

Digital pedagogies: optimising technology to enhance health professions education

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Introduction/background:

With the continuing emergence of technologies, opportunities for enhancement of health professions education appear boundless and can seem daunting. There is a growing educational focus on strategies and learning technologies to better facilitate active learning, particularly in tandem with redesign of learning spaces and the use of distance learning modes. Technologies and digital strategies, aligned with desired outcomes and pedagogical needs, can transform the learning environment, facilitate best practices, and create efficiencies for educators. Bridging theory and practice, this workshop arms the educator with tools and a plan to implement technologies judiciously into their programs.

Purpose and outcomes:

The workshop purpose is to engage participants in a hands-on experience with technologies to enhance teaching and learning in health professions education.

Workshop outcomes include the development of a toolbox of digital pedagogies, application of a deliberate approach to aligning teaching with technology, and an outline of an implementation action plan for participants' home institutions.

Issues for exploration or questions for discussion:

How do you use technology to enhance your learning programs, and what are their limitations?

What do you 'wish' technology could do to help you in your program?

Outline of workshop activities:

Facilitators will immediately engage participants in setting-up and using technologies to be integrated throughout the workshop including a Twitter backchannel. Following an exploration of the literature on technology-enhanced learning, activities will allow hands-on engagement in a variety of digital pedagogies. Participants will create an action plan for implementation and assessment of experience-enhancing technologies in their context.