



IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC ON THE DEPARTMENTAL CULTURE AND TEACHING



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Abstract

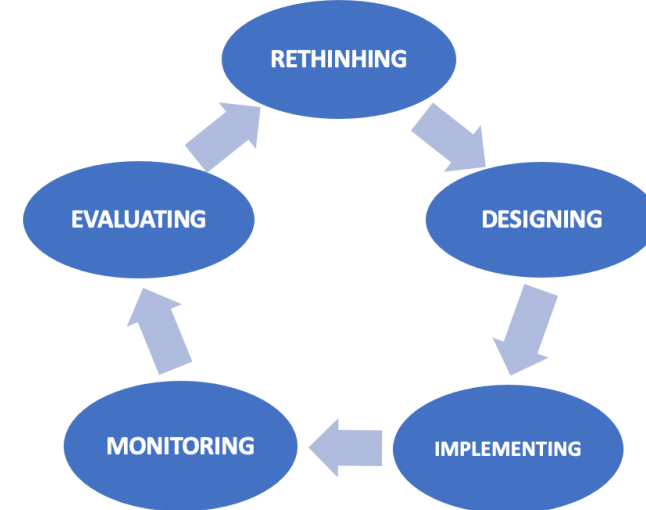
As the COVID-19 pandemic distraught global economies and higher education, NYCCT mobilized and modified its offerings for its students, faculty, and staff to successfully transition to online modality. As the outcomes the innovative pedagogies and best practices in distance learning, initiatives homogenizing delivery of teaching and learning, departmental team building, and students' preparation for online instruction, were developed.

The importance of integrating the online instructional methodologies with City Tech's cultural values, which "nurture an atmosphere of inclusion, respect, and open-mindedness in which all members can flourish", created an even stronger institutional community fostering greater student success during such unprecedented times.

This presentation shares the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the laboratory clinical setting, how were the challenges addressed, and what lessons were learned to help others replicate, enhance, or transfer this innovative approach to similar situations in their local environments.

Measures

- Measures taken during the pandemic in Restorative Dentistry Program, NYCCT:
- Rethinking, designing, and transferring all RESD courses during the Spring 2020 semester to online teaching modality
- Team building and collaboration
- Chair and faculty worked together on rethinking, designing and implementing online instruction
- Course coordinators worked together with faculty teaching different sections of the same course to implement and harmonize online course content
- Team development improved rapport between colleagues (chair, faculty, CLTs, staff)
- Teamwork contributed to student success in individual courses and to timely graduation
- Strengthening students understanding of online instructions, participation, and success



Faculty Challenges

- At the beginning of the pandemic a limited amount of faculty members were proficient in online teaching methodologies
- Faculty were faced with altering how to deliver, develop and implement laboratory instruction that would allow the students to best complete the laboratory projects and externship program
- Faculty had to learn how to utilize online platforms
- Blackboard and Blackboard Collaborate Ultra were utilized to conduct lecture and laboratory synchronous and asynchronous course sessions
- Zoom, Blackboard Collaborate Ultra, YouTube, were used to record class sessions and to develop instructional videos for lab procedures
- Zoom, WebEx, or Blackboard Collaborate Ultra were used to hold faculty office hours
- Course coordinators worked virtually with co-teaching faculty members to harmonize didactic and laboratory sessions
- Course coordinators developed master courses

Student Challenges

- Students had to learn and become proficient in the new virtual world of online instruction instantaneously
- Limited access to computers or internet
- Students became occupied with
 - Family, health, and financial issues, taking care of children, parents, or other family members and friends, etc.
 - Becoming essential workers, losing jobs, changing job schedules
 - Getting sick
 - Struggles with time management, organizational skills, stress, anxieties, etc.
- Students faced time limitations to attend new online course sessions and complete increased amount of online course work

Course Coordination

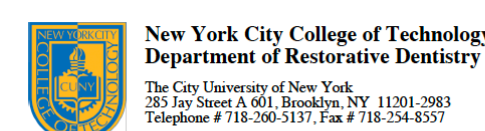
RESD COURSE COORDINATION - Role of Course Coordinator

RD COURSE COORDINATOR	Fall 2020 COURSE COORDINATORS			
	RD COURSE COORDINATOR	RD FACULTY - LECTURE	RD FACULTY - LAB	RD FACULTY - LAB
1st Year				
RESD 1107 Introduction to Non-Metallic Dental Materials	Laura Andreescu	Laura Andreescu	Renata Budny	Renata Budny, Julia Sells
RESD 1110 Tooth Morphology	Renata Budny	Renata Budny	Renata Budny	Renata Budny, Julia Sells
RESD 1111 Complete Dentures 1	Oscar Galvin	Oscar Galvin	Oscar Galvin	Oscar Galvin, Joseph Caputo, Sander Palacios, Aleks Smith
RESD 1115 Fixed Prosthodontics 1	Anthony Sana	Basia Rada-Szywiak	Basia Rada-Szywiak	Chris Niaz, Luis Harardo, Jamie Rubin, Aleks Smith
2nd Year				
RESD 2087 Science of Dental Metallurgy	Laura Andreescu	Laura Andreescu	Nicholas Manos, Paul Federico	Nicholas Manos, Paul Federico
RESD 2117 Principles of Occlusion	Nicholas Manos	Nicholas Manos	Anthony Sana	Anthony Sana, Paul Federico
RESD 2113 Removable Partial Dentures 2	Anthony Sana	Anthony Sana	David Alter	David Alter, Basia Rada-Szywiak, Olena Sytkyn-Galicia
RESD 2119 Removable Partial Dentures 2	David Alter	David Alter	Oscar Galvin	Sander Palacios
RESD 2111 Complete Dentures 2	Oscar Galvin	Oscar Galvin	David Alter	David Alter
RESD 2124 CAD/CAM in Dentistry	David Alter	David Alter	David Alter	David Alter, Jamie Rubin

Departmental Initiatives

- Hosting weekly departmental and course coordinators' meetings:
 - Reporting on course coordination and developments in individual courses
 - Addressing challenges and best practices in RESD courses
 - Discussing students' feedback and mitigating concerns
 - Consulting with the Commission on Dental Accreditation for guidance to maintain the accreditation standards
 - Adhering to NY State, Department of Education, Middle States Accreditation, CUNY, and NYCCT guidance
- Discussing online teaching practices with other City Tech's laboratory/clinical departments
- Consulting on best practices with CODA-accredited dental laboratory technology programs across the nation
- Standardizing course syllabi by developing in-class/traditional, hybrid, and online syllabus templates for all RESD courses, and instructing course coordinators to utilize the syllabi templates
- Instructing faculty on the use of asynchronous and synchronous teaching methods in the RESD courses
- Harmonizing Blackboard course navigation menu for lab and lecture sessions and instructing course coordinators to implement it in order to ease student and faculty navigation through all RESD online courses
- Developing and executing a departmental online training plan
 - Two faculty members were trained by iTech, NYCCT, as departmental trainers in online methodologies
 - Departmental trainers prepared training platform and training sessions for RD course coordinators and faculty
 - Departmental platform offered readily available instructional materials including links, materials developed internally, reading materials, and video tutorials related to Blackboard, Blackboard Collaborate Ultra, Zoom, etc.
 - Training webinars addressed the importance of implementing the new online syllabus template and the standardized navigation menu that would comply with accreditation standards and offer user-friendly interface for all RD students and faculty
 - Departmental trainers conducted one-on-one sessions with RD faculty to offer help with specific challenges
 - Departmental trainers developed virtual workshops on the effective use of platforms and tools used in online instructions (i.e. journals, building exams and the pool of questions for exams, class recordings, BB Collaborate Ultra and Zoom basics, etc.)
- Departmental trainers developed and provided introductory video and presentation for all RD students to ease them in the transition to online instruction
- Department adopted the online distance learning guidance and the place-based learning methodologies for the Externship Program in order to maintain students' academic standing and graduation deadlines
 - RESD 1215 Externship Program was successfully executed fully online with a 100% completion rate

Departmental Online Training Plan and Workshops



Dec. 4, 2020

Restorative Dentistry Online Training

The following Restorative Dentistry Department plan for online training is being all Restorative Dentistry Faculty up to attend sessions for Fall 2020 academic semester and beyond.

1. Training Workshops for Course Coordinators and Lecturers:

- 1.1. Overview and Navigating your online course
- 1.2. Blackboard Collaborate Ultra
- 1.3. Zoom
- 1.4. Blackboard Collaborate Ultra
- 1.5. Blackboard Collaborate Ultra

4. Learn about effective teaching strategies to enable students to engage successfully with the course material and meet required performance objectives and accreditation standards.

5. Workshop objectives: to enable online instruction and provide support for RESD courses and providing a full range of services to meet the needs of the department.

6. Training sessions: 100 minutes (including registration) - one-on-one sessions: 15 minutes x 100.

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8. Objectives: to enable online instruction and provide support for RESD courses and providing a full range of services to meet the needs of the department.

RESTORATIVE DENTISTRY DEPARTMENT

DESIGNING AND NAVIGATING ONLINE COURSES

prepared and presented by Prof. Laura Andreescu and Prof. Renata Budny NYCCT, CUNY

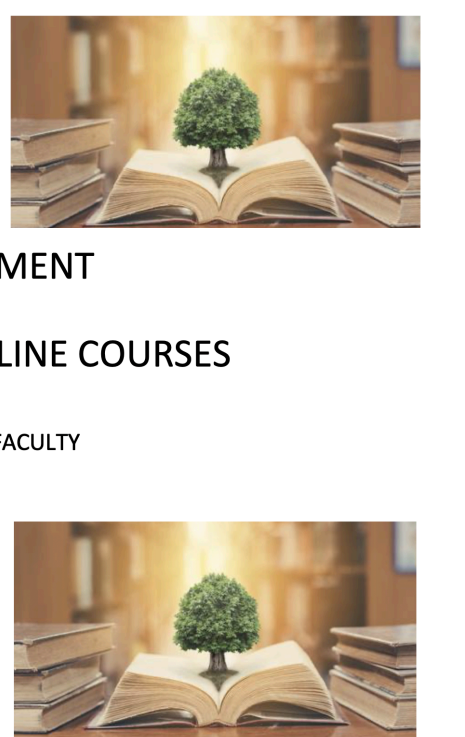
August 5, 2020

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AUGUST 12, 2020



Syllabus Templates

RESD ONLINE AND HYBRID COURSE SYLLABI TEMPLATES
SHARING COURSE SYLLABUS WITH FACULTY TEACHING THE SAME COURSE
Templates are found in RD BLACKBOARD - DOCUMENTS - COURSE SYLLABI or in RD BLACKBOARD - 2020 Online Training Course - ONLINE, HYBRID and TRADITIONAL COURSES, Syllabus Templates, Examples

NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK RESTORATIVE DENTISTRY DEPARTMENT	NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK RESTORATIVE DENTISTRY DEPARTMENT	NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK RESTORATIVE DENTISTRY DEPARTMENT
COURSE COORDINATOR: _____ LECTURE INSTRUCTORS: _____ LAB INSTRUCTORS: _____	COURSE COORDINATOR: _____ LECTURE INSTRUCTORS: _____ LAB INSTRUCTORS: _____	COURSE COORDINATOR: _____ LECTURE INSTRUCTORS: _____ LAB INSTRUCTORS: _____
Other Notes: Students are encouraged to contact their instructor or program for those not listed on this syllabus.	Other Notes: Students are encouraged to contact their instructor or program for those not listed on this syllabus.	Other Notes: Students are encouraged to contact their instructor or program for those not listed on this syllabus.

Blackboard Navigation Menu Templates & Master Courses

RESD ONLINE AND HYBRID COURSE TEMPLATE in Blackboard - Lecture or Laboratory

a. Main Navigation Menu		
Announcements	Announcements	Announcements
Faculty Info, Office Hours	Faculty Info, Office Hours	Faculty Info, Office Hours
*Collaborate Ultra	*Collaborate Ultra	*Collaborate Ultra
Course Documents	Course Documents	Course Documents
Lecture Materials or Laboratory Materials	Lecture Materials	Laboratory Materials
Discussion Board	Discussion Board	Discussion Board
Books	Books	Books
City Tech Library	City Tech Library	City Tech Library
Tools	Tools	Tools
Help	Help	Help

Conclusion

- Many developments that emerged during the pandemic will have lasting effect on the departmental culture and instruction:
- The rapid move to online instructions initiated by the COVID-19 pandemic shifted the program's advancement at least five years ahead
- Didactic instruction may remain online once the pandemic is over
- Laboratory component may partially remain online with remote access to dental software and partly in-person to complete hands-on projects that cannot be completed remotely
- Departmental meetings, webinars, events will in part remain online with hopes of increased participation of faculty, staff and students
- As development of online instructions continue, course coordination and teamwork will improve
- As faculty team up to successfully overcome effects of pandemic and contribute to student's success in online environment, the departmental culture improved

References

iTech guidance, training: <http://websupport1.citytech.cuny.edu>
 Faculty Commons guidance & online support: <https://facultycommons.citytech.cuny.edu>
 Restorative Dentistry Department: Internally developed forms, documents, online training platform (https://bbhosted.cuny.edu/webapps/blackboard/content/listContentEditable.jsp?content_id=48282219_1&course_id=780930_1&mode=reset)