

**Fall Cluster 2002
Group Exercise Results
Creating Standard Practices in OLEs**

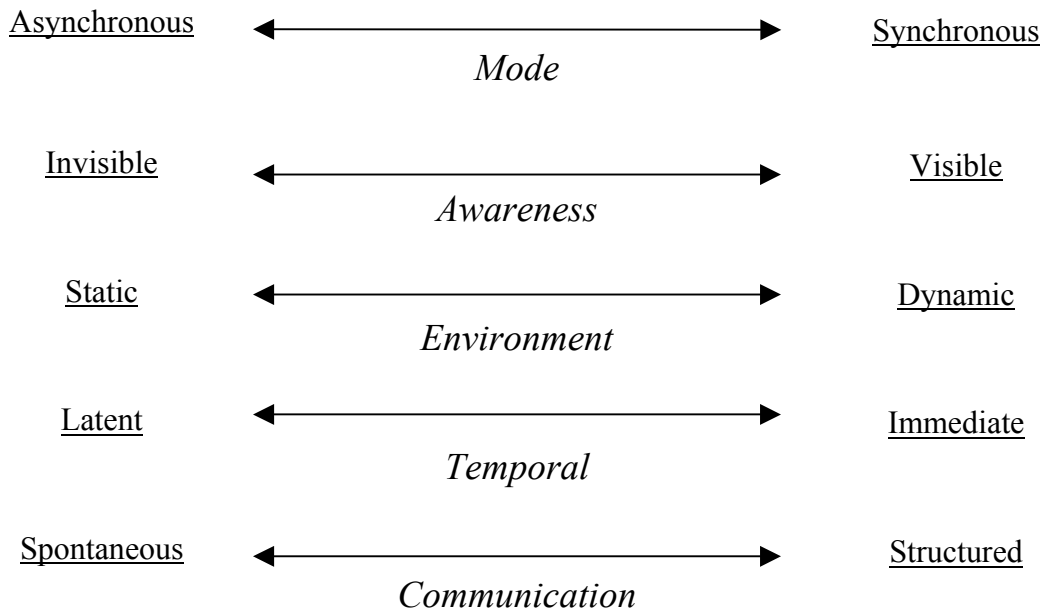
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Dimensions of The '24/7' Continuum

Dimensions Most Related to Creating Standard Practices in OLEs



Creating Standard Practices in OLEs

Group Brainstorming Project

1. Form into small groups.
2. Each group will address the dimension of “mode” and one another dimension assigned by the professor.
3. Brainstorm on these issues (list the issues on large flip chart paper) :

- a. Define these dimensions.
 - b. What are effective ways to maximize these dimensions?
 1. Include specific examples of possible tasks, actions, activities, events, time sequences or other that would show how these dimensions can be deployed in a meaningful way in an OLE.
 - c. What are the critical enhancers and barriers for creating standard practices relating to these dimensions?
 - d. Based on the dimensions and the issues discussed decide: Is 24/7 desirable? If yes, why? If not, why not?
4. Small group representatives will present their results to the large group.

Group Results

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Group A (Red Pen)

Awareness

Define: How aware participants are of:

- 1) Who's there?
- 2) What's being done?
- 3) Progress being made?
- 4) Preparation?
- 5) Quantity vs. Quality

Maximize:-

- Access to course statistics
- Frequent interactions
- Detailed feedback
- Detailed examples of materials
- Sharing of assignments
- Critiquing of answers/work

Enhancers:

- Set expectations for feedback, sharing, interactions
- Frequent Feedback
- Dynamic

Barriers:

- Some people are private and may not want work/questions to be exposed to everyone
- How much do you want people to know your statistics?

(Visible –24/7 – Yes!!!)

Mode-receipt of information sent and received either simultaneously or in pieces, eg,

Synchronous - Live Chat, face-to-face, instant messaging, video conferencing

Asynchronous - E-mail, Discussion boards, Web page, List serves

B1. Synchronous

- Guest Speakers
- Virtual Office Hours
- Help Desk
- Job Recruiting/Interviewing
- Class Discussions/Meetings

Asynchronous

Forums Q/A
Sharing Work
Getting to know people
Help desk
Ongoing Discussions
Submitting Assignments
Scheduling tests

C. Barriers

- Technology
- Time Zones
- Not Prepared
- Learning Curve
- Discipline (Lack of)
- Learning Style

Barriers

Technology (more time consuming)
No Participation
Learning Curve
Discipline (Lack of)
Learning Style

Enhancers

- More realistic sense of community
- Immediate feedback
- Static Time & Place
- Expectations don't need to spelled out

Enhancers

Convenience
More Flexible for learners
More Dynamic
Expectations have to be spelled out

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Group B (Green Pen)

Environment – What Information is Available When

Static

Dynamic

On-line Syllabus
Researching

Discussion Groups
Newsgroups
Threads
Chat sessions
Researching

Barriers

Inability to see expressions
Maintenance
Lack of training

Enhancers

Creativity and feedback
Constant Professional Development
Mentors
Teaching Assistants

(24/7 – Desirable within Guidelines & Constraints – Name Undesirable)

Mode – Communication Method

Asynchronous

E-mail
Forums, threaded discussions
Web based Courses

Synchronous

Live Chat
Live Web
Teleconferencing

Barriers

Bandwidth
Manpower
Time-zones
Access to technology
Money
System downtime

Enhancing

Shift –Work (Team of teachers)
Guidelines for time (restrictions)

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Group C (Blue Pen)

Mode

Synchronous = pre-determined tool/time for “real –time” meet

Asynchronous = sender & receiver have no “real-time” connection

Task

	<u>Synchronous</u>	
	Research	

	<u>Asynchronous</u>	
	Research	

Activity	Chat room	Forum, email, webpage construction
Events	Scheduled chat	Posted forums
Time sequences	Meeting times & same as asynch.	Time limits for email, Assignments, grades

Enhancers: Learning styles: learner has option for what he/she is most comfortable with

Barriers: Time, technical, immediacy, linguistic issues

Temporal – time elements involved in course
 latent : delayed
 immediate: right now

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Group D (Black Pen)

A). Mode & Communications

Definitions:

Asynchronous:-

- o Communication/online
- o Interaction that has no time constraints
- o No location restrictions
- o Responses within instructor defined period of time

Synchronous:-

- o Communication/online
- o Interaction that is immediate

Spontaneous:-

- o Responses that are not based upon instructor led discussion

Structured:-

- o Responses based upon instructor led discussion

B). Policy

Mode

Instructor defined and designed activities will be purposely set to utilize the best and most effective attributes of each mode.

Communication

In the same model as mode, communication will be geared to utilize the more effective attributes of each.

C). Enhancers & Barriers

Enhancers

Appropriate Available Software
**(A continually evolving process)

Barriers

Standardization/ "Staticism"
Politics

D). 24/7 Desirable?

Dependent upon desired instruction and the target audience. Both parties must understand and agree with the policy.