Preparing for Online Teaching Success to Serve the Adult Learner
Challenges

1. What are some of the major challenges in teaching a face-to-face course?
2. What are different challenges in a fully online course?
3. What are a few challenges an adult learner might have with online learning?
4. What are skills that an adult learner might not have compared to a younger learner?
Strategies

1. What are some methods you have used in the past to engage students in the face-to-face classroom?

2. What new methods do you think are needed to engage students in an online environment?

3. How do you think we can meet some of the specific needs an adult learner might have in an online environment?

4. How would you approach a class where there is a mixture of traditional 18-22 age and adult students?
Quality Experience

1. What is a quality experience for a student in a course?

2. What are ways to improve the quality of a student’s experience?
Questions?

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Teaching Presence
Examples in the Online Classroom
Establishing Persona

• Establish personality/character
• Affirm your leadership
• Be approachable
Persona Models
Example 2

Given the following data, calculate the HDD for the week:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Average Temperature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>49° F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>47° F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>51° F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>60° F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>65° F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>67° F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>58° F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[ S \quad 49° \quad \text{and} \quad 1 \quad \text{day (65-49)} \]
\[ M \quad 47° \quad \text{and} \quad 1 \quad \text{day (60-47)} \]
\[ T \quad 51° \]
\[ W \quad 60° \]
\[ R \quad 65° \]
\[ F \quad 67° \]
\[ S \quad 58° \]

Click PLAY to view the solution.
Live Example

companies value teamwork experience very highly!
Levels of Activity

Objective
- Demonstrate Engagement
- Maintain consistent level of activity
- Create and manage dynamic learning spaces
- Create “planned” and spontaneous materials

Technique
- Develop a regular class schedule for communication
- Provide a summary post of discussion boards
- Develop a “problem of the week scenario”
Teaching Style

Objective
- Accessible and approachable
- Fair and caring
- Build relationships and coach/mentor

Technique
- Post welcome letter prior to course start
- Post introductory video/message/content
- Respond to the individual student; personalize
Welcome to VLN 2000

VLN 2000 is a four-week workshop that will train you in the online teaching environment. The course structure blends face-to-face classroom discussion and online learning experiences. Some of your learning will be online and some of your learning will be off-line, using videoconferencing technology, so as we gain knowledge and experience as they would in a traditional classroom.

During this course, you will be introduced to online teaching best practices using components provided and supported by the World Campus. You will be able to develop and practice your presentation skills and instructional strategies within the online learning environment. You will experience the VLN blended format. Ask questions, be active in discussions, and practice the content and activities of this course.

Meet the Instructors...

Meet and access contact information for the instructors teaching the course.

Joe Scott

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I am an instructional designer for Penn State World Campus. Before coming to Penn State, I was a school teacher for nine years. During these years as a teacher, I gained experience using videoconferencing tools for engaging students from a distance. Also, having completed my Master's degree as an adult learner and distance student, I have personal experience with the issues faced by adult and distance learners.

Alice Shapiro

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I work for World Campus Learning Design, Penn State's online course division. In the evening, I support video conference based classes for Penn State Outreach. My background is in Experimental Psychology (with a focus in Visual Science) and Information Science and Technology (with a focus in Human Factors).
Final Thoughts

• Do what works for you; be yourself

• Do what you are most comfortable with

• Avoid creating too much extra work for yourself
Questions?