



*CES 681 Teaching Praxis II
Regent University Spring 2008*

From Traditional Classroom to Online

Beyond Virtual Success

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A First Step: Blended Learning

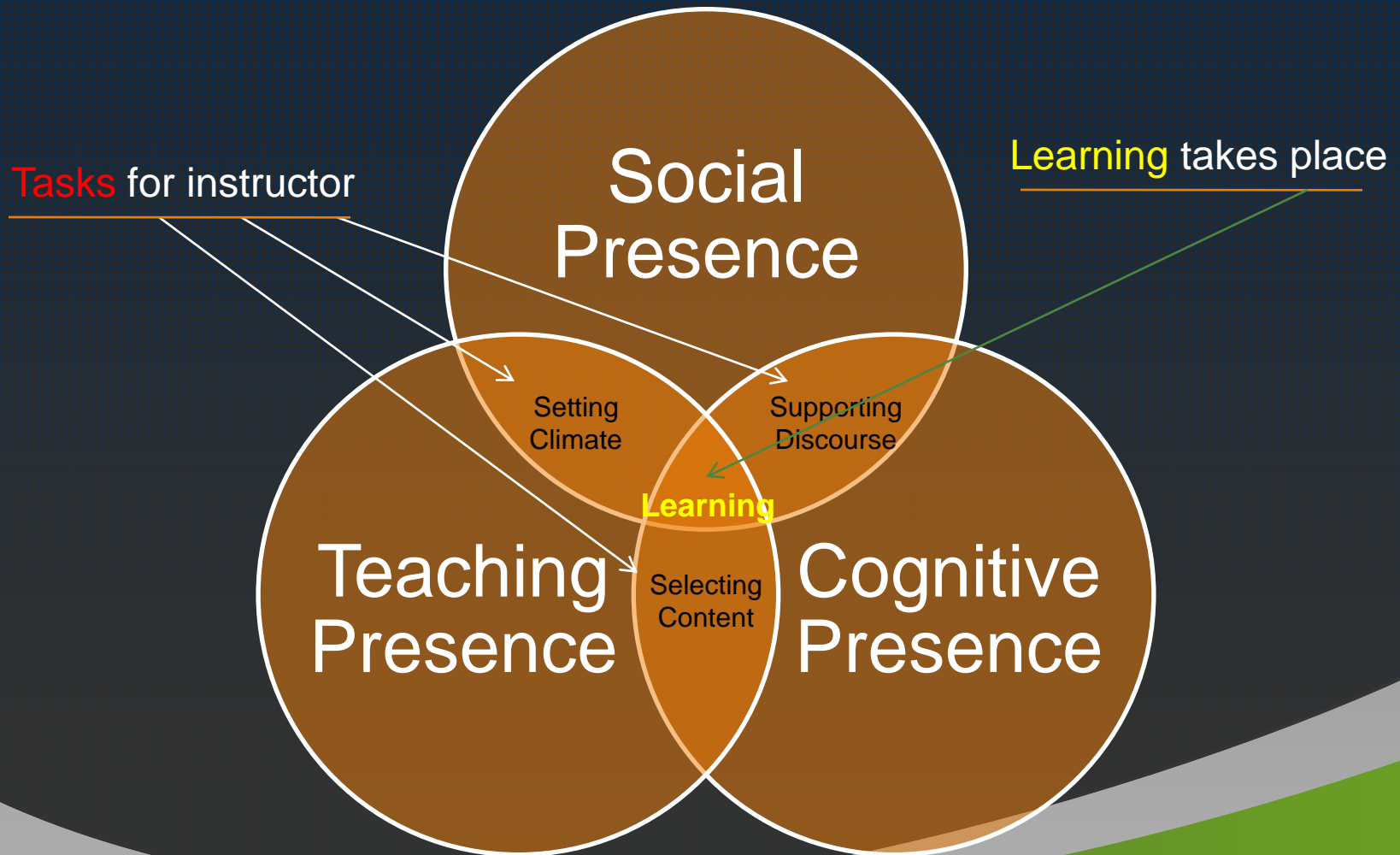
- "The convergence of classroom and online education is the single greatest unrecognized trend in higher education today." (Young, 2002)
- **Blended Learning** is "the thoughtful fusion of face-to-face and online learning" (Dietz, 2007)
 - It is more than just posting lectures and notes on a Website (York, Yang, & Dark, 2007).
- **Blended Learning** means integrating verbal/written/visual communication in creative ways that facilitate "interactive and reflective higher-order learning" (Dietz, 2007)



A key to creating a successful Blended Learning experience is the creation of a Community of Inquiry for students

Support Students by Creating a **Community of Inquiry**

Adapted from <http://www.sloan-c.org/publications/books/interactions.pdf>



What can be done to promote interaction and presence online?

Promoting *Interaction* & *Presence*

There are four main components to consider when transitioning a traditional face-to-face course to an online version...



For the Online Environment

Upgrade Your Introductions

Traditional Classroom

- Students have a physical building in which to meet and see one another face-to-face
- Students and instructor(s) take turns introducing themselves in the first class meeting.

Online Environment

- Create a discussion forum (voice and/or text) for students for introductions that students can access before the class officially starts.
- Provide an ice breaker question with your response and include a photo. Ask students to do the same.

Question: What creative ways would use to introduce yourself to students face-to-face and online? What about in a Blended Learning class?

Upgrade Your Organization

Traditional Classroom

- Syllabus
- Class meeting schedule with due dates
- Office hours
- Required readings

Online Environment

- Online version of syllabus including schedule
- Hyperlinks in the Main course screen with the day/week's announcements
- Links in multiple location to Discussion Boards and Assignments
- Links to online readings
- Online "virtual" office hours posted

Question: Describe your level of comfort in using a class management system such as Blackboard to organize a Blended Learning class.

Upgrade Your Instruction

Traditional Classroom

- Assigned readings
- Instructor lectures
- Class discussions
- Break into small groups
- Assign homework
- Use of video
- Guest lecturers
- Role Playing

Reflect: How do you think your time commitment to teaching might change in an teaching online?

Online Environment

- Provide links to assigned readings and to websites.
- Assign pairs of students to read opposing views on a topic-set up a debate with arbitrary position assignments
- Design a virtual field trip that students can take through the Web
- Instructor designed discussion board questions
- Student led discussion threads monitored by instructor

Upgrading Feedback

Traditional Classroom

- Tests
- Verbal feedback
- Meetings with students
- Written comments on papers submitted

Think About: What would need to change about your grading and feedback to students if you graded using voice mail? Using recorded video feedback? How comfortable would these media fit your communication style?

Online Environment

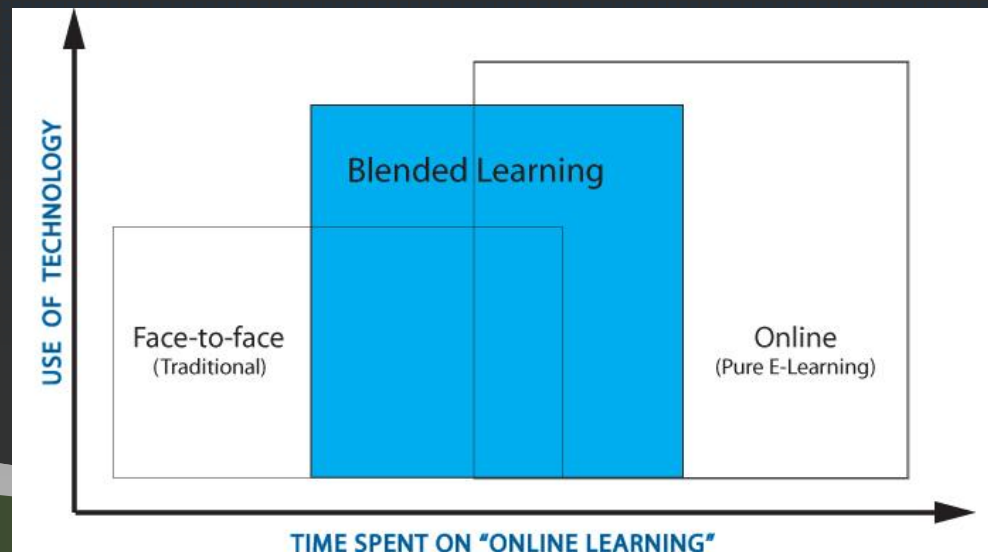
- Quizzes via class management system
- Writing assignments
- Surveys (e.g., Survey Monkey www.surveymonkey.com or through Blackboard)
- Email/Voice email
- Announcement pages in discussion boards

Counting the Cost:

- Imagine you have been teaching a Master's level **Personality Theories** course in a traditional format, and you have been asked to take the first steps towards transitioning the course to an online format. In your daily devotional, you have been reading in **Luke 14**, when verses **28-30** catch your attention. You begin to think about what transitioning your course “will cost...”

Please respond to the following question:

- Question:** How would the chart below inform your plans to transition to teaching your course in a blended format? How about as a purely online format? Provide some examples of how you “count the cost” of your challenge...



References and Resources

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