

## AUTHOR

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## COUNTRY

Cyprus

## FIELD OF HUMANITIES

Languages and literature, Arts

## REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS ACTIVITY

### 1. Digital technology:

Access to online platforms such as Blackboard (similar to Moodle), Google Teams and basic digital applications such as Microsoft Office and Outlook.

### 2. Pre-existing knowledge and skills:

Basic computer skills and familiarity with different applications and online teaching platforms.

# ONLINE TEACHING DURING THE PANDEMICS

The Open University of Cyprus is based on distance learning therefore ICT and telecommunication platforms are used extensively in combination with physical presence.

## GOALS

Before Covid-19 outbreak digital tools were used mainly to support teaching in the classroom (such as presentations, audio visual, images etc.), share information and for the communication outside the classroom between the educator and the students (email, Outlook).

During the Covid-19 professors had to use online platform more or they used new platforms, like Blackboard and MS Teams both for:

1. Online Teaching - it allows interaction in real time between the educator and the student .
2. Exams - the use of different tools and platform at the same time allows the professor to make sure that students do not cheat.

## KEY OUTCOMES

The Use of ICT provides many opportunities and capabilities however the combination of traditional methods and ICT has the best results, if the educator manages to achieve the interaction with the students.

The effort required by the educator is higher but the lessons make the course more interesting and encourages active participation of the students.

*Fig. 1. Online teaching and learning during the COVID-19 crisis (source: Volpe, and Crosier , 2020)*

