



# **Teaching Human Biology in a Post-Pandemic World**

2021 Instructor Survey Results

## About the survey

In May 2021, Visible Body conducted an online survey of instructors in the US who were subscribed to the Visible Body email list. We asked them about teaching during the pandemic and how they envision the future of education. 139 instructors responded.

While the year was difficult and fraught in many ways, the vast majority of instructors say that the experience has broadened their perspectives and that their teaching methods will be permanently changed as a result.

This slide deck provides the full set of data for the survey. For an analysis, check out [this post](#) on the Visible Body blog.

# Instruction methods before, during, and after the pandemic

Although most instructors hadn't taught online before the pandemic, their experience of switching to online teaching during the pandemic has motivated many of them to want to teach online in the future.

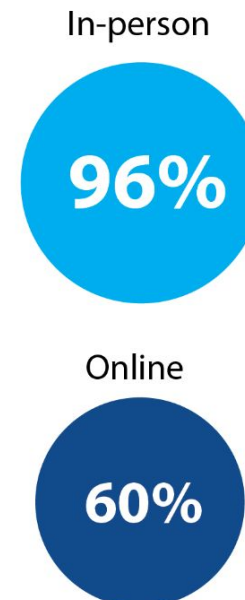
## Experience with teaching methods before pandemic



## Teaching methods during the pandemic



## How instructors want to teach after the pandemic



*Note: both "in-person" and "online" include respondents who taught/would like to teach in a hybrid (both in-person and online) mode.*

# Instructors' overall impression of online teaching



**Love online teaching and could see myself teaching only online**



8%

**Enjoy online teaching and feel a successful course could be primarily online**



4%



**See benefits to both online and in-person methods and think hybrid would be a good solution**



25%

**Prefer in-person teaching, but would teach online if necessary**



45%



**Would rather not teach online at all**



18%

## What are the biggest challenges of online teaching?

We asked instructors to identify, in their own words, the biggest challenges they faced while teaching online. Their responses indicated that maintaining personal connections and engagement and adapting content and curriculum were common difficulties.



## What are the biggest advantages of online teaching?

We asked instructors to identify, in their own words, the biggest advantages of online teaching. Many instructors mentioned that flexibility, efficiency, and self-paced learning were positive aspects of online teaching.





# Instructors' attitudes about teaching in a post-pandemic world

Strongly Disagree Slightly Disagree Slightly Agree Strongly Agree

**Going “back to normal” shouldn’t be the goal; the goal should be to go back to something better.**



**After the pandemic, instructors should be granted more flexibility in how to deliver courses based on what they’ve learned during this time.**



**The pandemic has broadened my perspective on effective methods and materials for teaching.**



**I predict that in time we will feel that though the pandemic was disruptive, it proved to be a catalyst for improving the delivery of education.**



**I, personally, have been changed as a teacher by the pandemic experience and my teaching will be different from now on.**



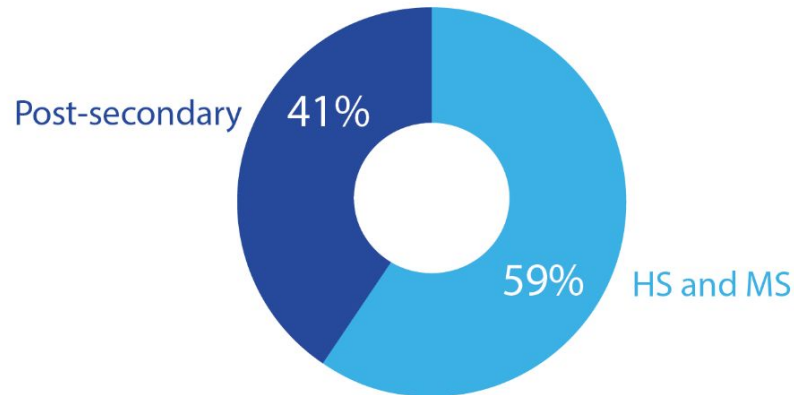
**From my perspective, there are no silver linings to be found in the experience of teaching during this pandemic.**



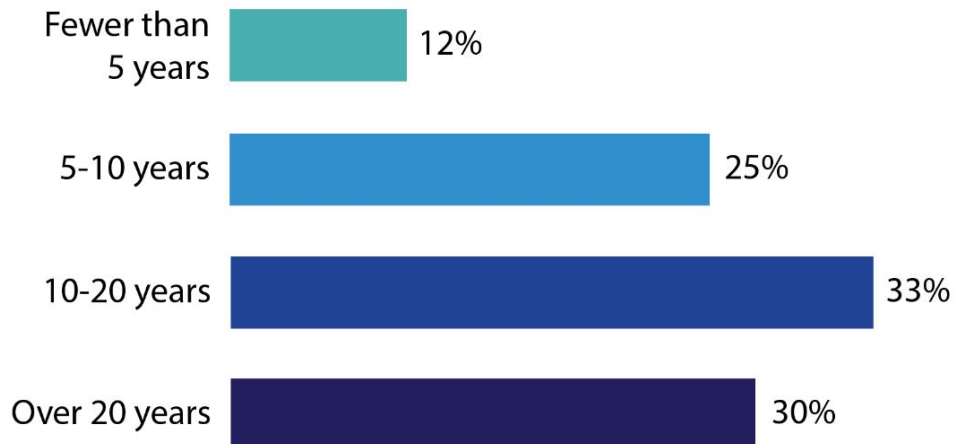
## Profile of participating instructors

### Of the 139 instructors...

- 74 teach high school
- 8 teach middle school
- 53 are college instructors
- 4 teach at a graduate school or professional program



### Instructors are a mix of new and veteran teachers.





[Click here](#) to read more about the results of  
this survey on the Visible Body Blog

