

Interview Transcript

Name of Interviewer: Michael Gesese-Elsenpeter

Date and Time of Interview: 4/13/21

Location: Hugh Hall

Interviewer: In order to participate in this interview, it's important that you have experienced online learning in the past academic year. Have you taken at least one hybrid or fully online class since the Summer of 2020?

Interviewee Response: Yes

Interviewer: I'd first like to ask you some general questions about face-to-face and online learning. First, please describe things that you like about learning in a traditional, face-to-face classroom.

Interviewee Response: I like face-to-face because you get that one on one. You can ask as many questions as you want, I feel like it is more open.

Interviewer: Now that you've had a chance to describe what you like, please explain if there are things that you dislike, or find challenging, about learning in a traditional, face-to-face classroom.

Interviewee Response: It can be intimidating because you're surrounded by other peers so maybe you might not feel as comfortable asking questions to the teacher because you feel like you are being judged by other students. So, it can be harder.

Interviewer: Switching gears, I'd like for you to think about your experiences with online learning. Please describe anything that you like about learning in that format.

Interviewee Response: I like that you can do it in your own space, which can make you feel more comfortable and...yeah.

Interviewer: What types of things do you dislike, or find challenging, about online learning?

Interview Response: It can be hard to stay focused because you're your own because the teacher is not there looking at you to do what you are supposed to do. It can also be difficult to pay attention to what the teacher is doing because you can get distracted. Let's see what else I do not like about online learning. I think that's about it.

Interviewer: What do you feel are the most effective strategies for professors to use when they are teaching online classes?

Interviewee Response: When they are teaching online classes? I guess trying to keep the students engaged when doing activities so like doing actual activities that require students to be involved. So, students will not get bored or get distracted by it. So, involving the students I feel like is very important.

Interviewer: How do you feel your relationships with your classmates and professors in online classes differ from those in face-to-face classes?

Interviewee Response: I feel like online students and teachers are more distant because you don't get that face-to-face interaction with them. I guess it can be difficult to make friends because you are isolated by yourself and alone whereas you're in person you are surrounded by other people. I guess it can be hard to create that relationship, especially with your teacher too because you won't be able to talk to them like you would if you were in person compared to online.

Interviewer: How has online learning influenced your academic performance?

Interviewee Response: I guess, I don't know. I do think I've become lazier. So, I don't go, since I have the option of choosing between online and in person.

Sometimes if I am lazier, I just do not go to class, I just do it on zoom. But when I do it on zoom, then I'm not really paying attention, which can affect my grade. I feel like my grades are lower when it's online classes maybe that goes back to not being able to have that connection with the teacher and not knowing them to the full extent compared to in person. It's not like a drastic change between online and in-person but there is a difference between them.

Interviewer: How has online learning influenced your personal and/or social life?

Interviewee Response: As I mentioned before, it can be difficult to make friendships, but yea I think it can be difficult to create that friendship with them because you're by yourself, you don't get that interaction. I think it can be bad for some people because they're so isolated from people, which can lead certain people to depression. I know it can be difficult for some people.

Interviewer: How did you feel about online learning prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, and how do you feel about online learning now?

Interviewee Response: I did not like it back then and I still do not like it now.