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EFFECTIVE USE OF FLIPPED CLASSROOM IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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Abstract

Teaching learning is an integral part of an education system. After independence we have number of methods, devices and techniques at our disposal. Modern age is the age of science and technology. Recently new innovations are taken place in the field of education. Flipped classroom model is one of them. The present scholar paper throws light on the concept of flipped classroom, types of flipped classroom models used in higher education. It also covers phases of flipped classroom model and its advantages. Flipping the classroom adds value to face-to-face interaction between students and educators.

Terms Used : Flipped classroom, cycle of learning

Introduction

Teaching –learning is the backbone of education process. Since last two decades so many changes have been taken place in the field of teaching- learning process. Today's age is the age of science and technology. Existing methods, devices and techniques are not fulfilling the requirement of the students. In the age of social media, students are dealing all types of technology in their day today transaction. Lot of information is now available, they can access it very easily by using computer and internet. Recently innovative methodology and techniques are being used by the teachers in higher education classrooms. The present paper discusses the effectiveness of flipped classroom in higher education.

Objectives of the study

The objectives of the study are as below

1. To know the concept of the flipped classroom.
2. To understand the phases of the learning cycle.
3. To understand how to use flipped classroom model effectively.
4. To know how to implement flipped classroom model in the classroom.
5. To know the advantages of flipped classroom model.

Concept of Flipped Classroom

A flipped classroom is a model of blended learning. It's a combination of online and offline education. In the flipped classroom model, students study the training materials outside the classroom before the lessons. They watch pre-recorded video lectures, online webinars, and read articles assigned to them by a teacher. Inside the classroom, the teacher guides students to apply the knowledge studied at home. Learners complete group discussions, interactive exercises, team-building activities, and case studies.

Flipped learning aims at saving time in the classroom for active training exercises to provide richer learning experience. This way, the teacher doesn't waste class time on delivering a lecture. Students come to school already prepared for the class. They only need to practice and learn how to use their fresh knowledge.

During the class work, the teacher acts as a facilitator. He or she helps students to get a deeper understanding of the material, provides any support, and facilitates the communication between learners.

A method of teaching in which students study new material at home, for example with videos over the internet, and then discuss and practice it with teachers in class, instead of the usual method where teachers present new material in college and students practices at home.

The flipped classroom model covers all phases of the learning cycle (cognitive dimension of Bloom's taxonomy):

1. Knowledge
2. Understanding
3. Application
4. Analysis
5. Summary
6. Evaluation

Types of Flipped Classroom in Higher Education

1. Traditional flipping

This is the standard format. Students prepare by watching short explanatory or tutorial videos prior to the class.

They then practice key concepts doing exercises or debating, while receiving personalized feedback. After the class students review what they learned and expand their knowledge.

2. Debate-oriented flipping

Instructors assign learning materials like TED talks or other videos to set the ground for face-to-face debate and idea exchange in the classroom.

The flipped approach is an innovative solution to the unmet challenges of traditional

education.

Flipping the classroom towards debate can be very useful to analyze subjects that require argumentation skills, like political science and certain MBA courses.

3. *Demonstration-based flipping*

This model focuses on the process. Professors record a video of themselves executing activities step by step.

Students study this content at their pace and must replicate the procedure in class. They need to get the same result, much like a laboratory experiment.

The learning process is later reinforced with tutorial videos students use to review specific steps as much as necessary.

4. *Group-based flipping*

This model adds value to the learning experience through student interaction.

Students digest video and other resources prior to the class, and work in teams to attack the material.

This format encourages students to learn from one another. It also reinforces soft skills and specific knowledge, as they need to have a firm grasp of the subject in order to explain it to their peers.

5. *Virtual flipping*

Sometimes flipping the classroom eliminates the need for a face-to-face class.

In some Higher Education centers, professors share video material with their students. They also receive and grade students' assignments through online learning management platforms.

The only face-to-face interaction happens in personalized coaching sessions based on each student's individual needs.

6. *Double-flipped classroom*

The concept is simple: Putting the student in the role of the instructor. In this model students record their videos to show mastery and new skills.

Again, the act of showing or teaching how something is done reinforces learning.

Steps of Flipped Classroom

Step 1: Decide which technology you will use.

Low tech or high tech? That is, indeed, the question here. You really need to choose something that is easy and straightforward for you. After all, if it isn't easy for you, this whole process can be grueling.

The videos themselves are not meant to be worthy of the silver screen. They are meant to teach the content, not show off editing skills. The key thing here is to make them in one take. If you slip up a little, no big deal. It should take 5 minutes to make a 5-minute video.

There are so many ways you can flip your lectures. The low tech, less time consuming approach is to film yourself with a Flip cam (or any camera, even your cell phone will work). Then you just upload your video to YouTube, preferably your own channel. It's as easy as that.

The higher tech approach would be to use an application to capture the voice along with computer screen.

Step 2: Decide which video service you will use to publish your videos to your students.

The main things to consider are:

- What service will be easiest for my students to access at home?
- Will the service I choose allow students to watch my videos on multiple devices, like smart phones and I Pads?
- Do I want my videos to be public or private? (YouTube has this option, and still makes it very simple to share your videos.)

Step 3: Make your videos!

When it is time to make your videos, set some limits. These limits will not only help you while making them, but will help your students while they watch. The limits decided on were a maximum video length of 5 minutes, and no more than 3 videos assigned per night. This way, students are not overloaded on any given night and can even watch the videos in the morning before college in case they forgot or do not access to technology at home.

Step 4: Make your students accountable for watching your videos.

One of the main questions when presenting about the Flipped Classroom is how I know my students are watching my videos. It is very important to hold your students accountable for watching them every evening. There are a few ways to do this, of course, so you need to find the one you're most comfortable with.

Step 5: Keep it up!

Find a video-making schedule that fits your lifestyle. Some of my colleagues have locked themselves in their classrooms for an entire day and knocked out all their videos. I preferred to do my videos at home on Sundays. Sure, it wasn't always the most interesting thing to do on a day off, but I found it to be surprisingly relaxing. However you fit making your videos into your already busy life, just keep in mind that you are doing good work. Also keep in mind that you get to reuse your videos in the future! You're saving yourself so much time in the long run.

Step 6: Bask in the glow of stress-free teaching.

Once you have your video-making schedule underway you can start to reflect on how much less stress you have. Now, whenever a student is absent they can still view your lecture online. Special education teachers and administrators will love you because they can now access your teaching directly. Parents now have no delusion that you don't know the material. You are available on demand. Anytime. Anywhere. A bit creepy? Sure. But, it's worth it the first time you

hear that a student has used your videos to master the material.

The Flipped Classroom model drastically changes the way you teach. If you are a teacher that likes to keep up with current advancements in education, and reap their vast rewards, the model is a great thing to try. At the very least your students will have more access to the material. They will also have more access to you, which is the biggest benefit of the Flipped Classroom.

After all, you are their most important resource. Never forget that.

Benefits of Using the Flipped Classroom Model

The flipped classroom, also known as a reverse classroom, improves the learning experience in many ways:

- Studying at one's own pace

When studying lectures at home, it's possible to reread or re watch the material anytime. Students can also find additional information on the Internet. It helps to understand difficult topics better.

- Better perception of knowledge

Students get a deeper understanding of the material, as they interact with each other and an instructor and receive frequent feedback.

- Tracking the achievement gap

In the traditional approach, students do their homework at home after classes. They don't have anyone to ask questions on the exercises at home if there's any problem with understanding. What is more, students make mistakes, and it's hard to track what exactly went wrong.

Doing the homework in classroom, learners can ask questions to their instructor immediately. The instructor can notice some common mistakes and pay more attention to the problem.

- The more active process of studying

Learners aren't just the recipients of new information. They take part in interactive learning activities in class.

- Awareness of the curriculum

With all the courses available online, parents can have a clue of what their children study. Therefore, parents can provide support to their children.

- Building social skills, providing constant interaction between students.
- Learning to take responsibility for one's education

Conclusion

- Flipping the classroom adds value to face-to-face interaction between students and educators.

- Students explore contents, test their skills and collaborate. Instructors provide counsel and orientation through one-on-one support when needed.
- It also establishes a dynamic context in which students can experiment to obtain results. This provides counterpoint to the traditional model, which places greater emphasis on a binary answer. It is either right or wrong.
- In regards to learning, the flipped classroom focuses on mastery. Traditional education, in many ways, aims to cover subjects to test memorization.

However, even the flipped concept could end up falling behind if educators fail to incorporate new tools and technologies. For now, it's a concept worth exploring to improve the offer of our Higher Education centers.

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