



teaching the net generation:  
curriculum, pedagogy and the challenge  
of 21<sup>st</sup> century learning

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# “sci hi’s **extended classroom** and class session: **the online** **groups**”

**a teaching innovation**

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# Introduction: Observable Facts

- “the world is getting **smaller**” with the Internet  
*(communication and connection is just a click away)*
- “social networking sites are **growing** fast”  
*(with influx of Web 2.0)*
- “the education sector is **FOCUSING** on  
**ICT integration**”

# Other Observable Facts

- “the world’s population is **spending** personal time **to be online.**”
- “**students are likewise spending** ample time online.”
- “several studies are **conducted** to find appropriate learning approaches.”
- “**potential capabilities of Online Groups as a learning tool.**”

# What is an Online Group?

- a collection of users using the same web-based services.
- utilizes mailing list and internet forums.
- allows users to post messages, upload and download files, broadcast schedules, e-mail and create profiles.

# What were the bases of the teaching innovation?

The Rising  
Application of  
**Online Groups.**

Today's  
**Net Students.**

# What is the innovation?

The Rising  
Application  
**Online Group**

**Utilizing the  
Online Group  
as a  
Learning Tool.**

Today's  
**Students.**

# Why innovate?

## Objectives:

1. To extend student's learning experiences and opportunities.
2. To enrich teacher-student & learner-to-learner interactions.
3. To promote ICT utilization & exposure to students.
4. To provide unending connection and assistance to students.
5. To implement easy administration & management of the learning activities.

# Who were the learners?

- **this innovation was applied to the fourth year high school students of Tagbilaran City Science High School.**
- a teaching innovation for T.L.E. IV (Computer Education IV) subject.
- **practiced for two-year now.**

# Who were the learners?

<b>SECTIONS</b>	<b>MALE</b>	<b>FEMALE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>IV - Becquerel</b>	15	16	31
<b>IV - Einstein</b>	16	16	32
<b>IV - Newton</b>	15	17	32
<b>TOTAL NO. OF STUDENTS</b>			<b>95</b>

*Table 1: Student Section and Distribution*

# Screenshot of the Online Group

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the Yahoo! Tech Groups page for the 'computer\_ed4' group. The browser's address bar shows the URL 'http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/computer\_ed4/'. The page header includes the Yahoo! logo, the group name 'computer\_ed4', and a search bar. A navigation menu on the left lists various group features like Home, Messages, Files, Photos, Links, Database, Polls, Members, and Calendar. The main content area features a 'Home' section with a description: 'Welcome, students! This is our official YahooGroup for Computer Education 4. Some of our activities will be posted, mailed, downloaded and to be submitted here. Learn and enjoy!'. Below the description is a 'Most Recent Messages' section with a search bar and a message titled 'Activity No. 1 - Websites on Tools for Web Page Development'. The message description states: 'Websites on Tools for Web Page Development' is an online activity wherein students will have to search on valuable websites as web. The message was posted on Thursday, July 31, 2008, at 7:14 pm. The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications, including Yahoo! (1059 unread), computer\_ed4, PENCILBOX (F:), and Microsoft PowerPoint. The system tray indicates the time is 1:16 PM.

# What were the key learning activities in this innovation?

- 1. E- Portfolio**
- 2. Web Links (Library of Web Resource)**
- 3. Online Polls**
- 4. Message and Discussion Boards**
- 5. Database**
- 6. Assignment and Project Hub**

# E-Portfolio

- a learning activity where student-members submit softcopies of their outputs through the Online Group.
- the teacher-moderator selects remarkable outputs to be uploaded and displayed through the Online Group.
- the students are asked to discuss the good points of the outputs and allowed to give comments.

# Web Links

- a collection of related and useful links in the Online Group (creating a library of useful web-based references).
- one capability of Yahoo! Groups is the ability of the members to add links.
- the students are tasked to find related web sources related to the topics in Computer Education.

# Online Polls

- is a functionality of Yahoo! Groups allowing the owner or moderator of the group to post polls or survey on the Online Group Site.
- this learning activity is an interesting way to learn from the members their personal preferences or ideas.
- this can be used to get feedbacks from the student-members or to evaluate them.

# Message and Discussion Boards

- is a basic functionality of Yahoo! Groups utilizing its mailing list and e-mail services.
- this activity allows students to free express, ask, post, or e-mail any discussion topic to the entire group or privately.
- in this activity, learning is based on the synthesis of the ideas shared by the student-members or by the teacher-moderator.

# Database (Collection of Information)

- is a feature of Yahoo! Groups allowing the group moderator to create table of information.
- any member of the group can add information to the database if allowed by the moderator.
- it is a learning activity where students can refer to an organized information related to the subject.

# Assignment / Project Hub

- **is a learning activity done in the Online Group where the teacher-moderator can freely posts assigned tasks or projects as supplementary learning opportunity for the students to learn by doing.**
- **this refers to making the Online Group as the repository of assigned tasks for students and as mail box of their created outputs.**

# What are the positive outcomes of the innovation?

- a transformed the learning environment

(from a limited area of the computer room to *boundless place of learning*)

(from a 1 hr meeting per day to *24/7 open connection*)

(from a limited learning experience to *unending and continuous learning opportunities*)

# What are the positive outcomes of the innovation?

- integration of new learning activities
- easy administration and management of the learning activities
- encourages openness and interaction between the teacher and the students or student to student
- helps in building knowledge and skills expected from the students

# What are the possible difficulties of the innovation?

- **students' financial aspect**
- **students' time management**
- **equipment-related/technical problems**

# What are the enabling factors?

- **the capability of the members to sign-in at the Online Group ANYTIME and ANYWHERE.**
- **the functionalities of the Online Group service to handle the different learning activities.**
- **the students urge to go online.**

# What are the hindering factors?

- **financial matters**
- **accessibility of an online computer**
- **technical competence of the members**

# What are recommended improvements?

- 1. Use a more powerful and secure Online Group service.**
- 2. Plan and apply better system of managing the group and the members' capacity to control the Online Group.**
- 3. Use faster Internet connection and computer.**
- 4. Schedule ahead a year-round learning activities to be administered online.**
- 5. Collaborate with other groups.**
- 6. Monitor daily group activities.**

# Thank You

*“The transformation of the classroom does not depend on the technology used. The integration of ICT should be within the outline of using appropriate learning approaches.”*

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