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# Sir Ken Robinson CREATIVITY EXPERT

The gardener does not make a plant grow. The job of a gardener is to create optimal conditions.





Moodle in the end is just a tool in the hands of people and it's not going to solve every educational problem on its own, but there are still a lot of things we can do to make Moodle more usable and accessible.

> Martin Dougiamas (2015) CEO & Founder of Moodle



#### ACS Athens American Community Schools

Our Mission:

# The Ecology and Evolution of Library Database Resources Internal Use Tools

#### The Case of ACS Athens

Welcome to the ACS Athens Virtual School e-learning portal!

ACS Athens Webmail

# Calendar November 2017 Image: Constraint of the state of the stat

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Navigation

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Home

🔁 Site news

ACS Athens is a student-centered international school, embracing American educational philosophy, principles and values. Through excellence in teaching and diverse educational experiences, ACS Athens challenges all students to realize their unique potential: academically, intellectually, socially and ethically -- to thrive as responsible global citizens.

MARIA D. AVGERINOU, PH.D. & MARY MANOS WITH EVA GIANNAKIS, MARIA GIANNAKIS, TED SOULANTICAS & ESTHER PYYKKO (ACS ATHENS STUDENTS)

> AMERICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (ACS) ATHENS #MootGR17

> > DECEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2017

UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES, ATHENS GREECE



# **Session Overview**

- Introduction
- i<sup>2</sup>Flex-ing with Moodle
- Developing the ACS Athens Moodle Template (QM, TPACK, Col, Cognitive Psychology & Multimedia Research)
- Course Examples
- Q&A \*with student input\*

## American Community Schools (ACS) Athens

 Established in 1945, American Community Schools of Athens is a large (800+) private school offering international JK–12 education to local, national and international students in Greece. ACS Athens embraces American educational philosophy, principles and values.

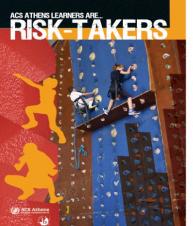


# **Education in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

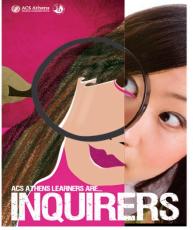
 purpose of education is to successfully prepare students for the future

 by implication, we cannot continue educating them in ways that address education and market needs of the past.

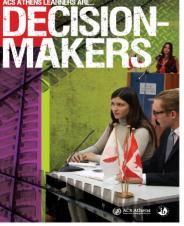










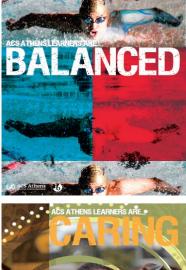


ACS Athens Learner Profile INQUIRERS KNOWLEDGEABLE THINKERS COMIMUNICATORS PRINCIPLED OPEN-MINDED CARING RISK-TAKERS BALANCED REFLECTIVE

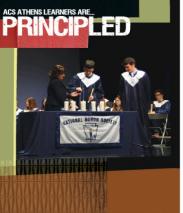
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ACS ATHENS LEARNERS ARE











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ACS

#### Character traits of a typical ACS Athens Student

# **Blended learning**

"Blended learning is the **thoughtful integration** of classroom face-to-face learning experiences with online learning experiences "

Kanuka, Heater and Garrison, Randy D. (2004) «Blended learning: Uncovering its transformative potential in higher education», University of Calgary



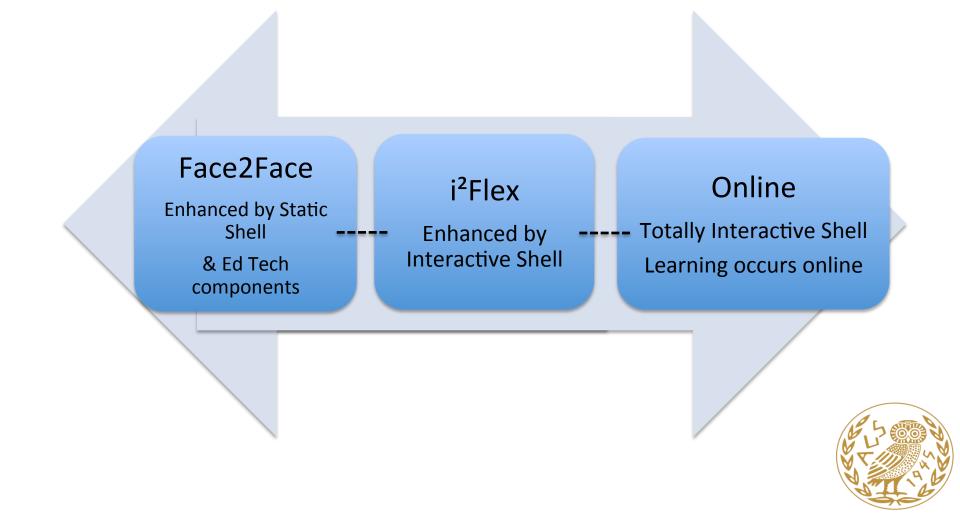


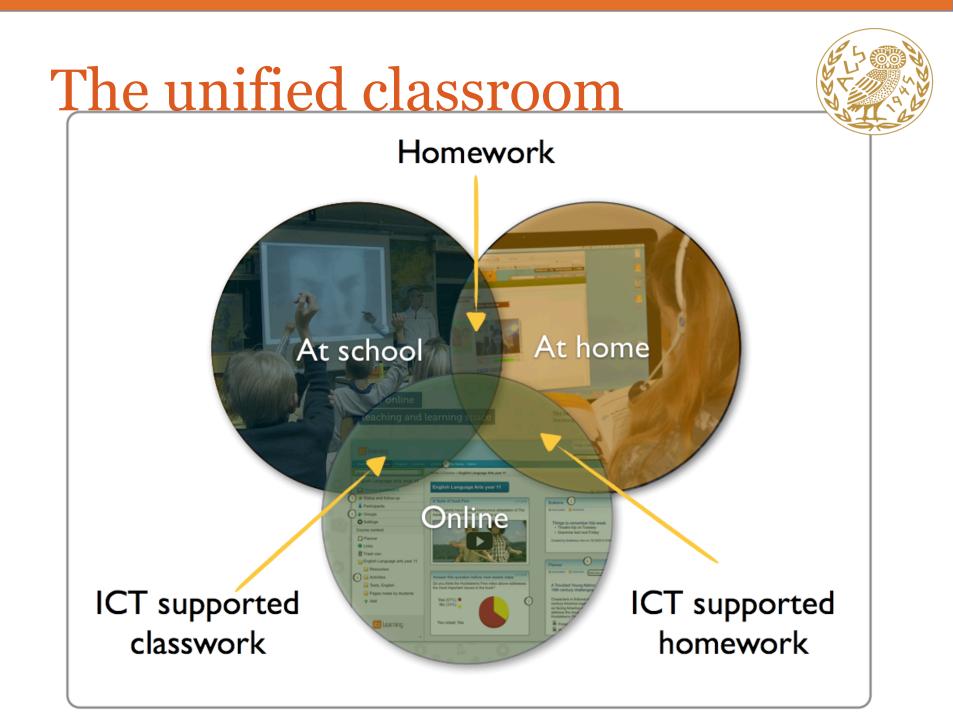
# The Components of i<sup>2</sup>Flex

independent inquiry-based Guided Face-to-Face Flexible LEARNING Supported by Instructional Media & Technology



#### From Face2Face to Online





# i<sup>2</sup>Flex: Facts & Figures

#### 2013-2014 (Pilot i<sup>2</sup>Flex year)

- **23 faculty (**8 Middle School; 14 High School faculty; 1 Student Services)
- 20 courses (3 online; 17 i<sup>2</sup>Flex)

#### 2014-2015

- All Middle School and Academy classes integrated the ACS Athens Moodle Template into their daily teaching and learning activities
- 50% of Middle School and Academy faculty teach via the i<sup>2</sup>Flex methodology

#### 2015-2017

- Pre-i<sup>2</sup>Flex in the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade
- ALL MS and Academy classes have used Moodle

#### 2017

- Pre-i<sup>2</sup>Flex in the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Student Services
- Master Library



# ID & IT: A Necessary Synergy

- Moodle use and usability is reviewed every summer (based on student and faculty feedback)
- Moodle system is updated every summer too

#### The Process for Faculty to Transform their Course into i<sup>2</sup>Flex

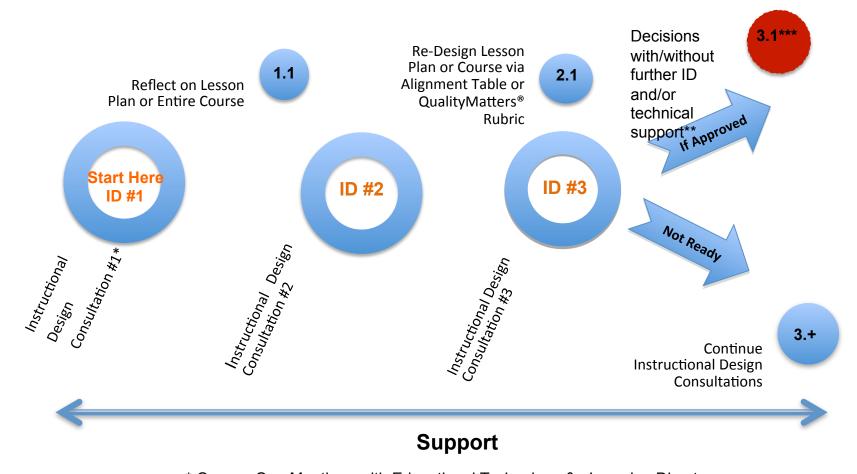
- Lesson Plan
- Instructional Activities
- Student Assessment
- Moodle training





#### i<sup>2</sup>Flex

#### **Instructional Design & Development Process**



\* One-on-One Meetings with Educational Technology & eLearning Director \*\* Information Services, K-12 Technology Co-ordinators, i<sup>2</sup>Flex Faculty Champions

\*\*\* Formative evaluation and monitoring of Implementation (with Educational Technology Director, and students)



**QualityMatters**<sup>®</sup>

#### **QUALITY MATTERS =** A NATIONAL BENCHMARK FOR ONLINE COURSE DESIGN (US)

Quality Matters (QM) is a leader in quality assurance for online education and has received national recognition for its peer-based approach to continuous improvement in online education and student learning.



## i<sup>2</sup>Flex Course Standards – QM<sup>®</sup>

- General Standard 1: The overall design of the course is made clear to the student at the beginning of the course
- General Standard 2: Learning objectives are clearly stated and explained. They assist students in focusing their effort in the course
- General Standard 3: Assessment strategies use established ways to measure effective learning, evaluate student progress by reference to stated learning objectives, and are designed to be integral to the learning process
- General Standard 4: Instructional materials are authoritative, upto-date and appropriately chosen for the level of the course
- General Standard 5:

Meaningful interaction between the teacher and students, among students, and between students and course materials is employed to motivate students and foster intellectual commitment and personal development (learning activities) • General Standard 6:

**Course navigation** features and the technology employed in the course foster student engagement and ensure access to instructional materials and resources

#### • General Standard 7:

The course facilitates student access to institutional services essential to student success

• General Standard 8:

The face-to-face and online course components are accessible to all students

#### • General Standard 9 — Compliance Standards:

This section of the rubric is optional and may be tailored to particular requirements or mandates at the state or local level. These requirements may deal with subject matter standards, inclusion of specific information in the course outline or syllabus, mandated communications, etc.

#### QM via Moodle: Faculty Performance Evaluation



Faculty Performance Evaluation: i<sup>2</sup>Flex Criteria

#### 1. DESIGN: The course is well-designed.

1.1. There is evidence of independent, inquiry-based, and flexible, face-to-face learning.

1.2. The overall design of the course follows the ACS Athens Template (mandatory sections are present and populated with the requisite content).

N.B. Implicit in the ACS Athens Template are the QM Rubric Standards 1. Design; 2. Learning Objectives; 3. Assessment; 6. Course Navigation; and, 7. Student Support.

#### 2. WELL-SUPPORTED BY RESOURCES: Resources and materials are authoritative, up-to-date and appropriately chosen for the level of the course.

2.1. The instructional resources and materials contribute to the achievement of the stated course and module/unit learning objectives.

2.2. The instructional resources and materials have sufficient breadth, depth, and currency.

2.3. All resources and materials used in the course are appropriately cited.

#### **3.** INTERACTIVITY: Meaningful interaction between the teacher and students, among students, and between students and course materials is employed to motivate students and foster intellectual commitment and personal development.

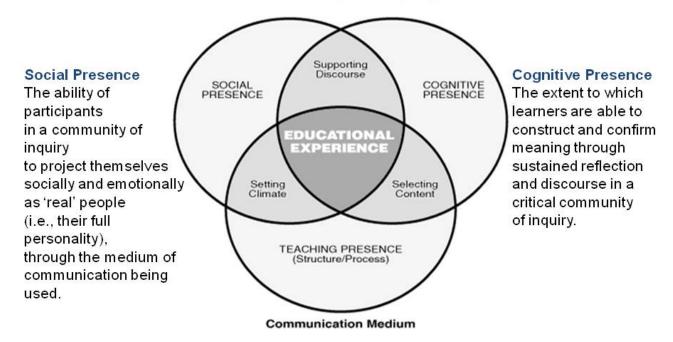
3.1. Learning activities foster teacher-student, content-student, and if appropriate to the course, student-student interaction.

3.2. Clear standards for teacher responsiveness and availability (turnaround time for email, grade posting, etc.) are communicated to the student.

3.3. The requirements for student interaction are clearly articulated.



#### **Community of Inquiry**



#### **Teaching Presence**

The design, facilitation and direction of cognitive and social processes for the purpose of realizing personally meaningful and educationally worthwhile learning outcomes.

Garrison, Anderson and Archer (2000)

#### The Community of Inquiry Framework (Col)

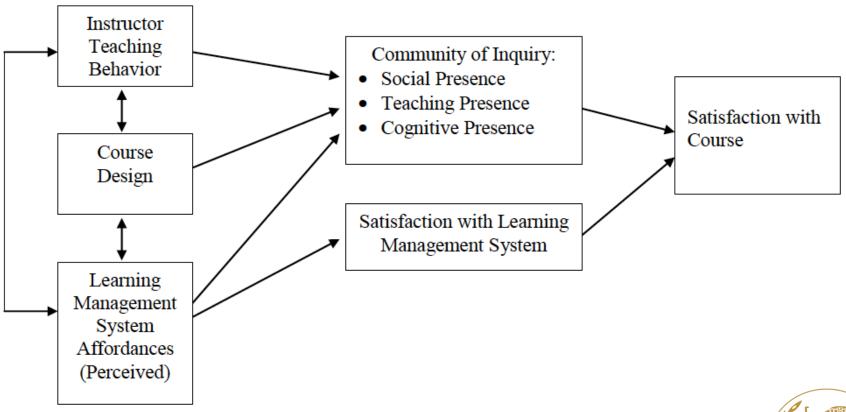
#### Table 2. Tools and methods applied to design COI

Elements of COI Frame- work	Categories	Indicators	Examples of Realization
Teaching (In- structor) Presence	Design & Organi- zation	Setting curriculum and methods	Time schedule posted on the forum in ad- vance; students are welcome to comment, ask questions and make proposals re the schedule; netiquetle criteria are clearly laid out; students are informed on what the pla- giarism is and how to avoid it; each part of the course is provided with welcome video.
			Special thread- entitled "How We Will Learn" is initiated in the forum where useful ap- proaches to learning (mind mapping, etc.) are posted; students are welcome to apply the tools and discuss results
	Facilitation Dis- course	Shaping constructive exchange	Students are welcome to discuss ideas post- ed on the forum by the classmates; areas of disagreement are considered and ways to overcome disagreement are proposed
	Direct Instruction	Focusing and resolving ideas	Timely responding to students' concerns; PP presentations of key course concepts are posted on the forum; recordings of webinars are available to students to apply as extra learning resource; students get audio feed- back to each written assignment
Social pres- ence	Open Communica- tion	Learning Climate (risk-free expression)	Instructor's Profile is comprehensive and carefully designed; all the instructor's com- ments are positive; students respond to each other in respectful manner
	Group Cohesion	Group Identity (collabo- ration)	Quizzes are posted on the forum aimed at revealing those who contributed much into learning; Honor Badge developed and posted on the forum as a highly desired award; stu- dents rewarded with Honor Badge get extra 5 marks for their written assignments; group community is created at the Google+ where audio and/or video resources can be posted; students are welcome to review tasks done by their peers and comment them
	Personal/Affective	Self Projection/ Ex- pressing Emotions	Students share their experience of applica- tion the course concepts to their practice; peculiar cases from their managerial practice are posted on the forum; peculiar news are posted on the forum by students and instruc- tor
Cognitive Presence	Triggering Events	Sense of Puzzlement	Before webinar, students are welcome to present their own experience to be discussed in terms of the course; application of each key model of the course is discussed; gamif- cation is applied to stimulate leaning (Honor Badges are developed via Internet and at- tached to most valuable posts on the forum); funny texts and/or videos based on key con- cepts are posted on the forum; animated videos produced with Zapton were posted on the forum and Google+
	Exploration	Information Exchange	Students use textbooks, PP presentations used at webinars, papers and audio/video posted on the forum as extra resources; sildes presenting key course concepts are created at VoiceTHread, students are wel- come to comment them; list of valuable URLs is posted on the forum
	Integration	Connecting Ideas	Each webinar and key concepts discussed at the webinar are reflected on to deepen un- derstanding and facilitate application
	Resolution	Applying new ideas	Students do written assignments where they apply concepts learned at the course



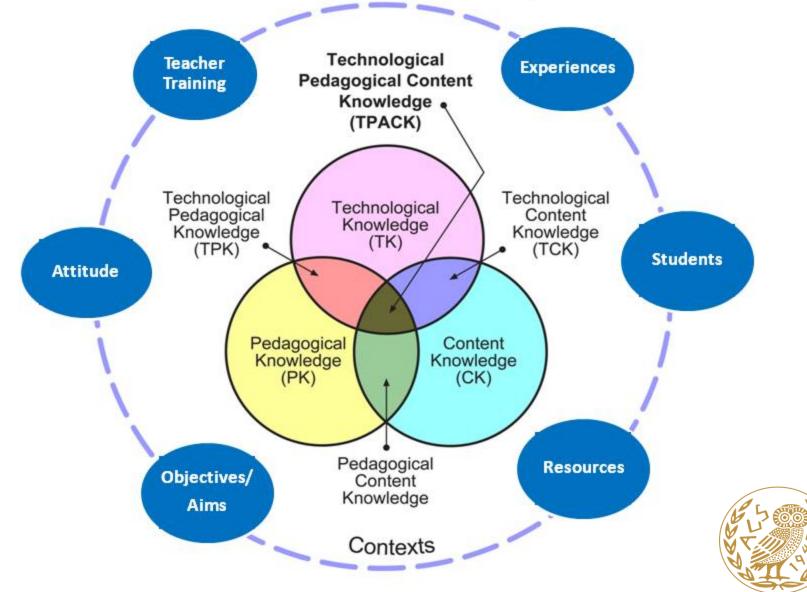
#### Factors Influencing Community of Inquiry and Student Satisfaction

(Rubin, Fernandes, & Avgerinou, 2013)





#### Context Influence on TPACK Knowledge



#### **Cognitive Psychology in the Design Mix!**

- If learners can't see the real world applications, they won't see the value of the eLearning course.
- People have an inherent need to learn and experience new things.
- Positive reinforcement is a powerful tool.
- Learners gravitate toward collaborative experiences.
- Learners need to be able to relate to the information.



# Multi-media Research too!

- Our brains do not have the capacity to multitask.
- Learning that is spread out over time drastically increases knowledge retention.
- Multimedia tools improve our brain's memory power.
- Pay attention to cognitive load!





# **Preliminary Results**

As our school-wide Action Research on i<sup>2</sup>Flex illustrates, when this methodology is applied in a systematic, pedagogically sound way, it can:

- help promote and sustain the dynamic equilibrium of all TPACK elements;
- empower faculty to redefine their role as 21<sup>st</sup> century educators;
- improve instruction;
- improve student satisfaction with their school experienceswhich is more likely to result in improved motivation and academic performance;
- serve as the vehicle for educational transformation in the school culture;
- empower students to take **ownership of their learning**

## **Course Examples**

- Pre-i<sup>2</sup>Flex
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

#### i<sup>2</sup>Flex

- High School Math
- i<sup>2</sup>Flex Greek
- IB Psychology
- New Faculty Orientation Program



## **Moodle@ ACS Athens**

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the ACS Athens of e-learning portal!

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#### **Our Mission:**

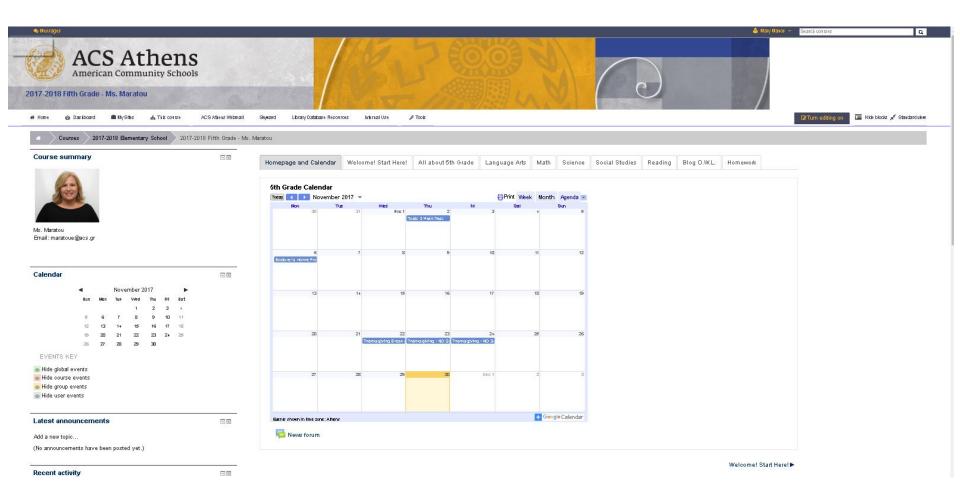
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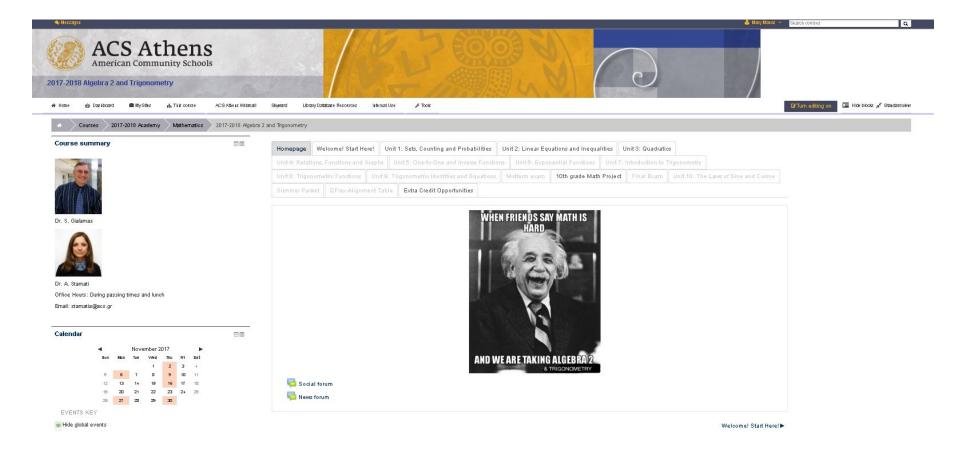
students inspiring students to do the right thing

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# 5<sup>th</sup> Grade (pre-i<sup>2</sup>Flex)



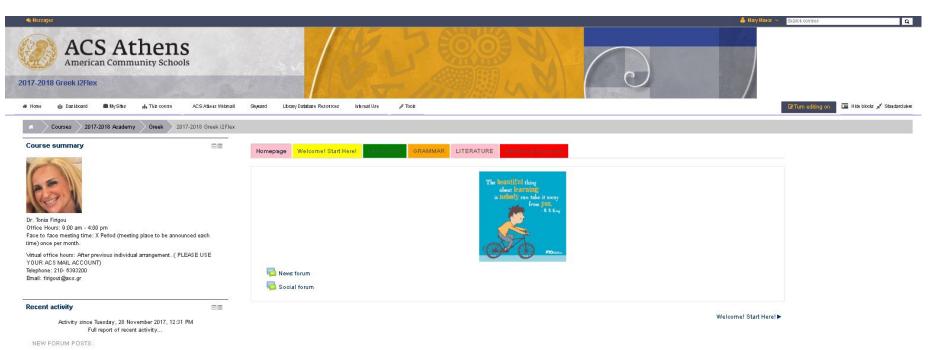
# High School Math (cont.)



# **High School Math**

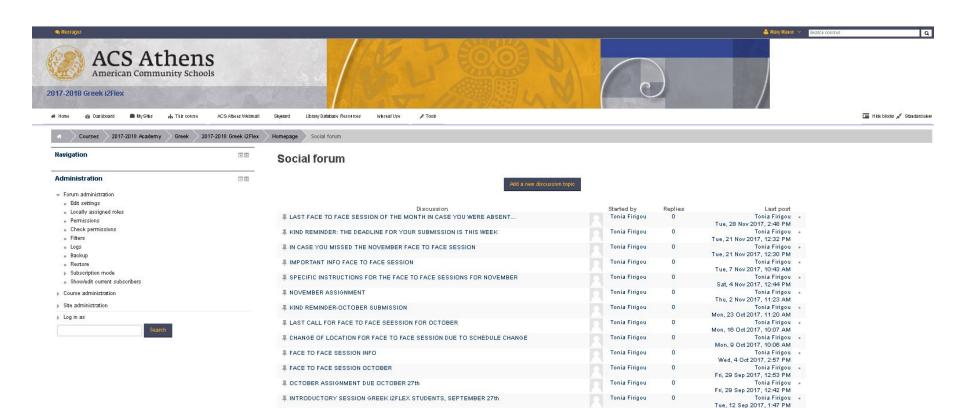
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# i<sup>2</sup>Flex Greek (cont.)



Tonia Fingou 28 Nov, 14:48 LAST FACE TO FACE SESSION OF THE MONTH IN CASE YOU WERE ABSENT...

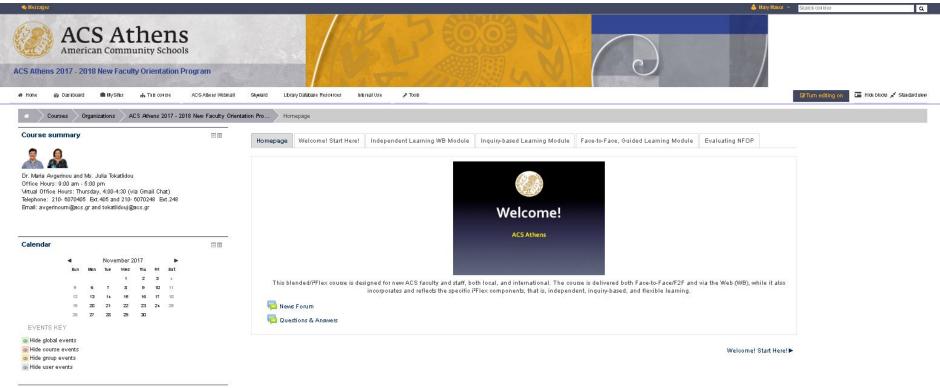
### i<sup>2</sup>Flex Greek



# **IB Psychology**

Course summary	- <					ر ۱	
esures cultury		Homepage	Homepage Welcome! Start Here!		logical Level of Analysis	P2: Health Psychology (HL)	
		P3: Qualitativ	e Research (HL)	Assessment	Additional Resources	i2Flex Course Sheet	
Angela Chamosfakidis, MEd Meeting Hours: 8:30 am - 9:00 am (room 211) Virtual Office Hours: Monday, 4:00-4:30 (via Gmail chat) Telephone: 210- 6393200 Email: chamosfakidisa@acs.gr		<complex-block></complex-block>					
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## **New Faculty Orientation Program**



Latest announcements

- 6

Add a new topic...

1. NFOP Evaluation 2. ES Faculty only>> Update on 8.31 schedule 25Aig, 17.51 Marta Augerhoi

#### **Moodle PD & Resources for Teachers**

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XE Currency Converter	Welcome To Moodle	
	Quiz Question What does Moodle stand for?	
	Answer	



# **Relevant Resources**

 New Moodle template https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2qLDGbs9a\_A

Creating Assignments in Moodle https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7-nQHGuJUJw

i<sup>2</sup>Flex and You https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CJGUAin3SQE



#### **Additional resources:**

http://www.isquaredflex.gr

http://www.igi-global.com/book/revolutionizing-blended-learning-through-flex/ 143643

**QUESTIONS? SUGGESTIONS? IDEAS?** 



