Hybrid Teaching: Bringing the WHU classroom to the next level

What is it all about?
Hybrid sessions are synchronous, live, interactive sessions where some participants are on-site in the lecture hall and some participants join virtually.

How does it work in general?
The professor is set up in the regular lecture hall with on-site participants who are also able to see the virtual participants on the side screens. The virtual participants hear and see the professor and the classroom through the “eyes and ears” of the lecture hall equipment.

Can regular teaching be translated into hybrid teaching?
The hybrid teaching format enables us to offer the same high quality of teaching and interaction until all students are able to join us again on campus. Being the first German business school to convert its classroom courses to digital formats at the start of March, WHU demonstrated its entrepreneurial thinking. The expertise of our IT and the Center of Digitalization combined with the mutual trust of our staff and faculty, this innovative approach was proven to be effective and received positive student feedback. The hybrid teaching setup was and will be continuously improved based on learnings and student feedback.

Will sessions be designed differently?
Professors will design their sessions with the hybrid classroom in mind, for example adjusting the lengths of teaching blocks. Classic in classroom methodologies can also be carried into hybrid sessions including highlights such as guest lecturers.

How are participants engaged?
The hybrid classroom setup encourages interaction with not only on-site participants but also the virtual participants. Additional elements might be added into lectures such as polling questions and group work via breakout room discussions, and the traditional elements such as moderated class discussions will also continue.