Advanced Certification in Online Teaching: An Analysis of Two Instructors’ Digital Success through Student Evaluations

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Advanced Certification in Online Teaching

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Focus:
- Learning how to design and facilitate online courses
- Learning how to use online and digitally-enhanced learning to increase students’ learning opportunities in a variety of instructional contexts

- 15 credits - stand alone or additional
- Coursework and three field experiences

**Copies of the program of study are available.**
ED 524: Survey Design

- Doctoral-level
- One credit, research methods
- Originally face-to-face
- Converted to: asynchronous fully online format
- Offered in Summer 2017
- Subject-based content/practical hands-on instruction
- Tools: Blackboard, Panopto, & VoiceThread

- Research shows that students who have limited experience in research and statistics who are required to take research methods online courses tend to face great difficulty (Hsu, Wang, & Chiu, 2009).
ED 480: Second Language Acquisition & Bilingualism

- Master-level
- Three credit TESOL course
- Originally face-to-face, but converted to fully online
- Partnered with a TESOL program in a university in Mexico
- Offered in Spring 2017
- Major theories in the field of SLA and bilingualism
- Used both Blackboard (LMS) & Zoom (synchronous sessions)
- Breakout rooms: Cooperative activities in Zoom sessions
- Content and language mastery identified
Findings

- Based on the two evaluation items...
  - Students’ perception on online learning changed in a positive way
  - The accessibility and engagement driven structure of the course did not allow for any feelings of isolation
  - Alienation or isolation was not problematic as regular communication was heavily emphasized and counted toward participation grade
  - Technical difficulties were addressed and kinks were worked out during a “freebie” initial learning and overview module