新轉「教」與「學」

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Flipped Teaching and Learning

Interview with Professor Hau Kit Tai, Choh-Ming Li Professor of Educational Psychology, CUHK

吃着電子學習愈趨普及,傳統教學模式也有所轉變。如何透過科技的輔助,使教與學能夠產生有效的連結,提升學習成效,乃現今教育界關注的課題之一,而電子化的趨勢也掀起了教學模式的革新和變化。本院教育心理學卓敏講座教授侯傑泰教授與大家探討近年興起的教學新思維—「翻轉教學」的理念及分享其經驗與心得。

人機分工,相輔相成

翻轉教學,為反向課堂,打破過去學生課堂上聽講、下課後自行練習之常規。「翻轉」提倡將授課環節變發影片或自學教材,讓學生於課堂前瀏覽,學到數學,應理難深的課題及進行深入的陳述時間則集為所以在課堂上針對學生的與對提供幫助。侯教授解釋:「翻轉的概念就是人和機器相輔成,借助電子網絡科技的便利,把授課的部分提前學中國,要排分組討論、專題研究、問題解答、學習或團體驗等活動,鼓勵學生進行獨立式探索學習或團體式合作學習。」

聽教師講課還是觀看教學視頻比較好?侯教授認為:「前者固然有其可取之處,但單向的授課模式減少師生互動。後者也或會乏味,但卻可增加課堂互動的機會。對於學習能力較弱的學生,他們能夠重溫教學影片,根據自己的學習速度複習幾遍,逐步融會貫通,減少在課堂上追不及學習進度的延宕,並提升學習興趣,所以不少學生對翻轉教學的試驗反應正面。」

推動學習,照顧差異

作為「翻轉教學」的提倡者,侯教授率先在自己的課堂進行試驗。他將每週三個小時的講課錄製成教學視頻,要求學生在課前觀看,騰出課堂時間則用來評估學生進度,讓學生參與小組活動和報告,繼而深入討論。「翻轉」的成效可以從教學內容、學習興趣及學習表現幾方面來探討。

侯教授還指出,「翻轉」不只限於借助教學視頻改進課 堂講解,還可按學生學習能力設計合適的自學教材,有 助照顧學習差異。「透過電子教材,學習能力較弱的學 生可以針對難點反覆自學,利用簡易試題及輔助資料由 淺入深掌握知識。對於能力較強的學生,可以設計深化 的課題讓其學習,通過翻轉照顧他們的需要。由此可見, 教師通過電子平台的支援,能更有效地因材施教。」

不論資歷,多作嘗試

要實行「翻轉」,其關鍵在於如何製作出「深入淺出」的自學教材,讓學生掌握基本知識,並善用課堂的空間提升教學至更深層次,專業的拍攝技術或高超的電腦操作並非必要,因此每位教師都可以參與。「翻轉」源自課前預習指定資料或參考文獻,近年則轉為自製教學視頻以供預覽,只是媒體不同而已。

侯教授強調,「翻轉」最重要就是走出第一步。他建議教師可先嘗試拍攝一段數分鐘的視頻,雖然初期不易熟習,但當素材逐步累積,日後便可因應所需再作調整。「翻轉」不一定需要自行錄製教學影片,教師也可從網絡平台搜尋與學科相關的合適材料。侯教授鼓勵教師將「翻轉」的概念融入教學中,初期利用一兩節課「小試牛刀」,如效果理想可再多作嘗試。

善用課堂,互動學習

「翻轉教學」在日本、新加坡、台灣等地已領先實踐,對處於起步階段的香港有何啓示呢?侯教授指出,每個地方、每家學校使用電子平台的方法和實際操作也有差異。從他的觀察,「現今不少學校使用平板電腦教學,無疑相對傳統課堂有趣,但我反而希望學生放下平板電



「翻轉教學」對教學 模式帶來嶄新的方 向:聽講不再是課堂 上的重點,學生參與



及鍵師改識習識者啓促設動討更力互動「角:接主傳帶內自有刺,層面翻卷學收體遞領在主效激有次作轉帶生者;者學學學益學助的作數來不,教變生習習的生學知為為」轉是是從引索機透學考發及關對的知學知導,,過活和展能關對的知學知導,,過活和展能

E-learning has changed the traditional approach to teaching. How to enhance the effectiveness of teaching and learning through the use of technology is a major topic of discussion among educators. The rise of electronic technology has revolutionized the way we teach. Professor Hau Kit Tai, with extensive knowledge and practice of the "flipped classroom", discussed this emerging trend in education and mobile learning.

Man and Machine, Division of Labour

Delivering instruction outside of class by means of teaching videos and self-learning materials allows students to learn basic knowledge before class. Class time can then be spent on illustrating difficult concepts and having in-depth discussions. The traditional one-size-fits-all approach is often limited to teaching basic concepts and applications, which prevents teachers from giving individual students the support they need. Professor Hau explained, "The idea of flipping is the division of labour between man and machine. The availability of internet access enables traditional lecture to take place prior to class so that teachers can open up the classroom for more interactive and meaningful activities, such as group discussion, visits, field trips, etc."

Are live lectures better than video lectures? Professor Hau shared his thoughts, "It might seem better to attend a lecture than watching a video, however, if in the lecture the teacher keeps talking the opportunities for teacher-student interaction would be hampered. Watching teaching videos before-hand may seem bland but it can prepare students for discussion activities in class. Less able students are given the option of reviewing the lecture as many times as they like and at their own pace, complementing the limitations of traditional classroom setting. In this way, it not only enhances student engagement and interest in learning but also accelerates their learning progress. Research has shown that students reacted positively to flipped learning."

Promoting Active Learning, Catering for Difference

As an advocate of the flipped classroom, Professor Hau has adopted the flipped model in his course. The three-hour lecture that took place every week was turned into a pre-recorded video for students to watch ahead of the class, while the class time was used for assessing students'

learning and exploring topics with greater depth through discussions and presentations. The effectiveness of the flipped classroom was evaluated in terms of teaching content, learning motivation as well as students' performance.

The benefits of flipped classroom have been shown in the amount of content that can be delivered in each lesson. For example, in the traditional classroom, students are taught ABC only. By using the flipped model, the class time freed up enables the teacher to teach DEF and with the adoption of interactive learning and collaborative learning, the learning objectives which were unattainable in the past can now be achieved. It provided students with a holistic learning environment where activities went beyond ABC learning and were more substantial, diverse and flexible than before. Regarding motivation in learning, nearly 90% of students expressed that the flipped model had motivated them to become more engaged in class, even though no innovative pedagogy was employed and no new learning activities were designed.

In addition to teaching content and motivation, the results of the flipped classroom experiment were quite rewarding as students are now more engaged and some of them have shown significant improvement in learning. In terms of students' performance, there was no big difference before and after using the flipped model. Medium ability students, however, showed noticeable improvement since increased interaction in class allowed them to come up with questions that stimulated their critical thinking and foster their intellectual development. The results revealed that most students liked "flipped learning" and agreed that this model could be promoted.

Professor Hau also pointed out that teaching and learning can benefit from flipping in other ways. With the support of e-learning tools teachers' instructional practice can be enhanced. Moreover, the design of appropriate self-learning activities based on students' ability can cater for learner diversity. "For weaker students, it is difficult for the teacher to explain the concept to them again and again in class. If replaced by teaching videos, students are able to watch them repeatedly. They can check the answers and look for explanations provided after they have finished the exercise on the e-learning platform. Through the use of technology, these weaker students can review their learning anytime and build up knowledge by starting with simple exercises and moving to more complex ones. Stronger students can benefit from the flipped classroom model as well. In the past, in teaching students of mixed ability, the teacher would avoid difficult topics. The flipped model allows teachers to develop learning materials suitable for gifted students or to make use of the learning materials designed for senior grades. Students with different learning abilities are supported with customized learning materials through the online learning platform.

Willingness to Try, Regardless of Experience

Every teacher can use the flipped learning approach to teach, with no professional video recording skills or advanced computer skills needed. The key to "flip" is how to develop self-learning materials which make difficult concepts easier to understand so that class time can be used for engaging students in high-level learning.

Professor Hau explained that the concept of e-learning

nowadays was very much different from our understanding of it in the past. "In the old days, teaching videos were usually longer and of high-quality. Today the videos are shorter. They last about ten minutes. One does not necessarily need to be a professional to shoot high quality videos. New teachers are at an advantage in terms of computer literacy, such as Chinese word processing, video-editing, etc. Making a teaching video challenges teachers to present the main ideas of the subject in a clear and well-structured manner within a short period of time. This would facilitate students' understanding of the subject. For the challenge that put teachers' professional knowledge in the test - whether they can design activities that can broaden students' horizon and create meaningful learning experiences that can leave a deep imprint in their heart. Teachers with considerable teaching experience have the edge over new teachers in this area."

Taking the first step is of utmost importance to flipped learning, Professor Hau stressed. He suggested that teachers may begin with a video as short as a few minutes or search for existing resources related to the subject matter on-line. Teachers do not necessarily have to record their own teaching videos. Anything that can help students learn is considered good materials. The beginning stage of developing materials is the hardest but once sufficient resources are accumulated only minor adjustment is needed in the future, Professor Hau added. He encouraged teachers to adopt the flipped classroom approach to teaching by flipping one lesson or two in the beginning and continue to try if the feedback is good.

Utilizing the Class, Enhancing Interactive Learning

The flipped classroom has been getting popular in Japan, Singapore and Taiwan. It has recently made its way to Hong Kong. What can we learn from their experience? There is a certain degree of variation in the use of e-learning from one school to another. "Today many schools use tablet computers for teaching and learning. Undoubtedly using tablets is more interesting than the traditional form of learning, but I really hope to see students put aside their tablets and have more student-teacher interaction in class. Teachers should explore activities that allow more interaction and sharing between students and with teachers so as to foster students' collaborative learning and interpersonal skills". Professor Hau reflected from his observation. It echoed with the idea of "division of labour between man and machine" mentioned at the beginning of the article. That is, e-learning supports students' self-directed learning outside the classroom while quality interaction in class increases the breadth and depth of learning.

The flipped classroom overturns the lesson delivery and traditional activity design, shifting the focus from one-way lecturing to student participation and collaborative learning. The flipped classroom, in fact, is reversing the roles of students and teachers. Students are no longer passive recipients but active constructors of knowledge. Teachers have shifted from being the transmitter of knowledge to being the facilitator of learning. The role of a teacher is to encourage students to explore, motivate them to learn and promote autonomous learning. Designing effective learning activities can stimulate students' thinking and generate deeper discussions contributing to their development of higher level of knowledge and skills.

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Profile of Professor Hau Kit Tai

Present Positions

- Choh-Ming Li Professor of Educational Psychology, CUHK
- and Vocational Qualifications

- Pro-Vice-Chancellor, CUHK (2011 2015)
 Dean of Students, Shaw College, CUHK (2004 2006)
 Chairperson, Department of Educational Psychology, Faculty
- President of the Educational Psychology Division, International
- Association of Applied Psychology (2010 2014)
 Member, Curriculum Development Council (2009 2014)
 Member, Promotion and Monitoring Sub-Committee, Quality
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