Learning to Tackle Global Challenges through Virtual Exchange

University of California Santa Cruz and Queen Mary University of London
Who are we?

University of California – Santa Cruz

Queen Mary University of London

Academia Learning Design Global Opportunities
What did we do?

• Virtual Leaning Exchange (VLE) or Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) pilot running in the first semester of 2022-23 academic year

• Funded by the US-UK Fulbright Commission and American Council on Education (ACE) Global Challenges Teaching Award

• Explored the global challenge of pandemics through two modules: ‘Health Inequalities and the Social Determinants of Health’; and ‘Pandemics, Politics and Community Health: Global rhetoric’s of Health and Illness’
Guided development process led by Fulbright and ACE → Mapping of shared objectives, assumptions, tools and processes → Planning for both content delivery and community building
How did we do it? Delivery

- Synchronous collaborative Zoom meetings book-ended by respective lecturer-led sessions on either end, depending on time zone.
- Activities included:

  - Flip videos about health narratives and weekly Brise Glace
  - Pandemic simulation framework
  - Formative assessments: Pecha Kucha, Photos Essays, Funding proposal
What did we learn?

- Students expectations of learning
- Commitment and assessment
- Mixed-mode vs all online
What’s next?

• Doing it again! With changes to amount of content, assessments and mode

• Evaluation project underway via Queen Mary Academy Fellowship and Learner Intern projects

• UCSC training for academics who want to lead COIL projects

• Applications for global opportunities (e.g. scaffolding for traditional exchange; low-cost, high-impact cultural competency alternative).
Thank you