Student-Content Interaction

Course Content, Assignments, Activities, and Assessments

Students interact with content any time they encounter a new fact, idea, theory, or principle presented to them by another person in a course, whether by reading, watching, listening, or viewing something presented to them. In his seminal work on interaction in distance education, Michael Moore (1989) locates student-content interaction at the heart of all learning experiences.

> "Without [learner-content interaction] there cannot be education, since it is the process of intellectually interacting with content that results in changes in the learner's understanding, the learner's perspective, or the cognitive structures of the learner's mind."
>
> (Moore, 1989)

What are Student-Content Interactions?

- Assigned readings (textbooks, articles, primary sources, etc)
- Performing research
- Written lecture materials or transcripts of lectures
- Solving problems
- Illustrative images
- Charts and graphs (often static, but may be animated)
- Video or audio lectures
- Narrated PowerPoint presentations
- Quizzes
- Embedded or linked multimedia content (such as films, YouTube videos, podcasts, etc)
- Links to popular media, current news events, or blogs
- Research assignments (in which students curate content themselves)
- Content sharing between students (such as in a discussion, class wiki, or group project)

References

Moore, Michael. (1989). Three types of interaction. *American Journal of Distance Education, 3*(2): 1-7.