



Blended learning: experience of the Belarusian State University of Informatics and Radioelectronics (BSUIR)

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Who & What

- 1st year students of the Department of Human Engineering and Ergonomics of BSUIR.
- course “Engineering Psychophysiology”
- virtual platform “Sharepoint”



“Blended Learning”

- is associated with particular forms of teaching with technology and more specifically a mixture of e-learning and traditional forms of learning



Blended Learning

- a process of interaction between teachers, students and teaching techniques;
- a targeted, organized and interactive process;
- invariant to the number of participants, location in space and time.



Process

- lectures were held and recorded in the University video-conference center;
- for practical classes we used an auditory equipped with modern computers and Internet access;
- the students were given the credentials for the platform.



“What are my expectations of the course”

- to learn something new;
- to learn something that will help me in my career;
- it will be interesting;
- it will be entertaining.

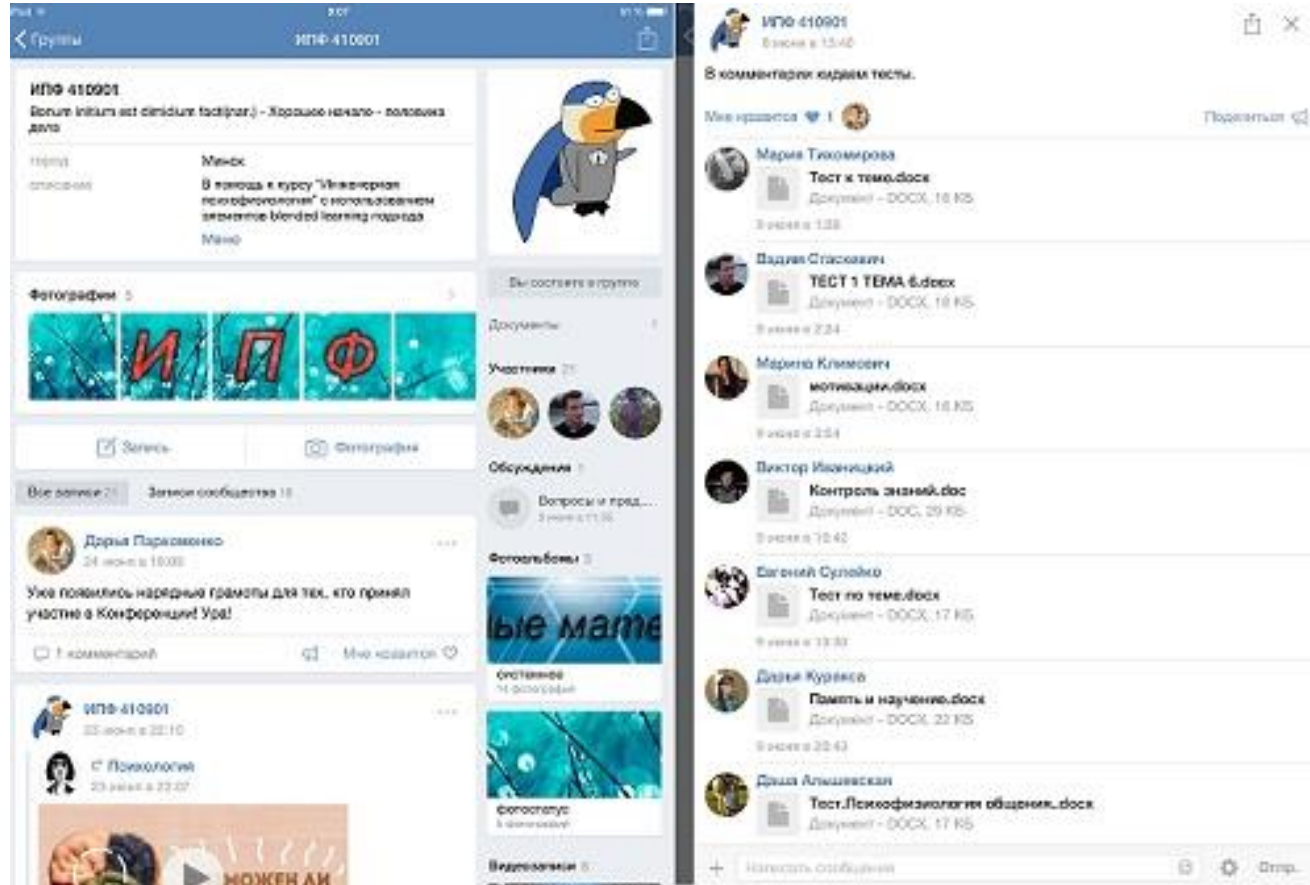


Difficulties

- students tried to avoid using the platform and preferred to send homework to my regular university e-mail or my social network account;
- some technical problems of platform access;
- uploading the video records either of the lectures themselves or the video material that illustrated some themes.



Solution – closed group in vk – social network



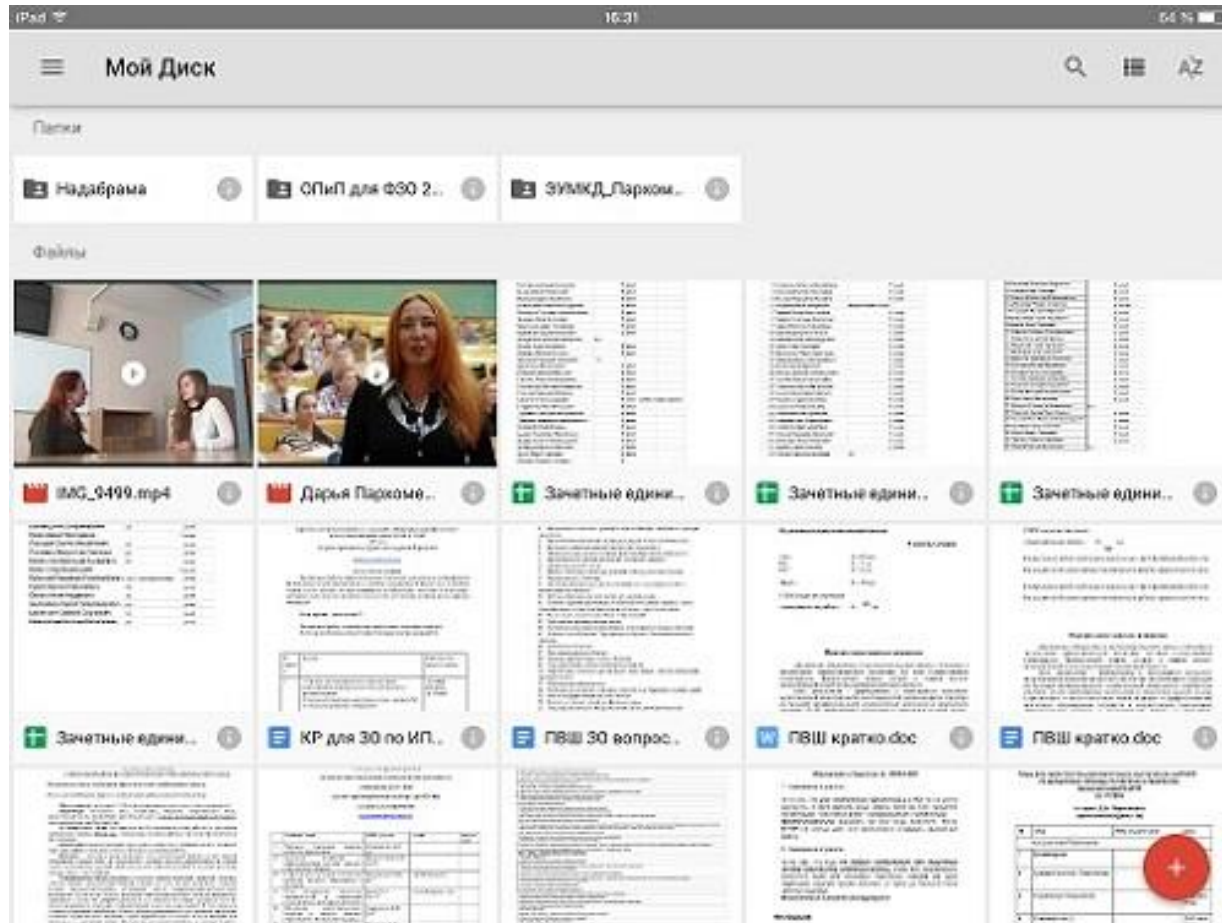


Solution – youtube channel “BSUIR Blended Learning”





Solution – Google instruments





Positive points of using social network

- an easy and fast way of student-teacher interaction: it's a common environment for communication among youth, they check the news in social network many times a day, there are special applications for smart phones and tablets that also ease the access to social network;



Positive points of using social network

- positive psychological effect: as students often associate social network with entertainment, something that they willingly do. It works as a positive set. A set has a prolonged effect, so it helps to keep motivated to studying;



Positive points of using social network

- it gives the possibility to place various content: documents, sheets, presentations, video, audio, pictures, links;
- it offers mailing service, some forum-like facilities, discussions etc.;
- it is an excellent way to inform the group quickly.



Feedback

- 90% of the students - exceeded expectations ;
- 10% didn't attend the classes at all and were dismissed;
- 62% - more interest and motivation to learn in comparison to other subjects realized in traditional manner;
- 36% pointed that the way the course was conducted helped them in acquiring the skill of self-organization and self-control;
- 90% would like to have more courses realized with the BL approach;
- 90% considered the SharePoint platform to have poor ergonomics, not a friendly and not an intuitive interface.



Conclusion

- take into account the feedback by identifying to our technical support staff some areas for the platform improvement.
- educational programs realized for students of Computer System Institute (Chicago, USA) within the cooperation agreement between BSUIR and the American Computer System Institute.



Thank you for your attention

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