

Introducing the Flipped Classroom to an EFL Context in Oman

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Flipped Classroom

“An inverted model of teaching that often uses various communication or instructional technologies such as videos or podcasts to deliver lecture material outside the classroom so that classroom time is spent on discussion, analysis, and problem-solving activities”

(Youngkin, 2014, p. 368)



Source: Google Images

The Study

Research Problem

- Students complain about their passive role in the classroom.
- Students need more attention to their different learning styles.
- Teachers report that they do not have time to pay attention to individual students' needs during the class time.

Objectives of the study

- To explore EFL students' and teachers' views about introducing the flipped classroom to their EFL context.
- To find out the main challenges EFL students and teachers may face when introducing the flipped classroom to their EFL context.
- To investigate EFL students' and teachers' views on how to overcome the expected challenges.

Research Questions

- What are the students' and teachers' perceptions about introducing the flipped classroom to their EFL context in a HEI in Oman?
- What are the students' and teachers' views about the main challenges they may face when introducing the flipped classroom to their EFL context?
- What are the students' and teachers' suggestions for overcoming such expected challenges?

Research Methodology

- The study context is a higher education institution (HEI) in Oman.
- 52 EFL students and 8 EFL teachers took part in the study.
- 52 EFL students were surveyed.
- 15 of the EFL students and the 8 EFL teachers were interviewed.

Preliminary Findings

- The preliminary findings suggest that the vast majority of the study participants are with the application of the flipped classroom to their EFL context.
- The study participants, however, anticipate some challenges. These include: internet connection, training for teachers, attendance monitoring, students' commitment and assessment.

Why Flipped Classroom?

It helps students to:

- be more responsible learners
- build their knowledge and skills
- learn collaboratively
- spend more time on applying what they learn
- use technology to learn

It helps teachers to:

- devote more time to individual learning styles
- guide students' learning
- use class time effectively
- focus on active learning and problem solving

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