



Virtual Exchange to the Rescue: Leveraging Technology and Global Partnerships to Create Signature Experiences in International Business in the Age of Disruptions

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Definition

Virtual Exchange is NOT:

- A technology platform or software
- Teleconferencing
- Distance Learning
- Virtual Mobility (students using online platforms and tools to take courses at a distant university)
- Massive open online course MOOCs with no sustained interactions between small groups of students
- Social media groups
- Study abroad “lite”



Definition

Virtual Exchange is:

- Virtual Exchange (VE) is a practice, supported by research, that consists of sustained, technology-enabled, people-to-people education programmes or activities in which constructive communication and interaction takes place between individuals or groups who are geographically separated and/or from different cultural backgrounds, with the support of educators or facilitators.

Source:

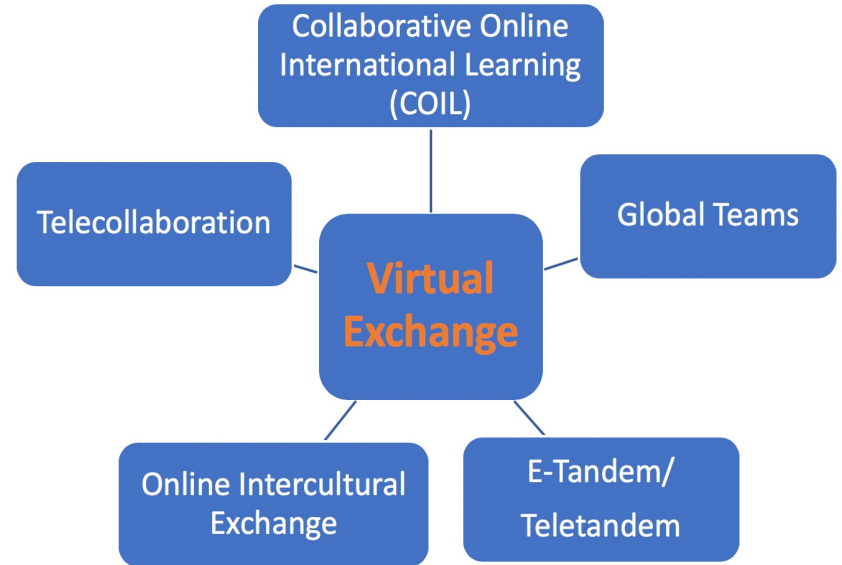
<https://evolve-erasmus.eu/>



Definition

Virtual Exchange is:

- An umbrella term for various online intercultural exchange projects (i.e., COIL, telecollaboration, global teams, etc.)
- A High-Impact Practice widely tested; benefited students from many backgrounds
- Effective on-line, hybrid, and F2F



Definition

Virtual Exchange is:

- Sustained
- Technology-enabled
- People-to-people
- Learner-led
- Facilitated
- Educational
- Structured

Source:

<https://evolve-erasmus.eu/>



Why Virtual Exchange (now more than ever)?

- Affordability (cost, time, etc.)
- Provides equity and inclusion for global learning (at home international experience)
- accessibility
- Prepares students for an interconnected global workplace
- Safety
- Encourages appreciation for diversity
- Values multiple viewpoints



Benefits of Virtual Exchange (Why use it?)

For Students

- Increases global competency and engagement
- Promotes digital literacy
- Fosters cultural appreciation and understanding
- Develops professional skills
- Facilitates intercultural collaboration and communication



Benefits of Virtual Exchange (Why use it?)

For Faculty

- Offers an economical way to bring in content and practicing experts
- Builds research and teaching networks at international institutions
- Creates professional development opportunities
- Globalizes your curriculum
- Developing Global Fluency- One of eight competencies of GSU's College to Career Quality Enhancement Program

