Attachment 3: Summary of student responses to the open questions

Question	**In what ways should your faculty better support your online learning?**
Topic (*n*)	**Description**
Improvement in Digital Infrastructure and Technical Support (*n*=41)	Better livestream services, reliable podcasts, efficient handling of technical issues, and compatibility of apps for different operating systems like Windows/Microsoft Store.
Enhanced Online Learning Materials and Tools (*n*=93)	More diverse range of learning materials such as flashcards, better quality of video content, and updated e-learning tools. Access to premium learning platforms like Amboss and e-books, and continuation of podcasts.
Better Curriculum Alignment and Learning Guidance (*n*=15)	Aligning online materials better with the curriculum, offering clearer learning objectives, and providing guidance for self-study.
Effective Communication and Information Sharing (*n*=11)	More transparency and communication about available resources, more support from faculty, better instructions, and facilities for increased student networking.
Active Collaboration with Online Learning Platforms (*n*=15)	Closer collaboration with platforms like Amboss to customize content according to Swiss learning objectives.
Enhancement of Practical Learning and Examination Resources (*n*=12)	Provision of more practical skills videos, improved self-test questions, and providing official examination questions to better prepare for exams.
Better Online Study Environment (*n*=8)	Suggestions for more library seats with windows, quieter and more conducive learning spaces, and integration of online resources into the regular curriculum.
n=7 answers say: no improvement necessary	
Question	**What does the online learning material offer that you don't typically find in books or lecture notes?**
Topic	**Description**
Resource Diversity and Information Comprehension (*n*=70)	Diverse supplementary resources and explanations, multiple content formats, multiple perspectives and explanatory approaches.
Efficient Information Retrieval and Navigation (*n*=77)	Quick responses, facilitated search for specific terms, efficient navigation between topics.
Interactivity and Engagement (*n*=13)	Improved visuals, interactive elements, interactive modules, and quizzes.
Flexibility, Accessibility, and Portability (*n*=15)	Easy accessibility and portability, convenience for learning on the go, access anywhere and anytime, on various devices.
Note-Taking, Organization, and Customization (*n*=21)	Features for easy note-taking, highlighting, and annotation, better organization, personalized study methods, sharing of notes digitally.
Self-Assessment and Active Learning (*n*=25)	Promoting active learning through self-testing, self-assessment quizzes, repetition questions, opportunities to find answers independently, integration with flashcard programs, customizable flashcards.
Updated, Summarized, and Detailed Content (*n*=6)	Up-to-date information, overviews, summaries, detailed content of topics.

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Exam Preparation and Practice (*n*=6)	Features such as exam simulations, question banks, self-assessment tools, practice questions, tailored quizzes.
Convenience, Cost-Effectiveness, and Environmental Benefits (*n*=2)	Easily portable, cost-effective, eco-friendly, eliminating the need to carry physical books, time-saving benefits, reduced physical burden, convenient centralized access.
Integration of Multiple Sources and Linking (*n*=2)	Easy access to and evaluation of multiple sources simultaneously, links to additional information and related topics.
Personalization and Customization (*n*=2)	Personalized settings, adjusting lecture speeds, hiding or focusing on specific terms, tailored approach to learning.
Language Comprehension and Acoustic Information (*n*=10)	Beneficial for non-native speakers in understanding fundamental concepts, auditory component aids in better retention.
Visual Enhancements (*n*=34)	Includes 3D views, interactive anatomy tools, videos, and visual aids.
Question	**How do you learn with online materials? Do you make notes, do you use online test questions or other methods?**
Topic (*n*)	**Description**
Note-taking and Summarizing (*n*=108)	Importance of note-taking and creating summaries, using digital tools for notes, reviewing notes for understanding.
Use of Online Resources and Apps (*n*=19)	Use of online quizzes, apps, platforms for studying, reference and studying anatomy. Including online books, portals, videos, podcasts, online platforms.
Flashcards (*n*=32)	Use of Anki to create flashcards for learning and reinforcement.
Self-testing and Quiz Banks (*n*=76)	Use of self-tests, online test questions, practice quizzes, platforms for testing knowledge, identifying areas of improvement.
Research and Study Materials (*n*=7)	Reading and research to supplement lecture materials, accessing various resources like graphs, images, test banks.
Personalized and Adaptive Approaches (*n*=4)	Adaptation of methods based on individual preferences, combining resources, integration of various materials, subject-specific approaches.
Exam Preparation (*n*=6)	Use of online test questions, practice quizzes, solving practice questions, creating summaries for exam preparation.
Organization and Efficiency (*n*=3)	Appreciation of efficiency and convenience of online resources, use of tools to organize study materials.
Visual and Interactive Learning (*n*=8)	Use of videos, 3D modeling, collaborative learning with peers.
Limited Resources and Offline Learning (*n*=1)	Need for offline access to study materials and mentioned a lack of good online materials depending on university's offerings.
Question	**How does the subject you study affect your preferences for online learning or classroom teaching? How does it make a difference to you whether you study theoretical material online or prepare for clinical training?**
Topic (*n*)	**Description**
Format of Learning - Online vs. In-Person (*n*=33)	Students express a preference for a mix of both online and in-person learning. They find online learning effective for acquiring foundational knowledge and theoretical concepts, while in-person learning is crucial for developing practical skills and refining techniques. Format preference also varies depending on the specific subject matter.

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Engagement and Interaction (*n*=18)	Students appreciate the opportunity to engage in discussions with peers and instructors during in-person classes. In-person interactions allow for a deeper understanding of the material and the opportunity to share and learn from each other's experiences. However, some students feel more engaged and focused during online lectures.
Practical Skills and Real-Life Application (*n*=118)	Students believe practical skills, patient interactions, and real-life applications are best learned through in-person experiences. They value hands-on training, immediate feedback, and the ability to practice and reflect on their skills in a real-world setting.
Motivation and Instructor Quality (*n*=7)	The quality of teaching and the instructor's ability to motivate students play a significant role in shaping students' learning preferences. Engaging and interactive instructors are preferred for in-person teaching, while online learning is favored for theoretical subjects.
Flexibility and Convenience of Online Learning (*n*=10)	Students appreciate the flexibility and convenience of online learning, allowing them to study at their own pace and revisit the material as needed. They find online tools useful for preparing for in-person courses, providing a foundation of knowledge before engaging in practical training.
Learning Environment and Distractions (*n*=14)	Students find it easier to concentrate and follow lectures in person. The presence of distractions at home can make online learning challenging for some students. However, they appreciate the convenience and flexibility of online learning, which allows them to adjust the pace of lectures and study at their own pace.
Question	**In what ways should your teachers better support online learning?**
Topic (*n*)	**Description**
Interactivity and Engagement 2(*n*=6)	Students appreciate interactive elements, such as live quizzes and active participation in lectures, as they find it engaging and helpful in retaining information. They also value the use of online tools like Mentimeter or Kahoot for discussions and quizzes.
Recommended Resources (*n*=16)	Students would like teachers to not only suggest textbooks but also provide recommendations for relevant online literature and resources. They express the need for more online resources for practical courses and tests, and suggest that teachers contribute to the digital learning resource pool.
Technical Requirements and Support (*n*=4)	Students emphasize the importance of teachers using good-quality headsets and clear microphones, and having basic technological competence with presentation tools and online platforms. They also value the availability of technical support and expect timely responses to their inquiries.
Accessibility and Usability (*n*=18)	Students suggest that lectures should incorporate interactive elements seamlessly into the teaching process, without requiring additional tools. They appreciate the availability of recordings, pre-uploaded slides, and interactive PDFs for note-taking and interactive learning.
Teacher Coordination and Training (*n*=11)	Students recommend better coordination among teachers to create a consistent and cohesive learning environment. They also suggest that teachers should receive training in both traditional and online teaching methods to enhance their instructional skills.
Student Involvement and Feedback (*n*=11)	Students suggest that teachers should actively involve students through surveys and opportunities to ask questions. They value clear communication about the availability of offline quizzes and discussions in the online format.
Improvement in Material Presentation (*n*=10)	Students appreciate clear and comprehensive slides, relevant podcasts, and better structuring of materials to aid in post-lecture review and understanding.

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Hybrid Learning Options (*n*=7)	Students suggest a hybrid approach, combining in-person teaching with online resources. They also highlight the benefits of online tools for students with financial constraints or other challenges.
Teacher Resistance and Technical Proficiency (*n*=26)	Students express frustration with certain teachers who resist livestreaming or recording lectures and fail to respond to questions sent via email. They call for faculty motivation to create better opportunities for online learning and for teachers to improve their technological skills.
Support for Offline Students (*n*=1)	Students highlight the importance of considering the needs of offline students and providing alternative resources or opportunities for interaction.
Livestreams and Recorded Lectures (*n*=13)	Students find it beneficial when lectures are livestreamed or recorded, allowing them to access the material even if they cannot attend in person.