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**Cues**

Do urban universities have a similar struggle with blended learning? Is it only restricted to the South African context?

Keywords: COVID-19 impact, shift to remote learning

What about instructors' experiences and perspectives?

Mixed methods

**Notes**

Introduction

- Universities in South Africa have used blended learning since 2015-16
- Rural universities struggled with blended learning due to limited resources
- COVID-19 forced a shift to fully remote online education
- Digital transformation in education accelerated due to the pandemic

Research Purpose

- Students' experiences with online education in undergraduate mathematics during the pandemic

Methodology

- Data from questionnaires and interviews
- Case study of two undergraduate mathematics classes

Results

- Pre-COVID: Blended learning was limited at rural universities

<p>Benefits: easy to revisit the lecture; timed feedback on the assessments</p> <p>Challenges: cheating, network issues, and adaptation to digital learning tech</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Microsoft Teams: Convenient for recording and revisiting lectures</li> <li>• Blackboard: Timed assignments and e-assessment methods</li> <li>• Challenges: Cheating in e-assessments, network issues, adjustment to online learning</li> </ul> <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital transformation in education is crucial</li> <li>• Online education to complement traditional learning</li> <li>• Importance of adapting to digital tools and methodologies</li> <li>• Future: Potential for continued use of online education post-pandemic</li> </ul>
<p><b>Summary</b></p> <p>The article discusses the shift from blended learning to fully remote online education in South African universities due to COVID-19. It highlights the challenges faced by rural universities and the acceleration of digital transformation in education. The study focuses on students' experiences with online learning and assessment in undergraduate mathematics, using Microsoft Teams and Blackboard. Despite challenges like cheating and network issues, the importance of digital tools and the potential for continued online education are emphasized.</p>	