Over a period of four weeks in September and October 2016, Morningside College introduced a four-part self-paced micro-module unit in the College's Freshman Seminar, GEMC1001 (Current Dilemmas and Their Histories). Students viewed the micro-modules on the eLearning platform after weekly lectures and before tutorials the following week. The expectation was that students would arrive to tutorial more well prepared, leaving more time for meaningful small group discussions and debates in class.

Student participation and impact were tracked by in-class and online surveys, online usage data, and an end-of-term focus group. The micro-modules were designed by the College's Junior Fellows (Teaching Assistants) and produced using Articulate® E-learning software. Production was supported by a courseware development grant.

As intended, the introduction of the micro-modules in the GEMC1001 course allowed for an increased prioritization of discussions and debates over content review. Micro-modules also contributed to the increased preparedness of students in regards to the philosophical content, leading to more in-depth discussions of dilemmas. The consistent climate change frame of the micro-modules served as a reference tool for students and tutors to compare and contrast disparate philosophies. This contributed to students' enhanced analytical skills, evident in tutorial discussions as well as in course assignments. Students noted that the interactive nature of the micro-modules "helped [them] visualize concepts", and serve as key review for assignments.

Additionally, the micro-modules exposed students to a real world application of philosophy, which contributed to stronger applications of theory to dilemma analysis in course assignments. Students often expressed that the micro-modules were "very relevant to the essay assignment", as they "demonstrated how philosophical frameworks can be applied to [real world examples]."

The micro-modules had strong student participation and received positive reviews in mid-semester course surveys. Improvements under consideration include: (1) more precise date collection to measure micro-module impact; (2) editing of certain micro-module activities to improve user experience; and (3) revision based on student feedback.