If you are interested in synchronous blended learning you may like to explore the website for the Blended Synchronous Learning project. The project was funded by the OTL to focus on three technologies—videoconferencing, web conferencing and 3D virtual worlds—as well as learning designs involving the use of these technologies to simultaneously engage students and teachers in collaborative activities irrespective of their location. An Australia and New Zealand-wide scoping survey was conducted, and seven case studies were followed and investigated through participatory evaluation.

The Blended Synchronous Learning Handbook is now available for download here. The Handbook includes a Blended Synchronous Learning Design Framework that offers pedagogical, technological and logistical recommendations for teachers attempting to design and implement blended synchronous learning lessons (see Chapter 14). It also includes a Rich-Media Synchronous Technology Capabilities Framework to support the selection of technologies for different types of learning activities (see Chapter 4), as well as a review of relevant literature, a summary of the Blended Synchronous Learning Scoping Study results, detailed reports of each of the seven case studies, and a cross case analysis.

The seven case studies below can be found here:

- Case 1: Web conferencing to develop investment understanding (collaborative evaluation task)
- Case 2: Room-based video conferencing to develop understanding of healthcare quality improvement approaches (collaborative evaluation task)
- Case 3: Web conferencing to develop microscopic tissue analysis and interpretation skills (group questioning)
- Case 4: Web conferencing for participation in statistics tutorials (collaborative problem solving)
- Case 5: Virtual worlds to facilitate Chinese language learning (paired role-play)
- Case 6: Web conferencing to enable presence in sexology (lecture discussions)
- Case 7: Virtual worlds for teacher education (collaborative evaluation and design)

The BlendSync Final Report and External Evaluation Report are available along with the Handbook from the OLT website.

All those with an interest in the area are invited to join the Blended Synchronous Learning Collaborator Network to keep abreast of events and updates in the future. Instructions on
how to do this can be found here. Email: info@blendsync.org