COLLABORATIVE ONLINE LEARNING

Liliia HONCHARUK
Military Institute of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv

Different countries. Shared goals.

INTRODUCTION

The internationalization of higher education is an urgent necessity and a prerequisite for the successful training of qualified professionals in the 21st century.

Many Ukrainian higher education institutions are actively implementing this model to integrate into the global educational landscape.

WHAT IS COIL?

Developed at the State University of New York (SUNY) in **2006**, the Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) model is an approach to virtual academic exchange that enables participants from different countries to interact, work on joint projects, and share experiences without the need to travel abroad physically [3, p. 43].



WHY IT MATTERS

- Supports the internationalization of higher education and integration into the global educational space.
- Helps develop key skills for the modern world (e.g., communication, collaboration, intercultural understanding).
- Makes learning more practical, relevant and motivating for students.

WHAT MAKES COIL UNIQUE?

COLLABORATION
Instructors from different countries jointly develop and teach a course module, while participants work in mixed teams on shared tasks.

ONLINE FORMAT
Interaction takes place in a digital environment, ensuring accessibility for all participants.

INTERNATIONAL LEVEL
Participants from diverse cultures gain unique experience in communication and intercultural understanding.

CURRICULUM INTEGRATION
COIL modules are an integral part of educational programs, rather than an elective element.



English is not only a subject of study, but also a tool for international collaboration. Participants communicate with native speakers or representatives of other linguistic and cultural backgrounds while working on joint tasks.

BENEFITS

Builds authentic communication
Real interaction with people from different cultures.

Improves speaking skills
More practice, more confidence, more fluency.

Develops intercultural competence
Opens cultural perspectives and builds respect.

Increases motivation
Makes learning engaging, meaningful and relevant.

Enhances practical learning
Provides real-world experience and useful skills for the future.

COMMUNICATION FORMATS

Synchronous calls
Zoom / Google Meet

Monologues
Video messages / presentations

CONCLUSION

Thus, this approach creates an environment of authentic, dynamic communication while enhancing motivation and the practical focus of the learning process.

DEVELOPING SPEAKING SKILLS

COIL is a powerful tool for overcoming the language barrier.

01 — Natural communication
Immersion in a real foreign-language environment fosters spontaneous speech, where the goal is to be understood rather than to receive a grade.

02 — Overcoming the language barrier
Regular conversations with people from other cultures quickly alleviate the fear of making mistakes, thereby building self-confidence.

03 — Intercultural competence
Discussing topics in international groups requires listening, asking questions, articulating one's point of view and adapting speech for accurate understanding.

04 — Various communication formats
Participants practise both conversational interaction (synchronous calls on Zoom or Google Meet) and monologues (video messages or presentations).