

## Impressions of HyFlex in an Engineering Technology Program in an Undergraduate Urban Commuter Institution

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**Abstract :** Hybrid flexible (HyFlex) is a pedagogical methodology whereby an instructor delivers content in three modalities, i.e. live in-person (LIP), live online synchronous (LOS), and non-live online asynchronous (nLOaS). HyFlex is focused on providing the largest level of flexibility needed to achieve a cohesive environment across all modalities and incorporating four basic principles - learner's choice, reusability, accessibility, and equivalency. Much literature has focused on the advantages of this methodology in providing students with the flexibility to choose their learning modality as best suits their schedules and learning styles. Initially geared toward graduate-level students, the concept has been applied to undergraduate studies, particularly during our national pedagogical response to the COVID19 pandemic. There is still little literature about the practicality and feasibility of HyFlex for hardware laboratory intensive engineering technology programs, particularly in dense, urban commuter institutions of higher learning. During a semester of engineering, a lab-based course was taught in the HyFlex modality, and students were asked to complete a survey about their experience. The data demonstrated that there is no single mode that is preferred by a majority of students and the usefulness of any modality is limited to how familiar the student and instructor are with the technology being applied. The technology is only as effective as our understanding and comfort with its functionality. For HyFlex to succeed in its implementation in an engineering technology environment within an urban commuter institution, faculty and students must be properly introduced to the technology being used.

**Keywords :** education, HyFlex, technology, urban, commuter, pedagogy

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