

Online Learning - Reflections on teaching a mixed cohort

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Our situation

- MSc Advanced Internetwork Engineering
- Late interest in taking the programme by distance learning.
- DL applicants were interested in going at the same pace as full time students.
- Our students can do their practical work remotely.
- Very intensive programme so engagement is an issue for us.

Teaching a mixed(FT/DL) cohort

- Collaborate ultra (Live online streaming, records for later viewing, allows interaction with remote learners).
- Rehearse and work with your LDC on the technical side before hand, they will have ideas that you don't.
- One lecture – two audiences.
- Dealing with questions.
- Use the technology to integrate the class.

Takeaways

- Be nice to your LDC colleagues.
- Assessments – we have shifted towards presentations and viva elements.
- Have a clear schedule that includes all activities and stick to it.
- Keep in regular (weekly) contact with your remote students – a chat on the phone/skype can make all the difference.
- Group assignments can help promote integration between your online and on-campus students.

Be open – you'll find uses you didn't expect.

