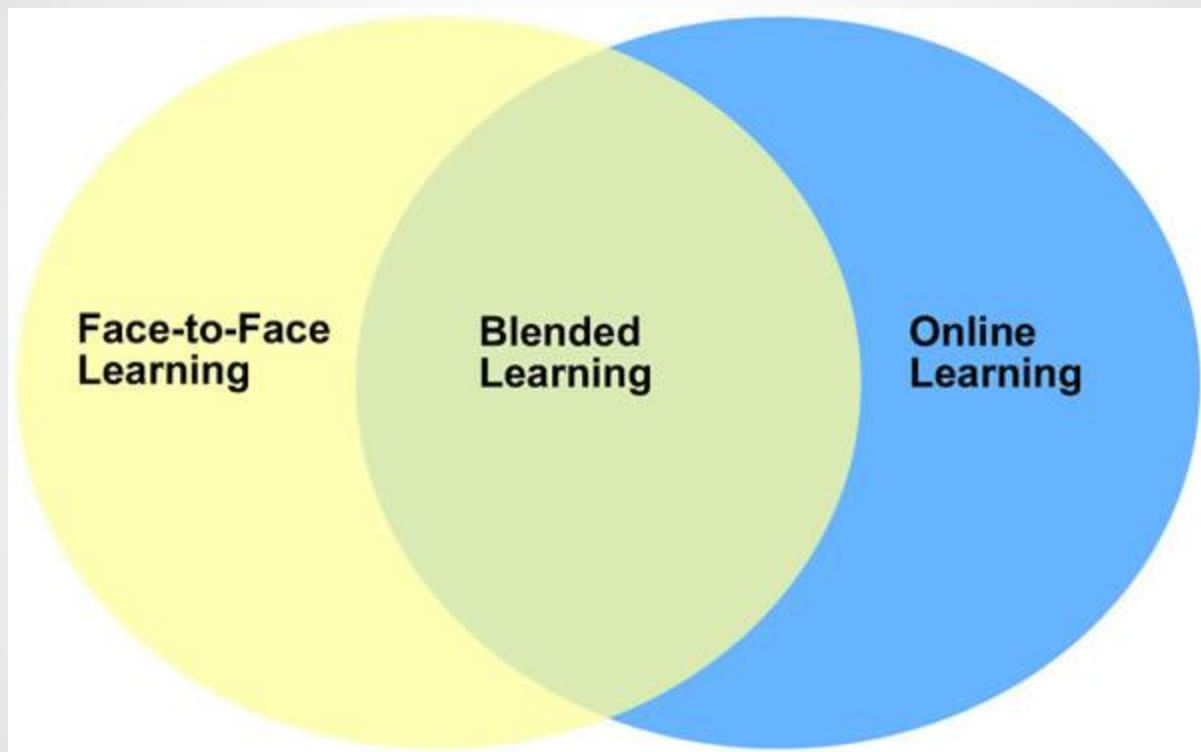# Blending learning

Synchronous / Asynchronous

Blending learning is

part of formal learning system

via digital media

where you can control time,

place,

pace,

path

6 models of blending learning

- ## face to face driver

  online learning is decided on a case-by-case basis by instructor as a supplement to the curriculum

- ## rotation

  students move on a fixed schedule between traditional and online classrooms

- ## flex

  online instruction is primary, on-site personal support

- ## labs

  entirely online but in a real location under supervision

- ## self blend

  option to enhance traditional learning

- ## online driver

  totally online with possible teacher check-ins

Advantages

- independent and collaborative learning
- good for part-time students
- good for extra-curricula
- helps to build online community

Disadvantages

- IT literacy as a barrier
- need to be up to date
- students can fall behind the schedule (watch all lectures on the last day)

Digital Natives -

a generation of learners

that had digital education from the start

Asynchronous learning -

learning outside the constraints of time

Advantages

- student-centered environment
- more time to reflect and respond without pressure
- everything is recorded

Disadvantages

- costly setup
- you have to be in the network
- you need skills to use it
- lack of social skill learning

Synchronous learning -

learning at the same time
(with modern technologies
place can be different)

Advantages

- sense of community
- decreased transactional distance
- teacher can adjust to audience
- teacher gets feedback at the same time

Disadvantages

- not enough flexibility (time, space)
- student's confidence level
- dominating students can take over
- technical problems for online learning

Asynchronous vs Synchronous

▸ Communication **not** in real time
  ◦ different time–different place

▸ Flexible
  ◦ learners view information & respond at different times & from different places

▸ No "live" trainer

Asynchronous

▸ Communication **is** in real time
  ◦ same time–different place
    · learners view content at the same time
    · responses are immediate

▸ **Not** flexible
  ◦ learners must meet at the same time (whether in person or virtually)

▸ "Live" trainer

Synchronous

Transactional distance -

a psychological and communication gap between teacher and student

Components to shorten the distance

- dialog
- structured programmes
- autonomy of leaner