Read 3 current articles about Teaching and learning online (they should be from a reputable source but they don’t have to be peer reviewed).  One on Higher Ed, one for Flipped Classroom and one for K12 education. Post summaries of your findings in the discussion area as you answer the following:

What did you learn about the **current** state of affairs?  Post your findings and resources in the discussion board in  Bb by Friday (be sure to include your reference).

RE: New Learnings about Distance Learning Summaries by Friday

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Total views: 41 (Your views: 11)

**Author:** **Dawn Wilson**   
**Date:** Monday, June 10, 2013 9:12:41 PM CDT  
**Subject:** New Learnings about Distance Learning Summaries by Friday

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The article I chose on teaching and learning online in *higher education* came from [Educause Quarterly](http://net.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/eqm0644.pdf). It discussed how enrollment in online programs/classes is rapidly rising. As the popularity of this concept grows, some challenges exist when trying to keep this method of learning as good as or better than face to face instruction. Some of these challenges include: having the appropriate technologies available to students and instructors, having the ability to innovate and advance the types of technologies used, proper training/support for instructors, and meeting student expectations of these programs/courses. Some studies have shown that while most instructors view different activities such as project-based learning, collaboration, critical thinking, and interactive labs all as very important, the actual number of instructors using those methods in their online courses is much lower. Therefore, a gap exists, and it proves that delivery and organization of the course is extremely important for the students to be successful. There are mixed reviews about online courses among students and other critics, but overall it seems to be a method that large numbers of students are having success with.

<http://net.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/eqm0644.pdf>

The second article I chose about the idea of *flipped classrooms* came from an article from the educational journal, [Education Next](http://educationnext.org/the-transformational-potential-of-flipped-classrooms/). The article begins with an overview of what a flipped classroom looks like and how the idea is becoming more and more popular. Some of the benefits of the flipped classroom include: students being able to move through a lesson at whatever speed they are comfortable with (if they are having trouble with the concept, they can rewind the tutorial or watch it multiple times or move forward or skip a section if they are ahead and fully understand the concept), it gives students great ownership of their learning, and more one on one teacher/student time is available for the teacher to assist the students who need extra help. Some of the criticisms of this concept include: this may be really more geared toward higher income schools/areas with students who have easier access to the technology needed and could actually magnify the inequalities among the different social classes, and that this method is not the only solution to fixing our country's educational system. There are other blended-learning models that schools can and are currently choosing to follow besides the idea of a flipped classroom, because after all, one size doesn't really fit all in our educational system today. The idea of a flipped classroom definitely has the potential to improve student achievement, but it may not be the answer for every classroom.

<http://educationnext.org/the-transformational-potential-of-flipped-classrooms/>

The final article I chose was about online learning in *K-12 grades* and came from the educational journal, [International Association for K-12 Online Learning](http://www.inacol.org/cms/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/iNACOL_ResearchEffectiveness.pdf). Research has shown that students who learn online performed better than those solely receiving face-to-face instruction. One interesting thought is that students seemed to perform really well when both online and face-to-face instructions were practiced; a mixed approach with some classes in person and some online. By teaching and learning online, it allows the students to gain control of their interactions and learning and their own reflections. They also exhibit a better use of  their higher-level thinking and problem solving skills. Teachers have even found that the relationships with the students and parents was more focused on teaching and learning in an online course vs. a face-to-face class. I found that extremely interesting and very noteworthy. Overall, face-to-face interaction at a K-12 level is important for social and other developmental reasons, but mixing online learning with it proves to be even more beneficial than keeping the instruction solely face-to-face in the classroom.

<http://www.inacol.org/cms/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/iNACOL_ResearchEffectiveness.pdf>

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