REFLECTIONS FROM THE FOUNDATIONS OF STRATEGIC SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ONLINE COURSE

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CAN YOU HEAR ME?

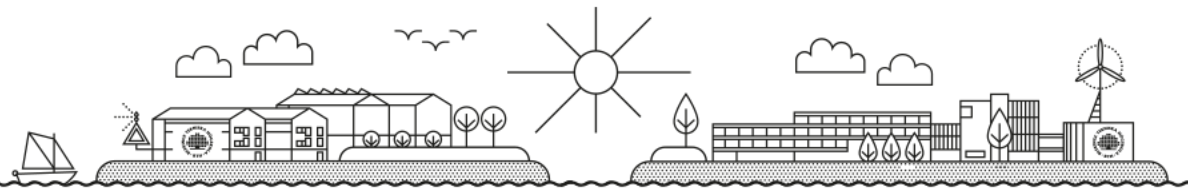
I am talking at this moment, if you can hear me, please type ”OK” into the chatbox (remember to hit ”Enter”).

If not, please check:

1)Your headset is plugged in correctly and turned on (if applicable)

2) Your volume is up

If you still do not hear me, type ”No” and we will assist you in a moment via private chat.



ELAINE DALY

Passionate sustainability champion dedicated to developing leaders with the capacity to enact change.

Originally from Ireland but calls Nättraby home.

What she loves about online teaching:

"*Being able to reach students eager to learn and develop skills we as society dearly need*"

Online Pet peeve:

"Canvas is an obtuse platform that continues to underperform and suck hours away from value creation work."

PIERRE JOHNSON

From Canada, if you wonder why I say “out” and ”about” that way. Teaching as a way for me to learn has been a recurring theme throughout my life and an opportunity to geek-out on things am curious about.

What he loves about online teaching:

“ *It is very challenging to get a sense of people being actively involved and it feels great when it happens.*”

Online Pet peeve:

“ When I worked in the telecom sector more than 20 years ago, we had ample evidence that web-based communications applications undermine trust and collaboration due to lack of human-centered or human-factors based design. Sadly, I have seen very little, if any, evidence of progress on this front.”

WHO ARE YOU?

“Can you share into the chat box
who you are,
what department you are from
and 1 thing you would like to leave this webinar with.”

COURSE STATS

Multiple Assessments
- Reflections & quizzes
- Individual presentation
- Group project
- Final Essay

Weekly modules
- with readings, videos, webinar and reflections

Course team:
7 staff members

120 students
- 79-80 finish

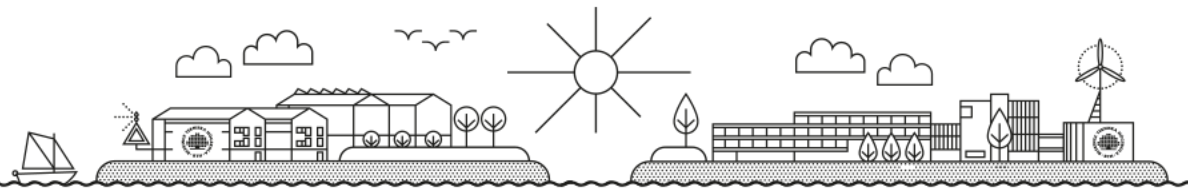
Weekly Tuesday lunch Webinars

Running for 12+ years

KEY THINGS TO CONSIDER IN DISTANCE COURSES

- Overcoming technological impediments
  - Always have two co-hosts for webinars
  - Be aware: all web-based video impairs communication and trust
  - Use the minimum of what you have to in Canvas, keep it simple
  - Include readings, videos, text book, webinar recordings in modules
  - Be more structured and organised than with campus teaching

- Making it interactive
  - Live chat Q&A with one co-host while other is presenting
  - Co-host interaction in webinars
  - Get them talking/typing ASAP in webinars
  - Limit lecture style and include more dialogue/activities/Q&A
  - Students do presentations in small groups and get staff feedback live
  - Group work – timing is everything
  - Forum discussions

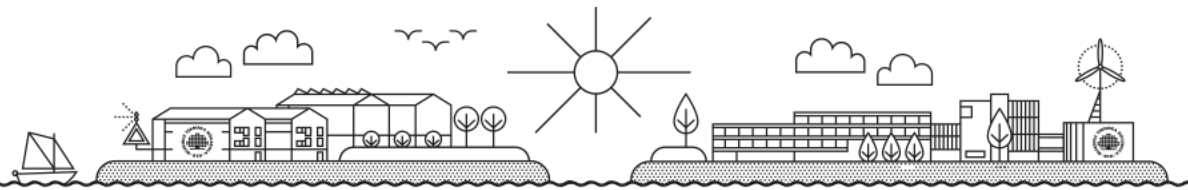


EXTRA ELEMENTS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- Pre course Welcome survey
  - Enables us to get a sense of those actually interested in completing the course
  - Also gives us a sense of the knowledge level in our subject area
  - Gives a sense of the barriers and enablers facing our online students this semester so we can tailor as required.
  - Example survey: http://bit.ly/2Rg4hl2.

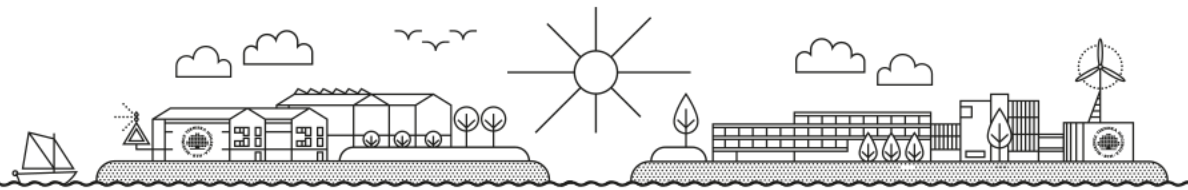
- Pre course Tech Check and welcome webinar
  - Each student introduces them selves with one slide each and we go over all the tech systems we will use in the course
  - Reduces barriers to student interaction in the online format
  - Starts to create a sense of class spirit and social capital between the students and with staff

- Active discussion threads
- Weekly webinars (no new content 2 staff, highlight review and Q&A)
- Mixed assessment types
- Module themes
- Course email account
- Lots of curating hours to see who is really active



OUR CURRENT MUSINGS….

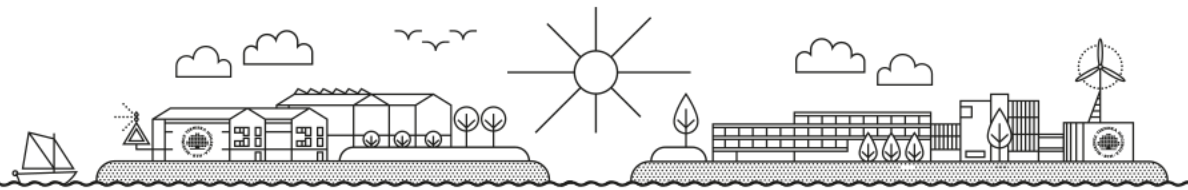
- *How can you create interactive moments with students you have never met?*
- *Can you create social capital online?*
- *How do you beat Zoom fatigue?*
- *How do you capture the silent ones (the people who never speak online or interact)?*
- *How to balance activities that increase student learning (feedback etc.) with course admin duties (email, Canvas tech glitches etc.)?*



OVER TO YOU…

- Thoughts?
- Reflections?
- Questions?

  - We welcome them all, now or later ☺



KEEP IN TOUCH?

WE ARE HAPPY TO CONNECT

- Elaine: EDY@bth.se
- Pierre: PXJ@bth.se

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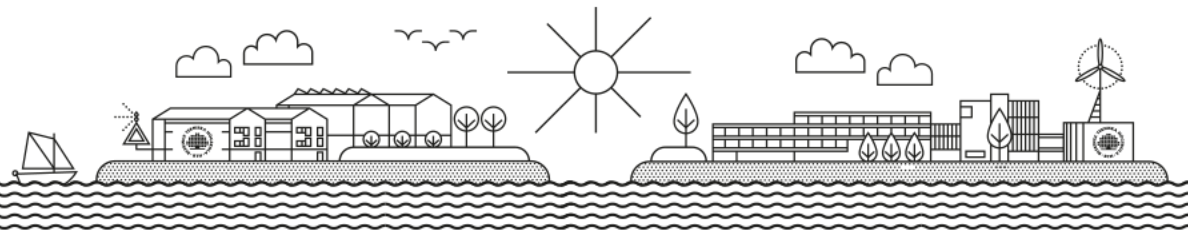

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