

The “digital” university in a (post)pandemic world.

Challenges & opportunities



https://www.foodbusinessnews.net/ext/resources/2020/5/PostPandemicWorld_Lead1.jpg?t=1588971921&width=1080

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Lunchtime Ethical Forum
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1. Three evolving & interacting **concepts**: digital, (post)pandemic, university
 - 1.1. Three ways to digitize higher education: from hybrid to multimodal
 - 1.2. Three phases of the crisis : from pre- to postpandemic
 - 1.3. Three types of universities: from mainstream to flexible
2. Three **misconceptions** on the “digital” university
3. Three **challenges & opportunities** for the “digital” university

1. Three evolving & interacting concepts

- (1) digital (first?) LMS, virtual classroom, weblectures, livestream, online assessment, learning spaces, etc.

- (2) (post-)pandemic yellow, orange, red, black, etc.

- (3) University mainstream, extended, etc.



1.1. Three ways to digitize higher education

(1) hybrid

synchronous = on campus

asynchronous = online

(2) digital first/only

synchronous = **online**

asynchronous = online

(3) multimodal

integration of on campus & online



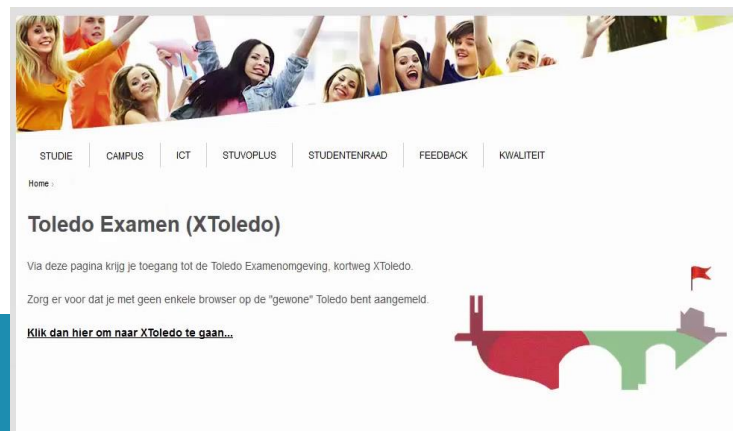
1.1.1. Hybrid

Synchronous on campus & asynchronous online

Focus on (1) LMS & online learning = learning experience platforms

(2) online assessment (on campus!)

(3) technology-enhanced learning spaces for on campus teaching

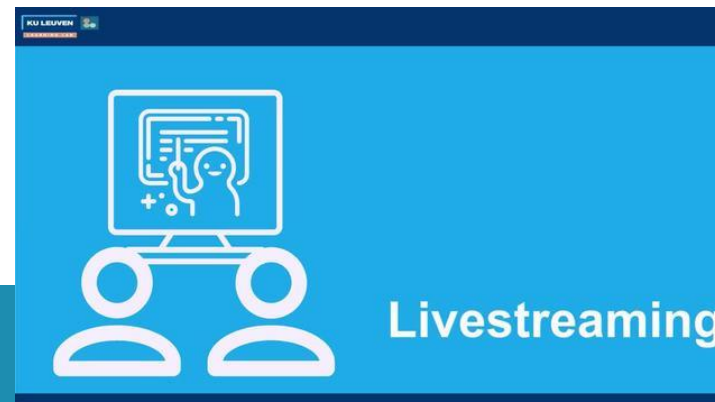


1.1.2. Digital only

Focus on (1) video: recordings, clips, videolessons

(2) livestreaming & weblectures

(3) virtual classrooms



1.1.3. Multimodal



It's all about **integration!**



1.2. Three phases of the crisis

- (1) pre-pandemic : on campus and/or hybrid
exceptionnaly digital only (MOOCs, Open University, etc.)
- (2) pandemic : digital first → digital only in all cases
- (3) postpandemic : multimodal & omnichannel in function of the specific context

It's all about context!

1.3. Three types of universities

(1) mainstream	18 to 25 years BaMa regular hours	mainly hybrid
(2) extended	8 to 88 years LLL evening & saturdays	digital first in specific contexts
(3) flexible	open, international, etc.	multimodal and context-dependent

It's all about **flexibility!**

2. Three misconceptions of the “digital” university

(1) “Digital is the new normal”



(2) “The end of the lecture hall”



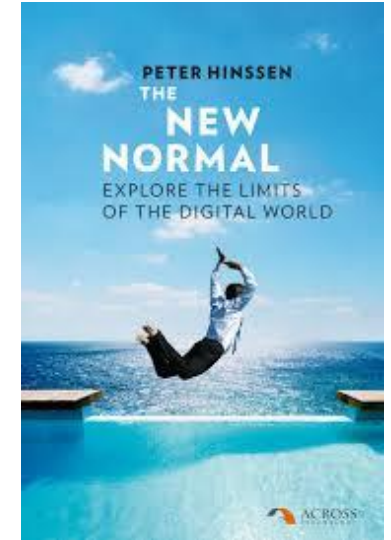
(3) “The computer takes it over”



2.1. “Digital is the new normal”

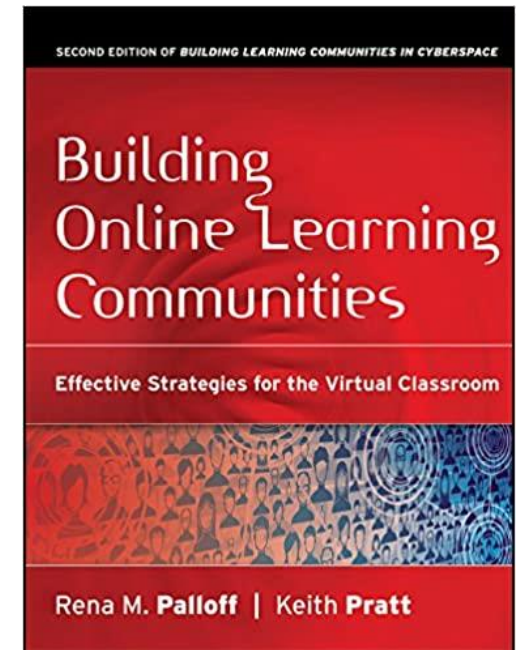
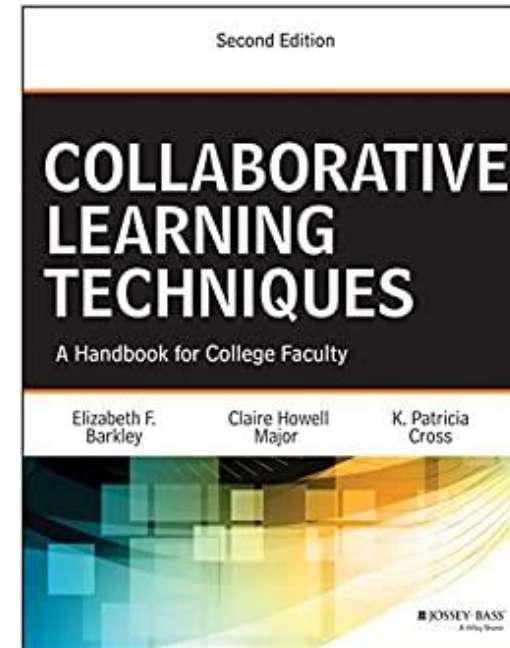
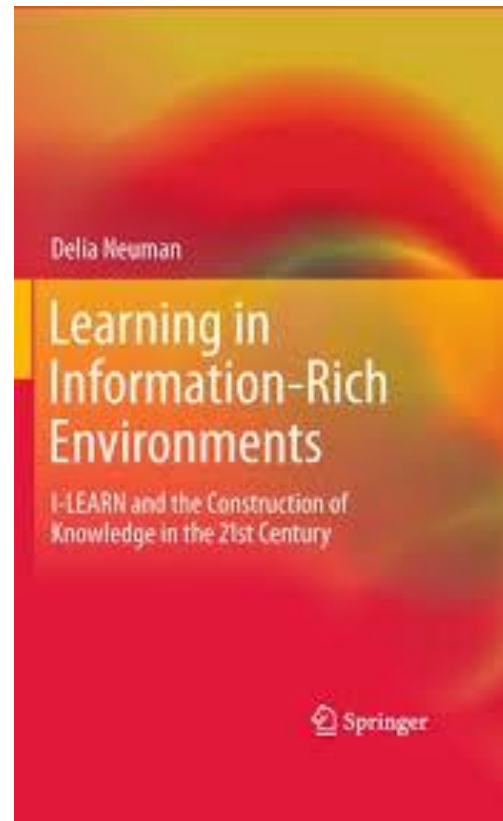
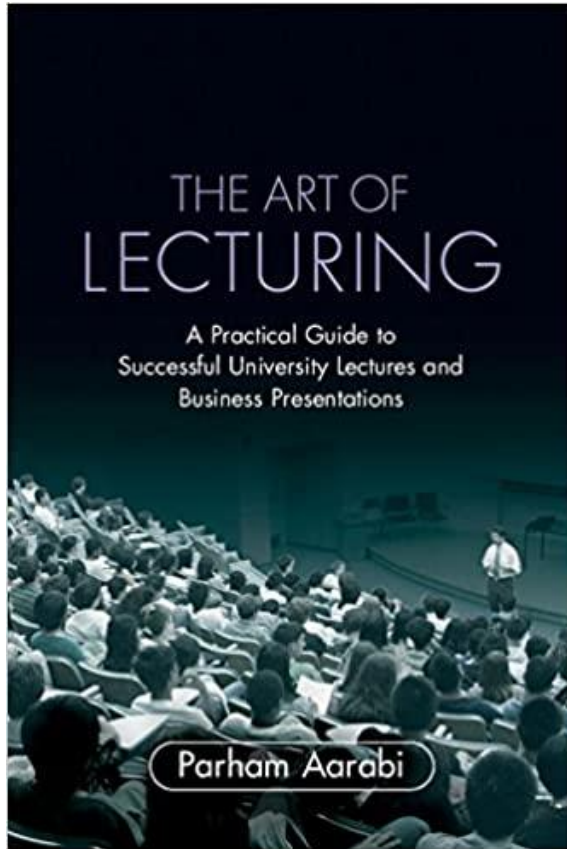
Digital learning = better learning?

Technology is a powerful means, but not an end itself!



*“Whether a learning experience is passive or dynamic depends on the pedagogy applied in the modality”
(Irvine, 2020)*

2.2. “The end of the lecture hall”



2.3. “The computer takes it over”

The role of the professor is key!

Content: knowledge construction & higher order cognitive skills

Pedagogy: powerful learning environment focusing on active learning

Technology: thoughtful use in function of the specific context

3. Three Challenges & Opportunities

3.1. Challenges for the “digital” university

(1) Student

Affordable

cf. socio-economic status, (in)equality

Available

in all contexts (also at home)

Community-driven

cf. mental health, collaboration

(2) Staff

Feasible

time investment, work-life balance, etc.

Trustworthy

GDPR, robust & reliable

Adaptable

specific needs, pedagogical setting, domain specificity

(3) University

Robust & secure

reliable service, cybersecurity

Scalable

institution-wide use

Integrable

interoperability, functional integration

3.2. Three Opportunities for the “digital” university

Need for a **multimodal & omnichannel** approach
cf. “It’s all about integration”

Need for a **context-dependent & specific** approach
cf. “It’s all about context”

Need for a **more flexible & open** university
cf. “It’s all about flexibility”



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