Conference or Workshop Item

Title: Using Blackboard Learn to create an open online course

Creators: Littlemore, K. and Farmer, R.


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http://nectar.northampton.ac.uk/6607/
USING Bb LEARN TO CREATE AN OPEN ONLINE COURSE

KATE LITTLEMORE
Head of the Centre for Achievement & Performance

ROBERT FARMER
Learning Technologist
The University of Northampton
KATE LITTLEMORE
Head of the Centre for Achievement and Performance
kate.littlemore@northampton.ac.uk

ROBERT FARMER
Learning Technologist
robert.farmer@northampton.ac.uk

We have used Blackboard at the University of Northampton for 12 years.
ABOUT MY INSTITUTION

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHAMPTON
2 Campuses, 6 Schools, 14,000 students
1261: The first University of Northampton
1924: Northampton Technical College (Avenue Campus)
1937: School of Art (Avenue Campus)
1972: Teacher Training College (Park Campus)
1975: Nene College of Higher Education (Avenue & Park Campus)
1993: Incorporation of St. Andrew’s School of Occupational Therapy
1994: Incorporation of Leathersellers College
1997: Incorporation of Sir Gordon Roberts College of Nursing & Midwifery
1999: University College Northampton
2005: The University of Northampton
2018: Move to the new Waterside Campus
ABOUT MY INSTITUTION

CENTRE FOR ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

• Pre-booked and drop-in tutorials | Online tutorials | Study Skills courses | Online study skills materials | Maths GCSE.

• Head of CfAP | CfAP Operations Manager | 1 Academic Practice (Maths) Tutor | 6 Academic Practice Tutors | Learning Support Assistant.

LEARNING TECHNOLOGY TEAM

• Blackboard | Edublogs | Kaltura | Panopto | Pebble+ | Turnitin WizIQ | Xerte.

• Head of Learning Technology | 7 Learning Technologists | 1 VLE Administrator.
By the end of the session participants will:

One: understand more about our process of designing and delivering a SPOC/MOOC.

Two: know more about the use of OERs and CC licensed material to create e-tivities and reduce course development time.

Three: have viewed and taken part in our SPOC/MOOC.
IF YOU’RE ONLINE NOW

FEEL FREE TO EXPLORE & INTERACT

Enrol on the Bb T&L conference version of the Study Skills for Academic Success MOOC at:

http://rjfarme.coursesites.com
OUR CHALLENGE was to take a 100% face-to-face course and turn it into a 100% online course.

WHY?

• To meet **increasing demand**.
• To create a **sustainable, scalable** course.
• To meet the needs of learners wanting more **flexible study arrangements**.
• To build the **IT competence/confidence** of learners.
• To engage **applicants and prospective students**.
OUR SOLUTION

THE COURSE RE-DESIGN PROCESS

• CAleRO (Carpe Diem) workshop.
• Re-use rather than creation of learning materials.
• Focus on task, not content.
• Constructive alignments.
• Design with openness in mind.
• Create e-tivities.
OUR SOLUTION

TIMELINE

Level 4 CAleRO course development workshop
Feb 2013

Delivery of 10 week blended course
April to July 2013

Feedback and evaluation of blended course
August 2013

Redesign of 10 week blended course to create 8 week SPOC
September & October 2013

Pilot/test delivery of 8 week SPOC
December 2013 to January 2014

Final changes to SPOC and creation of MOOC
February to March 2014

First delivery of 8 week SPOC
April to May 2014

Launch of MOOC on CourseSites
May 5th 2014

Level 7 CAleRO course development workshop
June 2014
HERE’S HOW WE USED BLACKBOARD

http://rjfarme.coursesites.com
RESULTS FROM THE **BLENDDED COURSE**

- Findings from the blended course showed that students enjoyed the course and found it to be very beneficial.

- However, it also showed that students found the face-to-face elements very useful.
Positives:

“... it helped me learn about how to reference properly, and what I need to do in order to improve on any piece of academic work”.

“Very flexible approach which was great. Face to face sessions were very well delivered ...”

“I felt well supported, there was always help when needed!”
What was your prior experience of online learning?

- I am a regular online learner.
- I have taken one or two online courses before.
- I've taken a few online courses before
- I've never taken an online course before
What do you think about this type of blended course?

- I thought that the mix between online activities and face-to-face sessions was just right.
- I would have preferred fewer online activities and more face-to-face sessions.
- I would have preferred it if the course was entirely online.
If there were no face-to-face sessions, what do you think your experience would have been?

- I did enjoy the face-to-face sessions, but it would have been more convenient for me if the course was all online.
- I would probably have completed the course, but it wouldn't have been as enjoyable.
- The face-to-face sessions kept me going, and I don't think that I would have completed the course without them.
100% of students agreed that:

“Online learning is good because it means that I can fit in my learning around my work and/or family commitments.”

and

“Online learning is bad because I can't easily ask questions when I’m stuck.”
0% of students agreed that:

“Online learning is good because it means that I don't have to attend lectures.”

and

“Online learning is bad because it means that I have to spend too much time sitting in front of a computer.”
STUDENT FEEDBACK

How would you rate the SSAS course? (%)

- Excellent
- Very Good
- Good
- Disappointing
- Poor
- Dreadful

How would you rate the SSAS course? (%)

Blackboard Teaching & Learning Conference
DUBLIN 2014 | 29 APRIL – 2 MAY | UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN
Did you feel that the course was clear and well structured? (%)

- It was always clear
- It was mostly clear
- Some activities were clear
- I got lost quite a bit
- I was lost a lot of the time
- I rarely knew what was happening
RESULTS FROM THE PILOT SPOC

• Feedback from the pilot version of the SPOC showed that in condensing the course from 10 to 8 weeks, we also needed to reduce the overall number of e-tivities.

• However, students did not seem to be concerned about the loss of the face-to-face sessions.

FEEDBACK VIDEO

• Jeni
OUR RESULTS

FUTURE RESULTS

• Research findings from the April-May SPOC will be disseminated at ALT-C 2014.

• To date, over 150 students from Australia, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Japan, the Netherlands, UAE, UK, USA, Russia & Singapore have enrolled on the May-June CourseSites MOOC.
DO THIS NEXT

THE MOOC WILL BEGIN ON MONDAY 5TH MAY 2014

To take part in our first Study Skills for Academic Success MOOC, please enrol at:

http://northampton.coursesites.com
THANK YOU!

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