Going to Class: Modularization in Online Humanities courses

Jennifer Harrison Crystal Hofegartner

Kaplan University

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Modularization

 Goal: This presentation seeks to explore online course modularization, and the changing concept of "going to class," particularly in humanities courses. As classes both on ground and online are unbundled, this reflects changing technology applications both inside and outside higher education.

Application Example:

 One course at Kaplan University, "Humanities and Culture"

Modular Design: Fad or Otherwise?

Key element: consistency for students

Modular design components:

- pre-and-postassessment activities
- •clear learning objectives
- assigned reading and writing activities



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Impact of Modular Design

- What will be the benefits in the classroom?
- What is the impact on student learning?

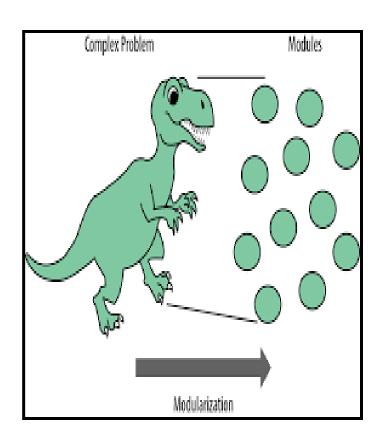


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Implementation in the Classroom

- Poll Question: Have you implemented modular design in your own classrooms?
 - A. Yes
 - o B. No
 - C. Maybe

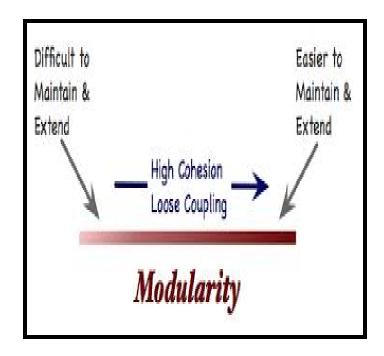


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Module components

- Pre-assessment
- Clearly-identified learning objectives
- Reading assignments
- Writing assignments
- Interactive elements
- "Further exploration" components
- Post-assessment



Application Consistency

 Use of similar and recognizable components – i.e., assignment criteria, reading guidelines, etc. – creates consistency for students.



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Course Example

Unit 3 Summary:

In this unit, you investigated three of the world's major religions: Christianity, Islam, and Buddhism. You learned about their beliefs and practices, and you considered how the religions are often perceived. With this understanding, you will follow these belief systems as they spread throughout the world. In the next unit of this module, you will continue your journey by traveling to vast regions in order to investigate how the beginnings of global trade influenced cultures, beliefs, and traditions. The concepts from this unit will be helpful when you learn about how these religions spread. Having a foundation for the beliefs systems helps us to understand the perspectives and background from different regions. In your present life, you may also find that it is helpful to know about religious traditions in order to follow current events, and hold more fruitful conversations with people who have differing beliefs.

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Course Example

Unit 10 Learning Activities:

Preview

o In order to get a sense of what you can expect to learn in this unit, meet Maria and Alex and take a brief practice quiz after reading about their experiences. This will give you an opportunity to enter the unit with more confidence, more context for the lessons, and a greater sense of how this unit can have an impact on your life and perceptions.

Tours without Tickets

Learn more about the ideas and encounters of this unit by taking a few online tours. This area of the unit features interesting weblinks that can help you to take a closer look at the key concepts from the unit, deepen your understanding of this era, and to help improve retention of the material from the unit.

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What do you think?

- The future:
 - Implications for higher education...



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Sources Consulted

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