



Face to Face Workshop

Designing Blended Learning for Better Student Engagement

Venue: Hotel Pullman Creek
City Center, Dubai, UAE

14th & 15th December, 2022
09:00 AM – 17:00 PM UAE Time

Workshop Overview

The massive increase in use of online learning due to COVID-19 has brought several challenges as well as many benefits to the educational sector. Instructors who switched to remote learning have learnt from experience that their teaching style had to change to promote student engagement. Academics realized the urgent need to implement new ways of designing and delivering their courses; they had to familiarize themselves with new technologies and to re-think the means and approaches through which they can engage their students and build learning communities in virtual spaces.

Going forward many have been considering the numerous benefits offered by online learning and how these can be combined with the benefits of face-to-face learning to enrich the learning experience. The challenge remains around how to determine the best blend for your course and how to plan your students' activities when parts of your course is in-person and others are online.

Blended learning integrates thoughtfully structured online activities into face-to-face courses. Students engage in a range of online activities that may involve taking online quizzes, contributing to discussion forums, maintaining a digital portfolio or blog or interacting with online course materials. These activities when meaningfully planned can promote the transfer of knowledge, enrich the in-class activities and foster a better sense of community within the course.

In this 2-day intensive and highly interactive 'hands-on' workshop; the aim is to develop participants' knowledge and skills to design and plan effective learning activities suited for blended learning and to provide them with a practical understanding of how blended learning can help students develop competencies such as autonomy, problem-solving, critical thinking, as well as a sense of self-efficacy.

Participants will work with colleagues to plan backward their courses and to construct learning outcomes, identify assessment strategies, and plan course content and learning activities. They will explore ways in which they can blend online and face-to-face activities enriched with the use new tools and strategies, which will positively impact student engagement. Topics and concepts discussed will involve: course design principles, constructive alignment, active learning, course organization, feedback for learning, etc. Participants will also actively explore a variety of useful, free digital tools and discuss how they can be integrated as part of the course learning activities. They will also come up with examples of activities which effectively integrate various principles taught.

Workshop Outcomes

By the end of the workshop, participants will be able to:

- ◆ Develop a deeper understanding on blended learning; the opportunities and challenges it offers and its different types.
- ◆ Design and plan a blended learning course using backward design principle.
- ◆ Align the intended learning outcomes, assessments and teaching and learning activities/ content.
- ◆ Effectively implement active learning into course design and address potential benefits and challenges. Explore various technological tools, approaches and activities to foster student engagement in blended courses.
- ◆ Create a plan for implementing a blended course.
- ◆ Reflect upon your current practices and those of peers joining the workshop.



Session 1 Blended learning: An Introduction

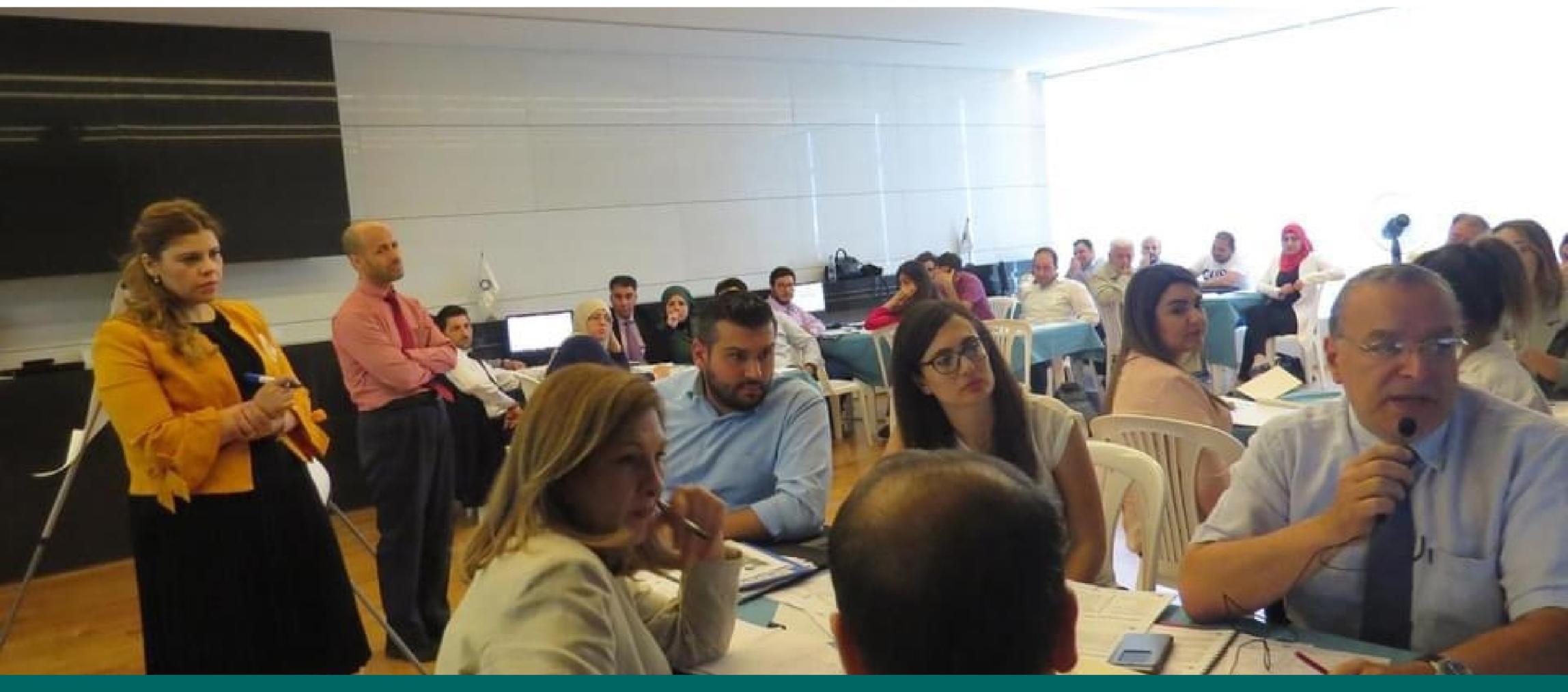
- ◆ Workshop overview and introductions
- ◆ Icebreaker activities
- ◆ What is blended learning: challenges and opportunities
- ◆ What and how can we blend?
- ◆ Different kinds of blended learning
- ◆ Online Learning Environments
- ◆ Personal experiences

Session 2 Designing for Blended Learning Courses

- ◆ Backward Design
- ◆ Constructive Alignment
- ◆ Learning Outcomes, Assessment, Content & Learning Activities
- ◆ Considerations for Designing Blended Learning Courses

Session 3 Developing Your Academic Advising Skills

- ◆ Selecting & planning your blend
- ◆ Organizing your course – modularization
- ◆ Preparing your course content: Key Principles
- ◆ Engaging student through assessment: Thinking out of the box
- ◆ Feedback for learning



Sessions (4&5) Implementing Active Learning in Blended Learning

- ◆ What is Active Learning?
- ◆ Reflection in Active Learning
- ◆ Planning Learning Activities
- ◆ Active Learning Strategies and Techniques – from simple to more complex
- ◆ Tools to Engage Students (Discussion forums, Portfolios, Quizzes, Blogs, Wikis, Padlets, etc.)
- ◆ Challenges for Implementing Active Learning

Session 6

- ◆ Choosing blended good practices
- ◆ Creating your course plan for blended delivery- Summary of Activity
- ◆ Course evaluation & reflections
- ◆ Awarding of the course Certificate of Attendance;

Who is This Workshop For?

- ◆ Faculty members and teaching staff working in the Higher Education Sector
- ◆ Directors, Managers and Staff working in Teaching and Learning Centers
- ◆ Deans of Colleges/ Faculties and Heads of Departments
- ◆ Instructional Designers and Educational Technologists

Workshop Registration Fees and Discounts

- ◆ The registration fee for the 2-day workshop is **2500 AED** including lunch and two coffee breaks on each day.
- ◆ **15% Early bird registration discount** is available for registrations fully completed prior to the 15th of November, 2022.
- ◆ Group registration discounts ranging from 15%-25% is are available for groups of 3 and above.
- ◆ For online Individual Registration [click here](#). For online Group Registration, [click here](#).
- ◆ Registration is only confirmed upon receiving the full registration fee and is based on first come first serve basis.
- ◆ Participants attending the full workshop will receive their certificate of attendance at the end of the workshop.

Regular Fee

AED 2500

(after 15th November, 2022)

Early Bird Registration Fee

AED 2125

(Prior to 15th November, 2022)



LIMITED SEATS
AVAILABLE

Workshop Requirements

- ◆ The Program will run over two days from 9:00 am to 17:00 pm, active participation is expected along sharing of experiences and feedback.
- ◆ Every participant should bring along a syllabus for one of the courses he/ she teaches.
- ◆ Every participant should bring along a laptop.

Workshop Facilitator

Dr. Narimane Hadj Hamou Founder & CEO, CLICKS, UAE



Dr. Narimane is the Founder and the CEO of the Center of Learning Innovations and Customized Knowledge Solutions (CLICKS). Previously she was the Assistant Chancellor for Learning and Academic Development (Provost) at the Hamdan Bin Mohammed Smart University in Dubai, UAE where she has established and led the academic, research and eLearning vision of the first online University to be recognized and accredited by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research in the UAE. She has assumed other leadership roles including acting as a Dean for Students Affairs, a Dean for Learning and Teaching and a Director of e-Learning.

Drawing on 20 years of experience Dr. Hadj-Hamou expertise and professional background span areas such as technology integration and e-learning in higher education; teaching and learning, quality assurance and accreditation and governance. She has been the driving force in the promotion of online education and blended learning in the Region since 2004 by leading many pioneering projects and initiatives.

She is Founder and was the first elected President of the Middle East e-learning Association (MEeA), led the establishment of the MENA Association of University Presidents and chairs the MENA Higher Education Leadership Forum Over the years she has delivered more than 160 keynote addresses and workshops and led numerous round-tables and panel discussions. Dr. Hadj-Hamou has also been active in publishing articles, book chapters, case studies, and was the founder and editor of the International Journal of Excellence in e-learning for several years.

Dr. Narimane consults for various HEIs across the region in areas related to QA, technology integration, governance and strategy development and serves as an expert for various regional UNESCO offices. In addition she acts as an external reviewer for accreditation agencies and provides advice on QA related matters.

Dr. Hadj-Hamou was listed among the 200 most influential Arab Women by Forbes Magazine in 2014; have received the Arab Women Award for Education in 2016 and the Influential Education Leaders Award at the University of Cambridge in 2017

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BOARDROOM 2



BOARDROOM 2



IDRAK 1- CLASSROOM



About the Hotel

- ◆ Pullman Dubai Creek City Centre stands watch over the historic Dubai Creek and the rolling green fairways of Dubai Golf and Yacht Club. Its superb location close to the Dubai International Airport and City Centre Deira shopping mall lets guests capture the essence of the city, which is just one of this luxury 5-star hotel's many assets.
- ◆ Few minutes away from Dubai Metro Station, it is easier to explore Dubai and visit the world's renowned structure such as Burj Khalifa, the new Dubai Frame, Dubai Water Canal, Dubai Marina, and Palm Jumeirah to name a few.

COVID-19 Health and Safety Measures

- ◆ The centre continues to monitor the pandemic situation and will align with UAE's precautionary measures.
- ◆ For the time being, wearing a face mask and ensuring safe distance will be mandatory inside the workshop room.
- ◆ Capacity will be limited in session rooms and regular hand washing is recommended and sanitizers will be provided in all key areas.



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