Graduate Curriculum Issues in Physiology: Multiple Modes of Didactic Course Delivery…and More

Cindy M. Anderson, PhD, WHNP-BC, FAAN
PhD Program Director
Associate Dean for Research
College of Nursing
University of North Dakota

National Directors of Graduate Studies in Physiology and Pharmacology
July 8, 2011
Objectives

• Why multiple modes?
• Content delivery by multiple modes
• Benefits and disadvantages
Why Multiple Modes?

• Meet the expectations of a new generation of students
  – Mobile
  – Tech savvy
  – Expect immediate feedback
  – Demands of work and family
Why Multiple Modes?

• Learning styles and abilities
  – Visual
  – Auditory

• Material Review
  – Study aid
  – Mastery of content
Why Multiple Modes?

- Location, location, location
  - Widely dispersed
    - Student body
    - Faculty
  - Invited speakers at distant sites
- Disruptions in on-site delivery
  - Health
  - Weather
  - Natural disasters
Content Delivered By Multiple Modes

- Didactic course content
- Professional development
  - Research seminars
  - Responsible conduct of research
  - Peer review
  - Program engagement
Didactic Course Content

• Teaching
  – Effective classroom teaching to varied audiences in terms of subject matter
  – Effective use of common instructional aids including audiovisual techniques
  – Ability to put a specific lesson into larger context (clinical relevance, prior material)
  – Ability to foster an effective learning environment including showing respect for the student, encouraging their intellectual growth and providing a role model for scholarship and intellectual vigor
Didactic Course Content

• Modes of delivery
  – Synchronous live delivery
  – Asynchronous recorded delivery
Didactic Course Content

- Learning platform
  - Links to content
Didactic Course Content

• Adobe Connect
  – Synchronous and asynchronous
  – Broadcast live audio/video content
  – Upload content
  – Share computer screen
  – Breakout rooms
  – Whiteboard
  – Status permissions
  – Recording capability
Didactic Course Content

• Adobe Presenter
  – Asynchronous delivery
  – Audio/video content within Powerpoint
  – Individual slides recorded
    • Easy access and review
  – Available for faculty and student use
Didactic Course Content

- Audio recording
  - Mp3 format
Didactic Course Content

Blackboard Mobile™ Learn

ALL YOUR LEARNING RESOURCES AT THEIR FINGERTIPS.

The Blackboard Mobile™ Learn platform takes interactive teaching and learning to a new level, giving students and educators access to their courses, content and organizations on a variety of devices including iPhone®, iPod touch®, iPad®, Android™, BlackBerry®, Palm® smartphones.

Mobile Learning Update

No Need to Panic

Your class content is just a few clicks away on a variety of devices with Blackboard Mobile™ Learn.

Get Started.
Didactic Course Content

What Can You Do With Blackboard Mobile Learn?

**Announcements**
Assignment due? Class cancelled? This is the place where instructors go to post the news students need to know. Students have instant, on-the-go access to the latest announcements, and instructors can post announcements anywhere, anytime.

**Discussions**
The Discussion Board is a key course communication tool for engaging students and promoting learning. It's the place students ask and answer questions, and where instructors can respond to one student for the benefit of all. With Blackboard Mobile Learn, instructors and students can review and post to threaded discussions, as well as create new threads, all while on the go.

**Grades**
Want to know how you did on the midterm or your last homework assignment? Students can view their grades right here.

**Blogs**
Read blog posts and interact with classmates by posting comments on their blogs or responding to comments on your own.

**Tasks**
Help students track and manage the progress of various tasks, from turning in homework assignments to reminders to pick up a midterm or purchase a textbook. Tasks allow students to mark when they've started a project, when it's in progress, and when complete.

**Roster**
Wondering who's in your class? With the class roster, you can quickly see your full class list, making organizing study groups a whole lot easier.

**Media**
Students can access music, videos and images uploaded by their instructors and experience directly from their mobile devices using the appropriate media-specific software.

**Journals**
Read and reflect on your Journal posts and those of your classmates. Both students and instructors can comment on Journals.
Didactic Course Content

- Benefits
  - Reinforce didactic content
  - Flexibility
  - Learning styles
  - Consistent with student needs and expectations
  - Rationale basis for individualized guidance
Professional Development

• Core biomedical science knowledge
  – Broad working knowledge of molecular, cellular, and systems physiology
  – Detailed knowledge of specific area of research

• Professional skill development
  – Interview
  – Presentation
  – Peer review
Professional Development

• Research seminars
  – Local speakers
  – Experts from the nation and the world

• Peer review
  – Critique of scholarly products
Professional Development

- Professional ethics
  - Attitudes
  - Behavior
  - Protection of human and animal subjects
  - Confidentiality
Professional Development

• Responsible Conduct of Research
  – Conflict of Interest
  – Research Misconduct
  – Fiscal and Financial Responsibility
  – Protection of Human Subjects
  – Research with Vulnerable Populations
Program Engagement

• Academic expectations
  – Program milestones
  – Progression expectations
Conclusions

• Diversity of delivery modes
  – Benefits
  – Disadvantages

• Effectiveness
  – IT support
  – Faculty willingness
  – Student engagement