Plan for a SoTL Project

by Karen Burns, Georgian College

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| **Research Question**  **How do I better engage students when I teach a blended course?**  Prior to Covid, all my courses were taught using a blended format. This meant that about 4 or 5 times through the semester I would go to the campus for a face-to-face class. The other weeks the content was presented online, asynchronously. As I met with the students so infrequently, I did not get to know them and for the most part, did not connect with them. Additionally, I found that many of the students did not seem engaged in the asynchronized material. |
| **Identify challenge/outcome related to learning that is related to your question.**  **Challenges**   * Reverting back to teaching face-to-face every week may benefit some students, but this may prove difficult for other students who live in remote areas and have a long, and in winter often difficult commute * Since the onset of Covid, students have had more experience with online learning. Will this make a difference when we return to regular classroom situations? * Some students have difficulty learning through a self-taught process and either do not comprehend the reading material or do not attempt to read it   **Outcomes**   * Determine students’ needs and comfort level regarding online vs face-to-face learning * Evaluate students’ online skill level * Increase in student satisfaction and grade level |
| **Describe the instructional activity, assignment, or teaching strategy that will promote student learning on the outcome you identified.**   * Course will continue to operate as a hybrid with some classes face-to-face and the rest online. The difference will be that the online portion will be available both synchronized and asynchronized. |
| **Describe the evidence that would persuade an external audience that the new or modified teaching strategy improves student learning on the targeted learning outcome.**   * change in students’ grades * attendance at asynchronized classes * how students are feeling |
| **How and where would you publish, present, or disseminate this work?**  This work would be available to the Associate Dean, Course Coordinator and Course Lead for the SSW program |

Adapted from: C. J. Stanny, E. M. El-Sheikh, & H-M. Chung (2009) ***Getting Started with a SoTL Project***

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