Globally Networked Learning In Higher Education

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• **Definition of GNLE**

Globally Networked Learning is an **approach to teaching**, not a technology

Starke-Meyerring and Wilson describe GNLE environments as any that include all of the following three components:

1- Links students to: peers, instructors, professionals, experts, and communities from diverse cultures

2- Challenges students to negotiate and build shared learning and knowledge cultures across diverse boundaries

3- Provides students with new opportunities for civic engagement in a global context

Other best practices:

- Team-taught
- Engaging multiple perspectives is key.
- Synchronous distance + traditional classes or totally online (not typical)
- Dedicate time to intercultural development
• What is the need?

Methods to teach globally competency; % of students reached

- Study Abroad (5%)
- Other

Examples of “Other”:

• Global competency requirement: usually one class
• Intl. events and clubs
• GNLE: student could participate multiple times through an academic career

Why “deeper” global education is needed: http://vimeo.com/45091652 (min 4)
**Comparison to other networked learning**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Connected learning type</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distance Learning</td>
<td>Convenience, Overcoming distance</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MOOC</td>
<td>Convenience, Overcoming distance, Cost savings, Access to top faculty</td>
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<tr>
<td>GNLE</td>
<td>Intentional connection of students in different countries and cultures to improve global competency, Overcoming distance</td>
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**Why GNLE and why now?**

- Asynchronous video models could fulfill the need for deep intercultural education
- GNLE natural next step with the prevalence of high speed internet and video conferencing equipment at universities.
Center for Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) at SUNY

- Received a three year grant from NEH to develop a strategy/process for GNLE
- Use the grant to support professor teams from many American and foreign institutions
- Currently the standard for GNLE models at American universities
- Great information on creating a GNLE course at http://coil.suny.edu/page/getting-started
Soliya
“people-powered mediation”

Is a third party sponsored by the UN that connects university classes through integrating GNLE.

Provides:
• Unique peer to peer video-conferencing application
• Discussion monitors
• Course guidelines or complete courses

Soliya on CNN
Software used for GNLE

While each course is different, here are some popular tools:

- Zoho Writer
- Blackboard
- CourseSpace
- Moodle
- Skype

Zoho writer screenshot

Moodle screenshot
Sample GNLE Course: History 387
Coping with Violence: Experiences of the 20th Century

- 2 classes:
  1 at HSE in Moscow
  1 at GMU in Fairfax

- Professors create integrated but slightly different class timelines and syllabi.

- In addition to in class discussions, groups of 8, 2 from HSE and 6 from GMU, work on group presentations they will deliver together over conference.
• Sample GNLE Course: History 387

Course Goals

Content Knowledge
At the end of this course, students will be able:
1. to analyze the differential effects of mass violence, repression, and injustice on different parts of society,
2. to analyze the short and long-term impacts of that violence on societies.
3. to compare and contrast successful and unsuccessful attempts to overcome the effects of mass violence, repression, and injustice in different countries and different regions of the world.

Communication skills (skills)
At the end of this course, students will be able:
1. to participate in academic discussion of difficult issues in a multicultural and heterogeneous political environment, present their point of view to an international audience in both written and verbal form.
2. to demonstrate an ability to comprehend and interpret alternate points of view.

Mutual perceptions (attitude)
At the end of this course students will be able to demonstrate reflection on preconceptions about themselves and one another.
• Bibliography

• About COIL; http://coil.suny.edu/page/about-coil
• About Soliya; http://www.soliya.net/?q=what_we_do_connect_program
• COIL Institute for Globally Networked Learning in the Humanities - A First Report from Spring 2012 Courses; http://vimeo.com/45646730
• Inside the Middle East; CNN; http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q5cEMtLDA0M