

Online Workshop of 3 units (2,5 hours)

Online Pedagogy Series: Educational Trifles, Season 1, Episode 1 – by Jutta Pauschenwein alias jupidu

Current situation

As in spring, teaching in the winter semester 2020/21 will be mainly online.

What's the problem?

A teacher tells me:

I'm an expert in my field and an enthusiastic face-to-face teacher.

Normally I prepare a great content for my students and in discussing my ideas with them they learn.

They love it. I love it.

Therefore I am not happy at all that I have to teach online in this semester.

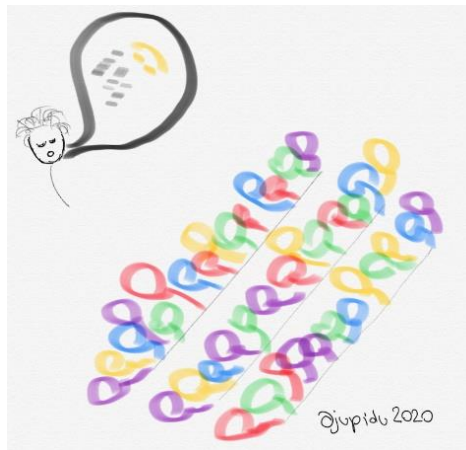


Fig. 1 - Classical face - to - face Lecture to students

Her concrete problem is:

Next week there's my seminar of three units (2,5 hours) where I will meet my students online. What are your suggestions with respect to a sound pedagogical concept?

Of course she could do her presentation online in the same manner as she did it face-to-face. But probably it wouldn't work as well as she's used to. We can assume that students' interaction would be less intensive and exciting as the teacher's used to. See figure 2.





Fig. 2 - Classical presentation in an online setting with slide 1, slide 2, slide 3, ...

How to solve the dilemma

There's a rather easy way to solve this dilemma: the teacher could give responsibilities to the students, by asking them to assume the role of online moderators. Students can register themselves for this job. Depending from the number of students two to four moderators are appropriate.

Input

The teacher presents his or her ideas for a maximum of 15 to 20 minutes. During this time only the teacher is using video and audio. During her presentation students use the chat to comment or ask questions. The moderators summarize the discussion and the questions.

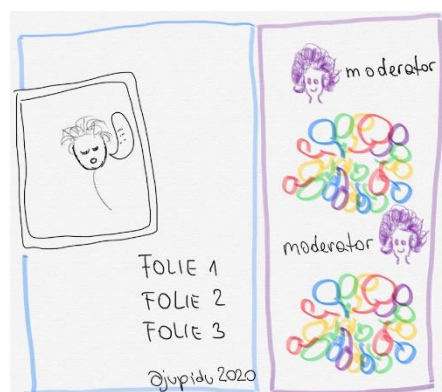


Fig. 1 - Successful teaching with video conferencing

Exchange

The students as moderators join the teacher in the video-audio channel and bring the students' view into the discussion. If necessary other students can join the moderators – depending on the number of students this could be done via video/audio or in the chat.

Experiences

Teachers who already used this approach reported that there was a lot of students' discussion, even more than in face-to-face situations.

Time frame

Time	What
5 minutes (10 minutes the first time)	Explain the framework and appoint the moderators
20 minutes	Teacher's input
25 minutes	Discussion
At least 15 min	Coffee break – maybe give students a question to think about as preparation for the next topic

Don't forget that in successful online learning scenarios there's a need for

- clear communication of the process,
- good support of the students at the beginning,
- more responsibility for the learners,
- less content that can be processed in depth,
- more breaks in the synchronous online phases.