

BLENDED LEARNING

PREPARATION TIME: 30'

TEACHING TIME: 1 X 60'

ABSTRACT

This learning scenario introduces the notion of blended learning. Participants will learn about the concept of blended learning and its definition as a teaching practice that integrates online with traditional face-to-face class activities for the purpose of improving learning methods. It is a form of hybrid education that uses online technology to not just supplement, but transform and improve the learning process.

KEYWORDS

Blended Learning, Education, Hybrid Education/Learning, Flipped Classroom

ONLINE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

- *Types of blended learning: The Flipped Classroom, Hybrid Learning*
- *12 Examples Of Blended Learning chart on Teachthought*
- *What is Blended Learning?, a useful video introducing this concept*
- *Blended learning & flipped classroom, a YouTube video clip explaining what Blended Learning is in detail, and especially illustrating one of its main models – Flipped Classroom*

LESSON AIM

The aim of the lesson is for participants to understand the notion of blended learning, to get familiar with its main types and grasp its importance in the educational process.

LESSON OUTCOME

Participants will acquire a better understanding of the notion of blended learning and be familiar with its definition; they will get familiar with its main types and grasp its importance in the educational process, and be able to recognize blended learning and its methods in practice.

LESSON IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

Min 1-5 Warming-up: An effective way of involving participants and setting common expectations about what they will learn is to ask a few preliminary questions on the subject. The educator introduces the topic and class contents, prepares PowerPoint/Prezi presentation and online material-clips; various teaching methods: lecturing, discussion, group work, self-reflection.

5-35 Collaborative learning and the use of web resources as learning material – for 30 minutes participants talk about *blended learning*. In the first 10 minutes, the educator provides a definition and introduces the participants to the key features and assumptions on blended learning. In the next 20 minutes, the educator plays short video clips about blended learning and discusses it with the participants. This will enable the participants to acquire basic information and grasp the idea of blended learning. Use the following:

What is Blended Learning? - a useful, short video introducing this concept, produced by *Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences*, defines blended learning as a fundamental change in education design by utilizing a combination of digital learning objects and active learning methods to improve the learning experience and outcomes.

Blended learning & flipped classroom - another YouTube video, explaining *Blended Learning* in further detail as an education technique involving a combination of online materials and in-person instruction, and especially illustrating one of its main models – *Flipped Classroom* as a type of blended learning where students view their lecture material at home and do coursework in class.

Blended Learning: Making it Work in Your Classroom - the third clip, produced by *Edutopia*, is an example of what Blended Learning looks like in classroom, and defines it as a school-wide approach to blended learning that allows teachers the flexibility to define and implement online instruction that meets their students' needs.

35-55 Group work – finding an example of blended learning. After watching the clips and getting familiar with the notion of blended learning, the educator divides the participants into groups. First, they visit the **Teachtought** website and study the illustrative chart with *12 Examples Of Blended Learning*. Then, each group is asked to imagine an example of a topic from the field of media literacy being taught, presented or covered by the use of blended learning.

50-60 Conclusion: Make a short summary of the lesson and ask a couple of questions which help underlying the most important messages you would like to give.

MATERIALS / TOOLS

Video projector, laptop/desktop, internet connection, Moodle / Kahoot! PowerPoint/Prezi presentation, enriched with images, video clips and research based factual information.