



The good example

- Interactive lecturing

Alignment of learning objectives, lectures and exam

Background

Postdoc Stine Juhl Petersson has used the student response system Shakespeak to support the alignment between learning objectives, lectures and exam.

The syllabus of the course "Farmakologi og Terapi B" is extensive. Each teacher only has a limited number of lectures and is struggling to get time enough for his/her subtopic.

Process

Stine posed a mix of Multiple Choice questions and fill-in-the-blank questions in the beginning of lectures. First she tried letting students answer individually, but responses were few and often wrong. In the next lecture she let them talk to each other before they answered, which resulted in 100% correct and more answers and a positive attitude.

Questions about which positions the students had on different issues were also used as an introduction to further discussion. In this case, Shakespeak enhanced the activity of the students and yielded more in-depth comments.

Evaluation

The students were enthusiastic about the use of a Student Response System and they believed it to be motivating and refreshing.

Stine believes that the alignment between learning objectives, teaching and exam questions was supported. Multiple Choice questions are used for the exam in this course together with essay assignments, which is why the use of Shakespeak and the integration of MCQs in lectures are particularly relevant. The questions also underline the focus on academic relevance and the exam.

Shakespeak made it easier for Stine to assess the level of student engagement and progress and it was a motivating way for her to make the lecture more than one-way communication.

Stine also physically placed herself in different positions in the class room, which she believes helped the attention of and participation from the students. In total she considers Shakespeak to be a useful tool to enhance the learning process during a lecture, and not just an entertaining feature.

In short

- In this case Shakespeak is used to activate, motivate and enhance the learning process of each student.
- A student response system is not a particularly time consuming e-learning activity. It is used during a lecture and does not require the students to prepare for anything in advance.
- Questions can be adjusted between lectures to match learning objectives and the students' prior understanding of topics.
- Questions can be text answers or take-a-stand questions to start a discussion and dialogue during a lecture.
- If there are Multiple Choice questions at the exam, Shakespeak might be a good opportunity for students to practice these during lectures to assess their own level.

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