The ‘flipped classroom’ meets the new learning space
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‘The ‘flipped classroom’ meets the new learning space

200101 Accounting Information for Managers (AIM) in the School of Business

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Snapshots from our journey

• Accounting Information for Managers (AIM) was one of the School’s first blended learning exemplars in 2013

• Offered in ‘flipped classroom’ mode since Spring 2013

• Significant improvements in student success and satisfaction

• Subject of a published Case Study on Wiley website

• One of two units nominated to trial new Technology Enhanced Learning Studio at Parramatta campus in Autumn 2016
Back to 2013 – where did we start?

• Accounting Information for Managers’ (AIM) is a core unit for the 9 disciplines in the BBC
• 3000 students per year
• Traditional 1 hour lecture followed by 2 hour tutorial
• In 2013, students from 25 different degree program across 6 schools
• High failure rates (36% in Autumn 2013)
• Only 25% proceed to study accounting
• Students unprepared and disengaged; issue of relevance; student retention
Key Design Issues

• Engaging students with relevant content
• Supporting transition from school to University learning
• Balancing collaborative and individual work
• Emphasising regular practice and developing effective study skills
Blended Learning Themes

• Tutor as guide
• Engender community and student collaboration
• Sanction trial and error
• Encourage active study approaches
• Connect learning to life and to work
• Explicitly link online work to in-class activity
Introducing the flipped classroom

“On average, we must repeat a task 24 times in order to achieve 80% mastery”


• Creation of online content, incorporating lecturer vodcasts, videos and links to publisher resources

• Online homework assessed on a points system to encourage regular engagement but allow flexibility

• Weekly announcements outlining the week’s learning activities
‘Incentivised’ Homework

• Combines online 'homework' and in-class 'tutorial activities'

• Used a points system, and so creates an element of gamification (fostered competition, leaderboard etc)

• Online homework based on algorithms, provides multiple attempts (trial and error), immediate feedback and preparation for in-class activities

• Worth 20% overall but consists of 22 separate tasks worth a total of 400 points

• 320 points gives full marks to allow flexibility and opportunity for trial and error
Students working in groups

• We started the blended learning re-design by considering what were the best activities to help students learn during face-to-face class time
• Group experience authentic preparation for future career
• Create connections between students to improve retention
• A declining pattern of group activity so that students work collaboratively at first, but eventually transition to working individually to prepare for final exam
Tutorial structure

Weeks 1 to 4

• Focus on group activities to familiarise students with: the financial statements that are standard for businesses; business structures; business sustainability and business transactions.

Weeks 4/5 to 14

• Online questions completed prior to class
• Opportunity to discuss or work on important questions
• Tutor models how to solve an unseen question
• Students complete (in groups and individually) an unseen question
The Autumn trial in the Learning Studio

• Flipped classroom design allowed easy transition to new Learning Space

• Students we moved into the new classroom after the mid-semester break

• Students uniquely positioned to compare traditional and new facilities

• Trial included three sessional tutors

• Feedback from students and tutors overwhelmingly positive
The path to Parramatta Square

• The entire School of Business will relocate and offer all programs in the new campus from January 2017

• Open plan office design for all School staff

• No lecture facility – over 80 units to be redeveloped for delivery in ‘flipped classroom’ model

• 2 hour face to face classes of 50-60 students in Technology Enhanced Learning Studios for undergraduate units
The Story So Far...

https://vimeo.com/175682749/c78b421658
Questions?