Virtual Learning Space Design

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Online learning space design presents a great challenge to online course instructors. Research shows that learning space significantly impacts learning process and outcomes. Although learning space plays an important role in promoting student learning, it is a topic that is rarely discussed. Traditionally, teachers are given a classroom to teach and have little control in altering the physical learning space. Online learning grants instructors privilege in designing the learning space to accomplish his/her instructional goals. Instructors have a vast expanse of virtual space where they can build their own classrooms and learning communities. However, most instructors are not prepared for their new roles as learning space designers. This presentation details our experiences of designing virtual learning spaces as well as our reflection and insights we have gained through the design.