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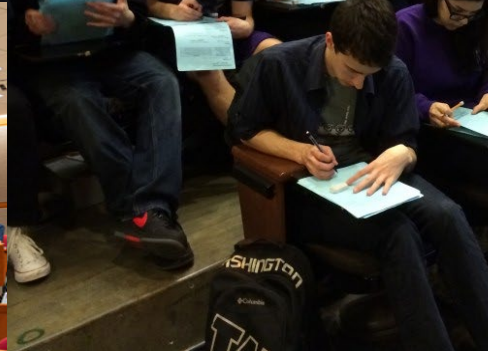
Virtual Internationalisation
How COILs can support cross-boarder exchange

Internationalisation in Higher Education
Perspectives from the THEA Ukraine Project and Beyond
International online conference, 28 September 2021

Agenda

- Context: Internationalisation of Higher Education in Europe and Ukraine

- Concept: Collaborative Online International Learning

- Case Study: COIL courses at Sumy State University

Context: Internationalisation of HE in Europe and Ukraine

- One of the cornerstones of becoming a European Community is student and staff mobility – usually carried out as physical exchange at another higher education institution.

- Leuven Communiqué (2009): by 2020, about 20% of EHEA students should have completed a study period or internship abroad.

- Accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic there has been a growing awareness of the possibilities of digital international exchange.

Context: Internationalisation of HE in Europe and Ukraine

"Enabling all learners to acquire international and intercultural competences through internationalisation of the curricula or participation in innovative international environments in their home institutions, and to experience some form of mobility, whether in physical, digitally enhanced (virtual) or blended formats."

Rome Communiqué 2020

European Commission Digital Education Plan 2021 – 2027:

1. Fostering the development of high-performing digital education ecosystems
2. Enhancing digital skills and competences for the digital transformation

Context: Internationalisation of HE in Europe and Ukraine

- As a signatory of the Bologna Declaration since 2005, Ukraine has been focusing on internationalisation and digitalisation in equal measure, especially in recent years.

- Law on Higher Education (2004)

- Regulation on Academic Mobility (2015)

- Strategy of Digital Transformation (2021)

Concept: Collaborative Online International Learning

Internationalisation@Home

Virtual Mobility

Virtual transnational education

Virtual Exchange

Internationalisation of the curriculum

Collaborative online international learning

Virtual internationalisation

International distance education

Concept: Collaborative Online International Learning

Collaborative

- Teachers of two or more different institutions cooperate in developing the COIL.

- Intended learning outcomes as well as the teaching/learning, cooperation and assessment methods are jointly determined.

- Students cooperate with each other across institutional, intercultural and linguistic to achieve the intended learning outcomes.

Concept: Collaborative Online International Learning

C ollaborative

O nline

- The interactions in a COIL collaboration take place (almost) exclusively online.

- They can comprise hybrid formats as well as synchronous and asynchronous learning.

Concept: Collaborative Online International Learning

Collaborative

Online

International

- Teachers and students with different national and cultural backgrounds work together across borders.

- These different perspectives are a valued, explicit element of COIL.

- Intercultural learning takes place among teachers and students.

Concept: Collaborative Online International Learning

Collaborative

Online

International

Learning

- The learning activities encompass both subject learning and the development of general competences such as intercultural awareness and critical thinking, and the ability to change perspectives.

- Teachers can look at their subject discipline and their own teaching competence from a different perspective and further develop these competences through the exchange.

Case Study: COIL courses at Sumy State University

- ## Overview of SumDU
  - ✓ Sumy, North-East of Ukraine.

SumDU is a Public University: campus (3 sites), 12,000+ students / 55 majors / 23 fields of knowledge / 1900+ foreign students / 50 countries 3000+ employees, including Members of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine, 150 Doctors of Sciences, Professors, and 700+ PhDs.

  - ✓ THE World University Rankings by Times Higher Education
  - ✓ Global Research University Profiles (GRUP) by ShanghaiRanking
  - ✓ QS World University Rankings
  - ✓ University Impact Rankings by Times Higher Education
  - ✓ Webometrics
  - ✓ European ranking U-Multirank

- ## History of virtual exchange at SumDU
  - ✓ 2019-2020-2021, to be continued....

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Case Study: COIL courses at Sumy State University

- <u>Outcomes & Best Practices</u>

✓ Global learning integrated into the curriculum
✓ Experiencial and applied learning
✓ Intercultural awareness and compenetcy development
✓ Interdiscipinary application of knowledge
✓ Cost effective and scalable internationalisation
✓ High impact practice for teaching and learning

- <u>Opportunities & Limitations</u>
✓ Buy-in from senior university leadership
✓ Technological and pedagogical challenges
✓ Logistics and planning

- <u>Findings & Conclusions</u>
✓ Need for internationalisation
✓ Lagging pedagogy
✓ Impact of technology

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Дякую!
Danke schön!

Your questions and comments are welcome!

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