

29 – 30 June 2020: Didaktik-Forum 2020

Shifting from face-to-face teaching to virtual alternatives on short notice

Day 2

30 June 2020: 15:10

Lessons from Pandemic

Prof. Dr. Susanna Paixao, IPC / Coimbra Health School, Portugal

ABSTRACT

As a "Waste Management" professor, this semester, and for better assimilation of the contents by the students, I usually schedule study visits to landfills, incinerators, composting plants, so that students can see, on the spot, the functioning of this equipment. This year, due to the Pandemic, I had to structure the entire functioning of the course.

With the use of the Zoom platform, I kept the theoretical classes in the expository format and the theoretical-practical classes, most of the time, with online news analysis, internet research, image analysis, etc., in order to address all the contents of the program of studies.

At the end of the school year and after requesting a SWOT analysis of the functioning of the course, the students showed contentment with the way these classes took place. They considered it an added advantage that we used the random formation of work groups and the fact that it allowed them to work with colleagues who, in the context of face-to-face classes, would not be their first choice to work.

I, as a professor, will have to take into account that the theoretical classes have to have more breaks, it is difficult for the students to focus and keep attentive to theoretical lessons of 1h45m and that the ideal way is to stop complying with the theoretical and theoretical-practical components and make a mix of the two components at all times of class, so that you can involve students more and break the monotony of expository classes as are the theoretic.

It was agreed, for the students, that the classes should continue with this random format of groups but that the study visits will be an asset that should continue to be maintained after the pandemic.