A Practice of the Virtual Classroom in the Conventional University Teaching Setting

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Why Virtual Classroom Technology
Traditional Classroom VS Virtual Classroom - resistance

- **Clair Feeney**: Do you actually intend to replace Mandarin lectures with phones? I don’t really think it will be as good as a real classroom.

- **Antony Carter**: We tried WeChat class last year in Ningbo, it is not a great idea. It was not greatly successful.

- **Sophie Knapp**: I think online classes are a very bad idea. We only have so little contact hours already, I think it’s important to keep that up, and have more if anything not less. If I wanted to take online classes I would not attend university.

- **I Promise**: I am using it as additional hours for you to do more work and carry on learning. And finish those tasks which we can not finish in class.
Questions

- The advantages of traditional classroom and virtual classrooms respectively;
- In how much degree/percentage the High Tech can replace our classroom and what can never be replaced;
- Online classroom can break the barriers of concrete walls/geography issues and solve problems such as mobility and timetabling issues
- Why we should never or can never replace traditional contact hours and conventional classrooms
Traditional classroom teaching/learning
For Traditional Classrooms

- Too much modernising; It is OK in addition to normal class, but definitely not replace;
- I think the traditional classroom is a better environment- and technology always has problems in any case. – Anthony Carter
- The traditional classrooms cannot be replaced because students need the ability to ask questions and hear what everyone else is saying, otherwise students wont fully understand the class. It would be too hard for students to follow the class. The only way it would be good is if students got extra classes online. --Claire Feeney
- I think that as a replacement using online classes aren't a good idea, because you need the traditional classroom environment to learn a language. However, as an extra the online aspect it might help those who have some areas they are struggling with or for an extra study basis. But I think it would be better to do one to one or a couple of students and a teacher because a group video chat might have problems with people speaking at the same time. -Katie Ye
- The traditional classroom environment is really important for learning a language, I guess with some other modules having a lecture and then maybe the lecture being posted online would also be helpful in case you miss anything while being in the lecture. In terms of languages I feel that you need the face to face interaction- also esp. with Mandarin it’s really easy to misinterpret the tones and meanings that online lessons would be more time consuming and cause confusion.- Katie+Carmen Balaguer
I don’t think only language classes need traditional classrooms. I think it is easier to replace language classes than any science (Chemistry, physics……) classes because in those classes you need to observe in labs, use specific tools… I think it is very easy to learn a language online since we have videos, audios.. That help us. But I still prefer traditional classes even for languages.

Saturday makeup time session: We can try but this shouldn’t happen regularly

If the makeup class is important I think it should be rescheduled;
1. YouTube – create live Stream, Xsplit Broadcaster
Stream now is a simple way to stream. YouTube automatically detects the stream resolution and frame rate.

When you are live, we’ll transcode to lower resolutions so all of your fans can enjoy your stream no matter the quality of their Internet connection.

To go live instantly:

1. Download and setup your encoder using the Stream Name/Key and Server URL. Learn more about encoders.

2. Add a title and description in the BASIC INFO tab. You can also add a custom thumbnail that represents your event.

3. Optional: Schedule your next stream time.

4. Add an optional Fan Funding card to earn money for your stream.
2. Skype- Stage 1- pronunciation and text

- Make up lesson – 1 student, making 2 hours absent lessons, Lesson 1. Greetings; Share screen, slides, NPCR book 1;
- Missed the 2nd hour because student went to next door after break to comfort an upset friend and didn’t take the phone with him;
- Online classes I personally think need the same amount of resources available– which is fine for our situation because we already have the textbooks and character writing pages;
- According to your experience do you think we can really teach online without the classroom anymore?- That is a good point. In YouTube you are more limited infofar as you can’t speak as easily- so verbal Discourse repetition (like you and I did today) would probably be off the table. So it depends on your lesson plan, I suppose. Personally I think we could Mrs Wang, as long as we had the textbooks and hand-outs;
Four Tones

1. ā  á  ě  ă  ā
2. ō  ó  ǒ  ă  ò
3. ĕ  é  ē  ē  ē
4. ǐ  ī  ǐ  ī  ī
5. ŭ  ū  ǔ  ū  ū
6. ū  ū  ū  ū  ū

Textbook P6-2

P9 tones
Skype – Listening exercises

- No sound
- Just check the answer
- Interactive is good
- Skype to Skype is free,
I'm Cortana. Ask me anything.
3. WeChat – Student absence due to sickness

- Live class – 1 student, sick at home, having class with rest of classmates
- Mandarin for Proficiency level class 13 students; Mobile WeChat video call; 2hrs
- Exercises: Grammar, complete sentences, Oral and written output; Pair work interview (James with teacher)
- Before class: “I don’t want to try. I think the concept is quite a good idea as well as proper classes; I’d rather not this time. I need to do catch up work and catch up with class. We should try in future though. Especially for revision I think it would be useful.”
- After: The Screen is fine. I thought the overall experience was good. However the sound with some of the people who don’t have such as loud voice was understandable and easy to maintain. I do still (think) the classroom experience is better but as an extra I think it is good. Providing it is done with clarity and understanding.
4. WizIQ

- I’m in a lecture, sorry; (2)
- Going to try on my laptop, as phone didn’t seem to work;
- Headphone - Echo problem
- 3 students
Short Conversations 1: Say hello

- **A:** 你好！nǐ hǎo! (Hello or How do you do)
- **B:** 你好！nǐhǎo! (Hello or How do you do)

- Nín hǎo!
- Nǐmen hǎo!
WizIQ- whiteboard- Chinese typing, Pen controlled by Students&teachers
WizIQ—Listening (not synchronized)
Conclusion

- Supplementary tools
- Can not replace the traditional classroom yet: Stability of internet and function +Psychologically +socially
- Tools are not free to use all functions
- Maximum number limit
- Further Explore…….