ID: **P5.4-511** Type: **E-poster**

Beyond Academia: Leveraging Classroom Lessons Learned for Open Education and CTBTO Outreach

Friday, June 23, 2023 9:46 AM (1 minute)

Since 2014, University of British Columbia professors Allen Sens and Matt Yedlin have taught the transdisciplinary course, "Nuclear Weapons and Arms Control" to a mixed cohort of engineering and political science undergraduates. A thousand students in total have experienced our flipped classroom model which integrates science and policy content, with a particular focus on the CTBTO. The course makes extensive use of bespoke instructional videos, and video analytics from YouTube and EdX have demonstrated the elevated level of student engagement using this pedagogy. As such, our course has informed us of the lessons learned and best practices for a model that can be leveraged for CTBTO outreach and public education efforts. This includes the creation of open online public education modules and a possible open online course on nuclear weapons and arms control. We propose the development of CTBTO educational modules and an open online course based on a comparison of our experiences delivering our course in face-to face delivery in 2022 and our 2020 online offering during COVID-19 restrictions, the latter serving as a proxy for an open online model. This model includes the development of in-class simulation exercises into the online environment.

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Promotional text

The creation of open education resources,focussed on nulcear weapons and arms control, embodied in an online course supporting CTBTO outreach.

Oral preference format

in-person

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Session Classification: Lightning talks: P5.3, P5.4

Track Classification: Theme 5. CTBT in a Global Context: T5.4 Outreach