Classrooms for HyFlex Instruction

March 1, 2021

HyFlex vs Lecture Capture

HyFlex: *Students in class and online participate in the class at the same time. HyFlex does this through a combination of technology and pedagogy. HyFlex learning is historically defined as letting* ***students choose between online or face-to-face (F2F) delivery****. HyFlex courses can be recorded for student review.*

Lecture Capture: Lecture capture courses assume the remote student is not participating in real-time with the rest of the students. Students will usually consume the face-to-face course content asynchronously. Lecture capture can be made nearly synchronous (there is usually a delay of up to 30 seconds) from the in-class video capture to remote stream but that is not required.

Background on HyFlex

- Dr. Moreira and Dr. Zupan were early advocates and new programs at USG increased interest in this format.
- Last spring and summer there was increased interest in HyFlex due to the pandemic and international student regulations.
- During the fall the classroom committee discussed this issue and recommended pilot rooms be established.
- UMBC funded four rooms for conversion to HyFlex in January.

Features of the UMBC HyFlex Classrooms

- Improved Audio and Video Capture
  - Ceiling microphone arrays capture class discussion
  - Audio processor combines multiple microphones for the video software
  - Front camera for faculty and whiteboard view
  - Rear facing camera for view of room
  - Document Camera for live writing and 3D objects
- Simplified AV Control
  - Designed for faculty ease of use
  - Automated setup for typical scenarios
  - Camera selection presets
- Integration with Software Video Conferencing

SOND105

- Active learning classrooms with enhanced AV technology
- Flexible furniture allowing for social distancing & support multiple forms of instruction
- 48 student capacity (pre-COVID), 23 student capacity (COVID guidelines)
- Front camera and rear cameras
- Two ceiling mic arrays

- Tiered seating in a traditional amphitheater design
- Wide work surface for students
- Lecture or discussion
- Front and rear cameras
- Two ceiling microphone a
- 55 student capacity (pre-COVID)
- 17 student (COVID capacity)

- Tiered seating in a U shaped amphitheater design
- Wide work surface for students
- Lecture or discussion enabled
- Front and rear cameras
- Two ceiling microphone arrays
- 55 student capacity (pre-COVID)
- 17 student (COVID capacity)

AD101 (LH3)

- New AV system with additional ADA features
- Tiered seating in an amphitheater design
- Electrical outlets at each seat
- Lecture or discussion
- New lighting system
- Minimal ambient noise as a result of the renovation
- 196 seat capacity (confirming seat count post renovation)
- 32 students (COVID seat capacity)

Features for Faculty

- All existing features of the classroom(s) will remain unchanged
  - HyFlex instruction “mode” is an add-on

- Minimal technical setup for faculty to use the HyFlex instruction features
  - Will be available using the in-room PC (where available) or the faculty laptop

- Classroom audio will provide an immersive synchronous experience to in-person and remote students
  - Facilitate question and answer across in-person and remote students
  - Facilitate group discussions/presentations across in-person and remote students

Features for Students

- Front and rear cameras enable sharing in-person student or faculty video with remote students.

- **Document camera for clear presentation of writable surface** area to local and remote students
  - Provide ADA capabilities to students in need
  - Faculty can write on paper or put an iPad or tablet under the camera

- Allows working, wait listed, or ill students to attend class remotely

Lecture Capture Recording

Synchronous “During Class”

FAQs

- Collaborate
  umbc.edu/go/collaborate-faqs
- Webex
  umbc.edu/go/webex-faq

Asynchronous “Before/After Class”

FAQs

- Panopto
  umbc.edu/go/panopto-faqs
- VoiceThread
  umbc.edu/go/voicethread-faq

Students repeatedly praise benefits of being able to play, pause or rewind a lecture. More Info.

More Info

doit.umbc.edu/classroom/hyflex

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HyFlex Classrooms

*Unlike Hybrid courses where the **instructor determines** how much online or F2F **all** students experience, HyFlex learning is typically defined as letting **students choose between online or face-to-face (F2F) delivery**, in "real time" (or synchronously).*

More Info: "What we learned about Hybrid Flexible courses in 2020," eLiterate (1/5/21)

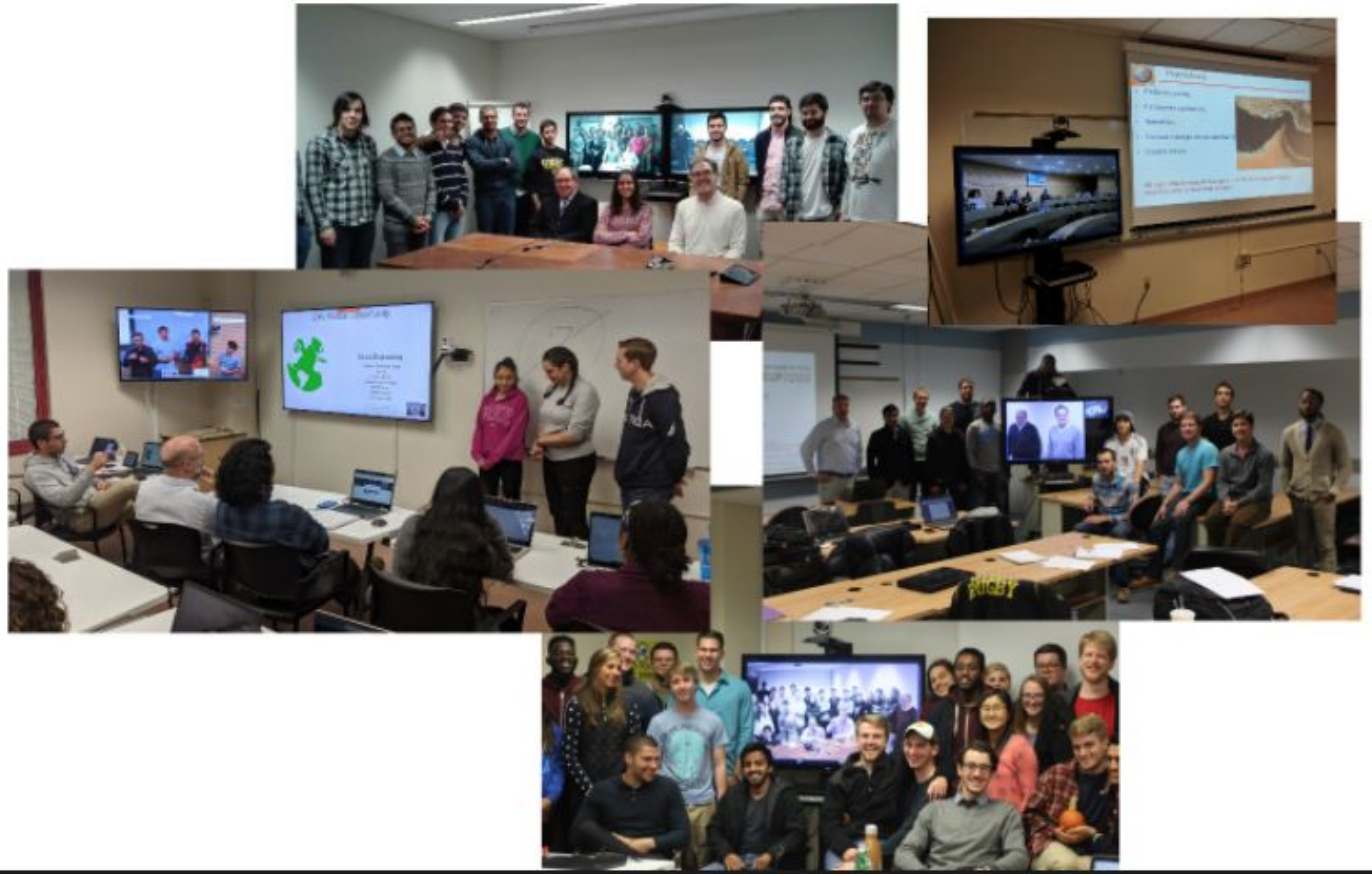
Sondheim 105 HyFlex Classroom (click image for demo)

RESOURCES

- **"HyFlex Classroom Upgrades for Spring 21"** (12/15/20 DoIT News)
- **Instructor Testimonials** Marc Zupan (Mech. Engr.) & Jessica Cook (Poli. Sci.)
- **Demo Tour of SOND 105** I **DoIT HyFlex Presentation**
- **FAQ: "How do I operate HyFlex classroom technology?"**

Next Steps

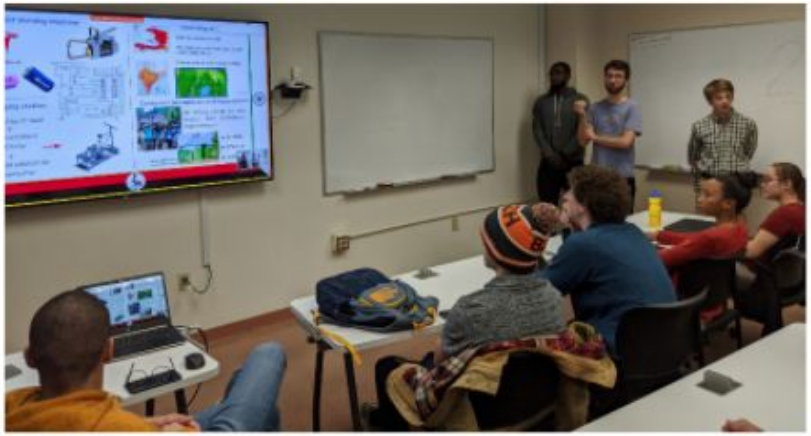
- DoIT has online resources for teaching with HyFlex and we are glad to meet with groups to discuss how we can support your courses.
- To support the Registrar and departments in scheduling, DoIT now understands how to update more classrooms to HyFlex.
- As we did with the PIVOT initiative, we will be working with the Provost, Faculty Development Center, and Colleges to support departments and faculty in their plans.

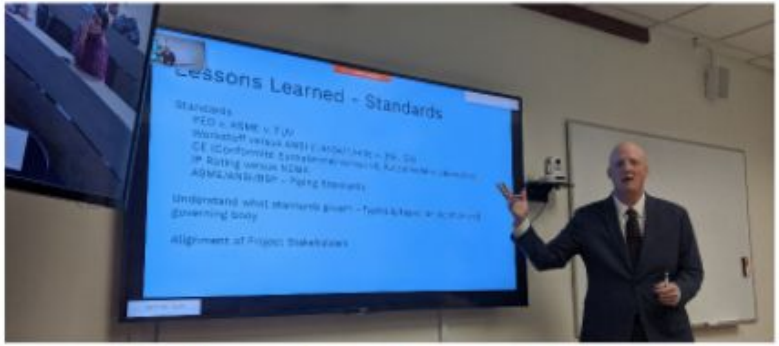


1. In teaching in a hyflex environment, how long did it take you to feel comfortable?

UMBC

2. If you were helping a colleague do this for the fall, what pointers and suggestions would you offer as either do more of THIS, or don't try to do THAT, when planning for their course?





3. You were an early adopter, what do you wish was in place that would have helped you make the transition a little easier?

- Is it training?
- Support for the first few classes?
- Other?