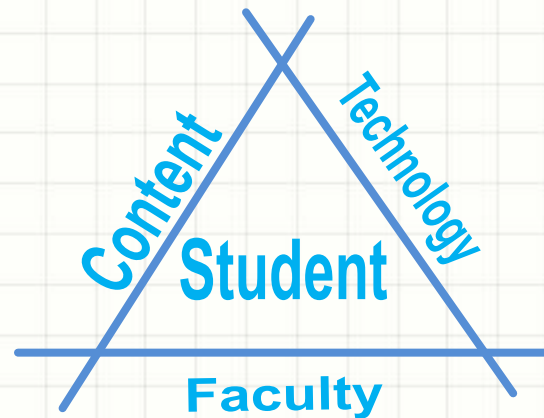
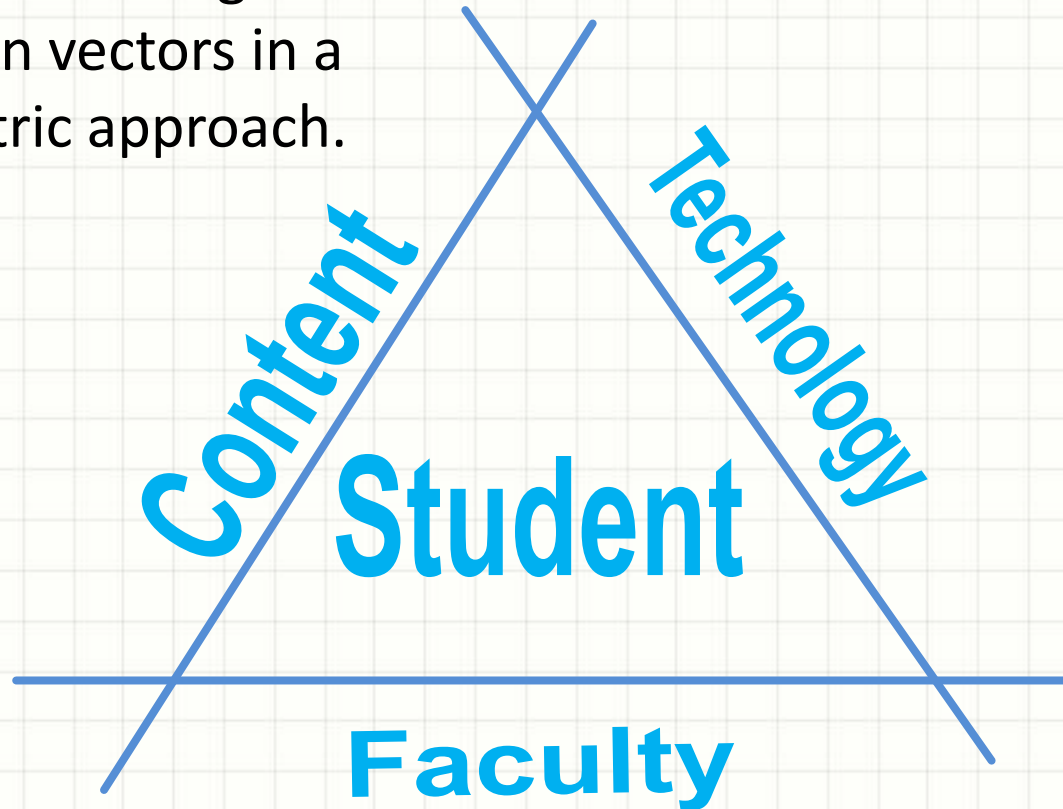


Effective Online Teaching

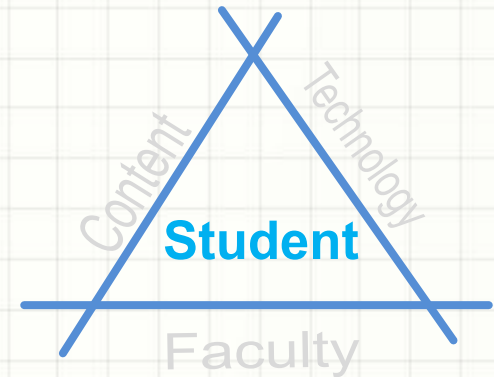
Student–Centered Instruction in the Social Media Age



Online Teaching and Learning Effectiveness sits at the central convergence of three main vectors in a student centric approach.



Effective Online Teaching and Learning In the Media Age is driven by how students consume media/content using the technology affordances of our time.



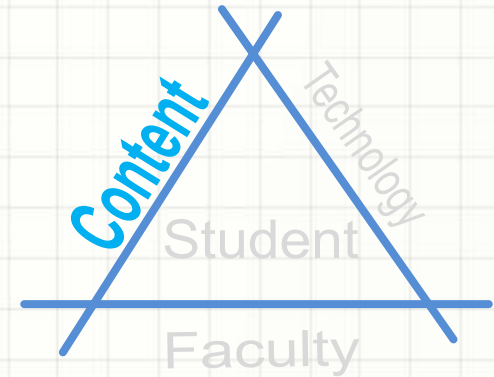
- Students can learn what they want, when they want, wherever they want via free and paid online learning resources. Online learners access and consume educational media in the same way they access media outside of the learning environment.

Effective online teaching is built on the patterns of how, when and where the student accesses and consumes media and information.

- Students are motivated by their expectation of success. They are 'quest' driven and have specific requests for learning and information that will help them succeed.

Effective online teachers engage students in a blend of their experience and the course content.¹ Through the discovery and use of their questions and engaging their curiosity students are encouraged to experiment, make a mess (failure) and build to success.²

Effective Online Teaching and Learning In the Media Age is built on accessible content relevant to the student's learning style and mode of consumption.



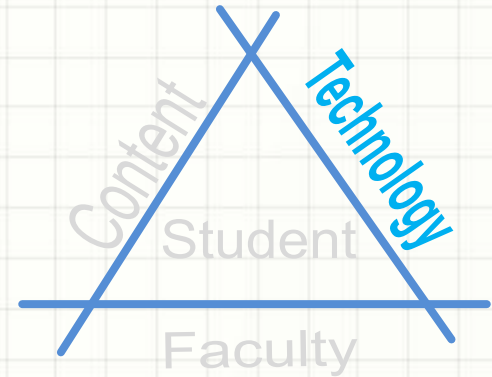
- A constant flow of media and content presented through advancing online media technologies is ever-present in our learning eco-system.

Effective online teaching integrates easily available free and for fee training media and enables asynchronous access to resources via multiple technologies (web, mobile, tablet and so on).³

- Access to media in our culture and society is nominally free via the digital net. We create it, share it and consume it at a prodigious rate. Media content is primarily consumed in short “bite-sized” chunks.⁴

Effective online teaching presents learning elements in compact, assessable modules, formatted to fit how the student accesses and consumes information.

Effective Online Teaching and Learning In the Media Age uses established and emerging technologies to present and communicate information in a variety of formats and pipelines.



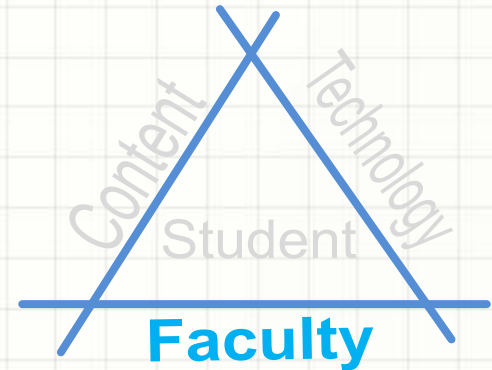
- Technology can both facilitate and frustrate the learning process. It is constantly changing and improving in both sustaining and disruptive modes of innovation.⁵

Effective online teaching technologies must be simple to use. Tech presented and used in a way that is already familiar to the student and instructor alike creates an “affordance” that allows them to easily adopt the technology and adapt it to their use. As technology changes, the practical elements of teaching likewise change to match the capability of the tech.

- Technology enables an innovative way of accessing education; it does not replace fundamental modes of learning.

Effective online teaching is founded on a disruptive innovation which enhances the opportunity to learn by providing access to a wide student audience, in diverse locales who may have not had access to traditional “on the ground” learning environments in the past.

Effective Online Teaching and Learning In the Media Age requires faculty to embrace innovative tools and technology and add online teaching techniques to their toolbox.

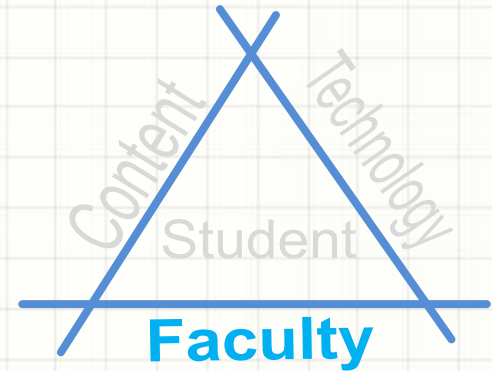


- “Online learning changes a teacher’s job...it will enable far more people to do what only the expert intuitive teacher could do before.”⁶

Effective online teaching is founded on the idea that the students, teachers and the millions of online learners comprise a “crowd” source of knowledge, wisdom and shared intuition accessible in vast networks of self-curated social connections. The effective teacher is a student of the craft of online learning and teaching and maintains an effective plan for improvement and change to meet the demands of the online eco-system

- Effective online schools provide support resources and training for online faculty.
Effective online teachers embrace the opportunity to learn the tools, standards, requirements and policies of their school and adopt them completely. They help their students do the same by setting a good example of compliance and devotion to honesty, fairness and rigorous fun in pursuit of knowledge.

Effective Online Teaching and Learning In the Media Age requires constant learning and feedback of what is working and what is not. Excellent teaching requires a focus on communication, collaboration and constant improvement.



- Teachers are on the leading edge of the online learning wave.

Effective online teachers acknowledge that they are not only a teacher but also a primary source of information and insight for constant improvement in the classroom and the program. Effective teachers collaborate with their colleagues through sharing information and creating dialogue about what works and what doesn't.

- Effective communication requires special skills in written etiquette, critique and feedback.

Communication in the online environment is key to initiating and maintaining learning relationships . Effective online teachers create relationships of trust with their students by setting an example of respect and accountability to all elements of their work as teachers. They are patient, kind and expect the best from themselves and their students.

Summary:

Characteristics of Effective Online Teachers in the Media Age

- 1. Understand how their students learn and adapt their approach to teaching based on that understanding.*
- 2. Engage their students in their quests for knowledge through experimentation, curiosity and creativity.*
- 3. Combine their professional experience with course content to create practical learning and motivation.*
- 4. Integrate relevant and current online learning resources.*
- 5. Use technology to empower their work and drive innovation in teaching and learning opportunities.*
- 6. Create an environment of shared knowledge and collaboration.*
- 7. Constantly pursue self improvement.*
- 8. Provide service to their programs by giving feedback on what is working in their courses.*
- 9. Set an example of the virtues of honesty, fairness and accountability*
- 10. Create a relationship of trust with their students through effective communication, kindness, compassion and respect.*

Footnotes:

1. Christiansen, Clayton et al. *Disrupting Class, How Disruptive Innovation Will Change the Way the World Learns*. McGraw-Hill; 2 Edition. August 20, 2010 p. 177
2. Disruption is a positive force. It is the process by which an innovation transforms a market whose services or products are complicated and expensive into one where simplicity, convenience, accessibility and affordability characterize the industry. Christiansen, Clayton et al. *Disrupting Class, How Disruptive Innovation Will Change the Way the World Learns*. McGraw-Hill; 2 Edition. August 20, 2010 p. 11
3. Ibid. p. 178
4. Christensen, Clayton M., and Henry J. Eyring. *The Innovative University: Changing the DNA of Higher Education from the Inside Out*. Jossey-Bass, 2011.