Hybrid Delivery Good Practice Exemplars

Group Presentation in a Hybrid Class Strategy with Prof. Lucas Lixinski

Faculty / School:	UNSW Law & Justice, School of Global and Public Law
Room:	Hybrid CATS – Rex Vowels Theatre Tiered Lecture Theatre
Course:	Postgraduate (n=14)
Application(s):	Blackboard Collaborate Ultra, Lecture Recordings+, PowerPoint (for presentation of content)
Technology used:	Lectern computer, Dual Radio microphone, lavalier microphone, fixed wall mounted digital camera (Tracking)*

Academic Takeaways

How did you manage engagement with the students?

It was a group presentation (two students in the group). Students presented in tandem, and they themselves decided how to divide the time and material and go back and forth between them. After the presentation, there was a Q&A in which students got to ask questions of the presenters (either via the chat on Blackboard Collaborate, or by speaking directly), and push the conversation further.

I jumpstarted the Q&A by asking a question myself, and then the discussion flowed well. The student presenting online had no difficulty hearing the questions from the audience (in other words, the microphone in the classroom captured the sound well enough). I managed engagement by jumpstarting the discussion, and moderating it, making sure that presenters (particularly the one online) knew who was trying to ask a question.

What were the outcomes?

The presentation went really well. Smooth transitions, good Q&A (at the same level as presentations that took place with both presenters in the classroom). Both presenting students and audience were engaged, appreciative of the content, and happy with the flexibility of the format.

What advice would you give other academics wanting to teach in hybrid?

Plan parameters of the activity carefully, but, beyond that, trust the students to know what they are doing.

Also, if using Blackboard Collaborate, advise students against embedding videos or animation in their PowerPoint, neither work on Blackboard Collaborate.
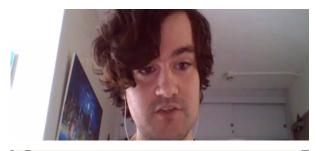
Lastly, embed their slides into your own deck ahead of class (which I recommend you do for all presentations), reducing time in transitions and minimizing the risk of mishaps in that area (since you can test the material ahead of time).

NOTE
From Term 1, 2022 camera function options include tracking, presets and manual control.