section you'll get to know the course structure, get familiarized with the virtual learning environment, complete your profile, meet your fellow students and the instructor. These introductory tasks should be completed in the beginning of the course, after your first login.

1. Get started with Blended Learning (23 March - 5 April)

In the first module of this course, you will learn the definition of Blended Teaching and learning, when Blended Learning is an added value, how Blended Learning fits in a course design and what the differences are between a traditional face-to-face (F2F) setting and Blended Learning. You will learn how to utilize a Blended Learning Wave to plan your learning activities.

Webinar 1: 23 March 13:00-14:00 PM (CET or Amsterdam time)

Webinar 1 Agenda:

- Does everyone have access to this course as of March 23rd?
- Introductions with Icebreaker
- Why we use Icebreakers

- Breakout rooms - Come up with an icebreaker
- What's in the module - Get Started?
- Scavenger Hunt
- What is Blended Education and the Blended Learning Wave
- This Module's Assignments and when they are due
- Any immediate questions / concerns regarding Blending Your Education

2. Is your course ready to be blended? (6 April - 19 April)

After getting adjusted to the course and having met your peers, you will analyse barriers and possibilities for blended education in your own institution. The EMBED model will be introduced with its four different dimensions. You will start with a course improvement plan based on the EMBED model, analyzing the needs of students, knowing and setting expectations, exploring the environment (Multi campus Education, International Collaboration) and exploring the facilities available to you.

Webinar 2: 6 April 13:00-14:00 PM (CET or Amsterdam time)

Webinar Agenda:

- What you've learned so far
- What tools you've explored so far
- Your Blended Learning Wave so far
- Discussing if your course is ready to blend
- Course Scan
- Constructive Alignment
- Immediate questions/concerns regarding Blended Learning

3. Plan your course design (20 April - 10 May)

Based on your course improvement plan, you will learn how to determine Learning Objectives (LOs) using constructive alignment, plan media based on learning objectives, determine assessments connected to the learning objectives and you will be able to decide between synchronous and asynchronous delivery in your learning activities. The Course Design Process dimension in the EMBED model will be used as a basis for creating your course improvement plan.

Webinar 3: 20 April 13:00-14:00 PM (CET or Amsterdam time)

Webinar Agenda:

- Discuss in groups what you discovered with your course scan and constructive alignment
- Storyboarding
- Designing your synchronous sessions
- Creating a Media Plan
- Planning your assessment
- Immediate questions/concerns regarding Blended Learning

4. Prepare to teach your course (11 May - 24 June)

In this module, you will learn how to engage and motivate students. You will explore options such as game-based learning and storytelling. Additionally, you will be guided into making deliberate choices in designing inclusive learning activities and learning experiences. You will also focus on student readiness, student learning, study load, student engagement, motivation and supporting students in overcoming failure. The Course experience flexibility in the EMBED model will be highlighted in this module.

Webinar 4: 11 May 13:00-14:00 PM (CET or Amsterdam time)

Featuring Guest Speaker: Mark Brown

Webinar Agenda:

- Student Readiness with Mark Brown
- Student Engagement
- Importance of storytelling
- Discuss your storyboard in small groups and give a story
- Gameplay
- Immediate questions/concerns regarding Blended Learning

5. Build your blended course (25 May - 7 June)

After you complete your course design, you will then begin to build your course inside a course shell within your own Learning Management System (LMS). During this stage, you will find and create and/or reuse (openly licensed) content, consider how to make your content interactive, and decide which tools to utilize according to situations that arise (See Selection of tools in EMBED Model. The Course Interaction dimension in the EMBED model will be highlighted in this module.

Webinar 5: 25 May 13:00-14:00 PM (CET or Amsterdam time)

Webinar Agenda:

- Discuss your student engagement plan
- Media plan
- Finding Open Educational Resources (OER)
- Creating media and materials
- Organizing your content in the course
- Immediate questions/concerns regarding Blended Learning

6. Teach your blended course (8 June - 21 June)

By now you are feeling prepared to teach your course. This module focuses on how to deliver the content, specifically how you will communicate with learners and encourage them to participate and complete your course. Common challenges that you can be faced with when offering a new course in new ways will be explored. You will learn what you can do if you need to adjust your course on the fly based on learner input. The Course Experience dimension in the EMBED model will be highlighted in this module.

Webinar 6: 8 June 13:00-14:00 PM (CET or Amsterdam time)

Webinar Agenda:

- Discuss your course design
- Communication Plan
- Planning e-moderation and online presence
- Tips on adjusting a live course

- Immediate questions/concerns regarding Blended Learning

7. Evaluate and improve your course (22 June - 29 June)

In this final module you will focus on how to evaluate and improve your course. You will make a plan of what you need to change or edit for future course runs. This module wraps up the course by relooking at what you've learned thus far and considering what and how you will implement what you've learned in your own settings. Beyond your course, you can begin to consider how to encourage Blended Learning at your own institute.

Webinar: 22 June 13:00-14:00 PM (CET or Amsterdam time)

Webinar Agenda:

- Discuss your communication plan
- Evaluating your course
- Planning for Improvement in Stages
- Implementing changes
- Immediate questions/concerns regarding Blended Learning

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6. Resources, Tools & Browsers

All educational resources will be available in the course. They consist of short videos and readings to support you in the completion of the weekly learning activities.

We support the following browsers: Chrome, Firefox and Safari.

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7. Assessment & Certificate

In order to successfully complete the course, you need to will need to score 60%. All assignments are mandatory in order to get the course certificate. Assessment criteria for the assignments are detailed in the course. Each module has it's own badge after

you complete that module's activity.

[Give a breakdown of learning activities/deliverables per week and weight in %]

The certificate will indicate you have successfully completed the course, but will not include a specific grade. Certificates will be issued by TU Delft under the name of DelftX, designating the institution from which the course originated, and in collaboration with Digitel Pro.

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