

Using a Virtual Class to Demonstrate Computer-Mediated Group Dynamics Concepts

This paper reports about a demonstration of how to use a virtual class that actively involves students to present computer-mediated group communication course concepts. Students in a Group Dynamics course completed 2 computer-media tasks in a virtual class. First, they completed a task using a computer chat room and second using a discussion board. We designated one class period as a virtual class, when students and instructors “attended” the virtual class using these computer-mediated methods. The results showed that students understood the benefits and drawbacks of computer-mediated groups presented in course readings after participating in the virtual class. Further, the virtual class allowed us to use information generated during their class to stimulate discussion in a subsequent face-to-face debriefing.

Revisions Submitted for Publication