

### Online Classes vs Face to Face Classrooms

Throughout the years, college classes have always been the standard “face to face” type. Like a normal classroom, you sit in your desk and just listen to the professor lecturing about the subject. However, as time advances, technology also advances, such as the Internet. Over the course of a couple of years, online classes became really popular. Even though online education and face to face classrooms are around the same price, I believe that face to face classrooms are more interactive and personal.

For an online course, you can really only rely on yourself. If you are not logged in by a certain time, you will be dismissed from class and you will fall behind. In a face to face classroom, you have a chance to tell your professor why you couldn't make it on time and you still have time to catch up on work. For me, face to face classes are the best because you have others to rely on instead of yourself. A study was conducted a couple of years ago by Bruce A. Cameron comparing the goals of both online and regular classroom students. “Students seemed to focus more on completing a task for a grade than seeing group projects as part of developing community to enhance learning.” (Cameron). Online students don't appreciate how social group interaction can influence their learning abilities. A reason why a social group is a positive impact is that they are helpful. If you don't get the material you can help from fellow classmates, as well as the professor. I believe that it makes more sense to listen and take notes and to go over them

after class instead of following instructions digitally without anyone showing you the methods.

Although online classes are a growing trend these days, I believe that a hybrid of both online and face to face classes would be a better alternative. Teaching in my opinion should be done by a person that I can interact with physically instead of interacting online. No matter what the subject is, the teacher should be able to teach to the class. Some hybrid courses give the teacher an opportunity to teach their students face to face. From there on, the teacher can put up all the homework and assignments online for practice. Twelve students enrolled in a hybrid course and 41 students in an online course were interviewed for this qualitative study. Additional data was obtained from the class' online discussion forums. Flexibility in the class schedule and the instructor's availability were positive experiences for the hybrid course (El Mansour). If the student does not get how to do the material, he or she can just ask the teacher in person for help. Instead of having a pure online educational system, I believe that a hybrid is a better option because the student can learn online and get help in person if they need help. If a student cannot receive help in person, they may give up on trying to learn and have an urge to cheat their way to passing.

Cheating is very common these days and it can result in harsh punishments, such as being kicked out of class or even out of college. Cheating is very easy to do online because you are not being watched by a human being and are just expected to learn and listen through an "electronic machine" (Sileo). Also it is easy to get the answers from the internet and other fellow classmates through other means of communication such as cell phone and email. In face to face classes, students can interact with their fellow classmates for help instead of turning

to cheating. If you cheat throughout your whole online college experience, then how will you learn? If you don't learn then you will not be able to apply what you know to your future career. If you don't apply what you know to your job and you don't have experience with interacting with fellow classmates, then how will you succeed?

Students need to know that when they are employed, they must know to listen to their boss. In a face to face classroom, the students should visualize the professor as a boss. If you only take online classes throughout your college education, you will be less likely to succeed because you won't be able to interact with others when employers rather prefer to hire people who are good at communicating with their co-workers. Face to face classrooms offer more of a "hands on approach" to students and you will also be able to actually receive help, from both your professor and your classmates. "A study in Cambridge, Massachusetts showed that if both, a college graduate and an online graduate applied for the same job, the company chose the college graduate most of the time because the college graduate is more likely to get the job because they are seen as more socially interactive despite being a more rigorous method (Bart).

Dr. Jim Riggs whom is a professor at CSU Stanislaus, encouraged the importance of education. "Just getting an education is important these days, but where you've received it may make a huge difference" (Riggs). Although both types of education are considered academically equal, online education is looked down upon by major companies because it does not involve social interaction and rigor. If online is to exist in the future, it should also

incorporate face to face methods (hybrid courses). With face to face classrooms, there is more freedom. You have freedom to receive help from your instructor, as well as your classmates whom you can also communicate with.

## Works Cited

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