



School of Nursing and Midwifery

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Much ado about the flu: Developing an online role-play for a large class, challenges faced and lessons learnt

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What is an online role-play ?

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- Online role-play provides a scenario and a set of roles that students adopt in order to solve a problem, create something or explore an issue in an online environment. (AUTC 2003)



How does an online role-play differ from a face-to-face role-play?

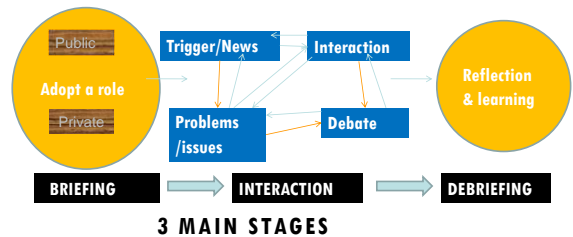
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- Held in an online environment
- Anonymity
- Held over several days or weeks



What happens?

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The context

- Experiential learning activity for 500 undergraduate nursing and midwifery students
- Course “Determining Australia’s Health”
 - What is health?
 - Determinants of health
 - Australian health care system
 - Public health
 - Epidemiology



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What are our learning objectives?

- Understand the role of the Registered Nurse/Midwife in disease prevention and containment as well as addressing community concern in response to an influenza pandemic.
- Use the principles of primary health care to develop a community action plan in response to community concern about an influenza outbreak.
- Use effective communication techniques when communicating with group members including
 - logical and rational negotiation with others
 - Group skills /team work



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The Challenges

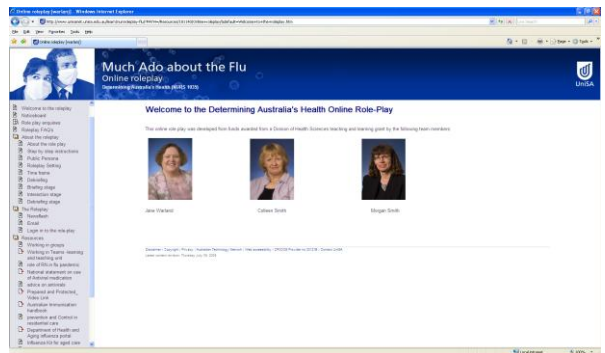
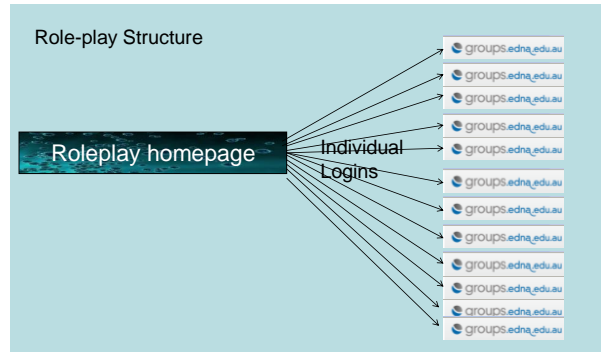
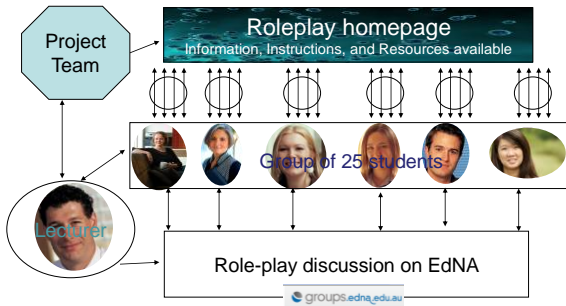
- 500 nursing and midwifery students
 - External (distance)
 - Internal
 - First and third year
- 20 different tutorial / discussion groups
- Large teaching team (n=13)
- Aging LMS unable to support anonymity

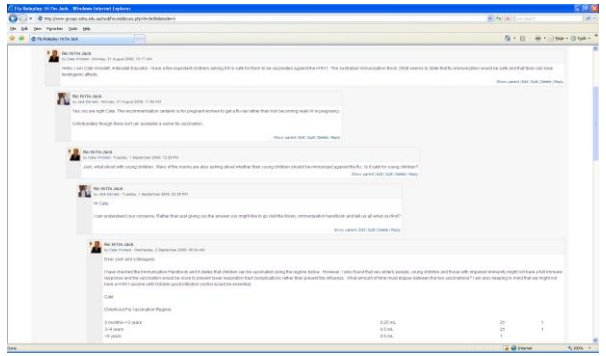



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The “solutions”

- Students undertaking the role-play in Tutorial groups (n=25)
- Teaching team professional development workshop
- “Run through” with teaching team playing “students” roles
- On campus workshop
 - All students attend
 - Held immediately before the role-play commences
 - Allows establishing of groups (external students)
 - Presentation of information to both students and staff by project team
- Instruction sheets for both students and staff with screen grabs
- Hosted by Edna- moodle






Debriefing- how and where?


- External students will return back to the course home page discussion board for the debriefing stage.
- Internal students will come to their next tutorial prepared for the debriefing session.


Assessment




- explain how their participation in the role-play assisted them to understand the role of the RN/RM in infectious disease prevention, disease containment and addressing community concern, using examples from their own posts and those of others to support their argument.



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Questions?



References:

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AUTC (2003) *Online role-play: designers guide* AUTC viewed September 1st, 2009. <<http://www.learningdesigns.uow.edu.au/guides/info/G1/more/DesignersGuide.html#what>>

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