Models of Course Delivery: Flexible Mode Course

Flexible Mode Courses **are those that offer multiple delivery modes so that students can choose which model best meets their unique needs.**

Often referred to as the HyFlex model, *Flexible Mode Courses* offer the greatest amount of student choice. First implemented at San Francisco State University, this model offers both classroom and online options for all or most learning activities, giving students the flexibility to choose when and where they attend to the course requirements, often on a weekly basis.

Models of Course Delivery Continuum

Face-to-Face   **Fully Online**

Classroom Course	Synchronous Distributed Course	Web Enhanced Course	Blended Classroom Course	Blended Online Course	**Flexible Mode Course**	Online Course

In a HyFlex course, the instructor considers the course outcomes and then determines how students could equivalently achieve these outcomes in both the face-to-face environment and the online environment. Students then select when to participate in the face-to-face class and when to participate online, often moving back and forth between the two.

Obviously, this means that in a HyFlex course, both fully online and fully face-to-face classroom instruction is provided. Without a bit of forethought, this could seem overwhelming as one plans for this style of instruction. However, there are ways to manage instructor workload while also providing students with the choice HyFlex offers:

- Build the online version so that it functions as the "spine" of the course and then determine the face-to-face pieces that could be added.
- Determine ways that materials serve as learning objects in both environments. For example, post materials from the face-to-face class within the Learning Management System (LMS) so that online students can access them, or post lecture video content on the LMS that all students watch before they apply it either in class or online.
- Remember that many formal assessments can look similarly for both online or face-to-face classes. Essays, quizzes, reports, or presentations can work well in either environment.
- Formative assessments such as the classroom assessment techniques of muddiest point, one-minute paper, or memory matrix work equally well face-to-face or online.
- Finally, we know some instructors who already have the same course offered in both a face-to-face section and an online section. You can leverage a HyFlex model by allowing students to access both regardless of their enrollment.

If a HyFlex model is something you would like to consider, please contact ITLE's Teaching and Learning Support team. We would be happy to help.

Reference:
Mayadas, F., Miller, G.E., & Sener, J. (2015, July, 7). Updated e-learning definitions. *OLC Insights*.