

Projects r+i+i: Innovation

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Project Name

The use of Personal Working and Learning Environments in Higher Education

Project data

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Abstract

The project aims to introduce the use of Personal Learning Environments Personal -PLE- on the students formation at the Interuniversity Master in Educational Psychology (MIPE).

Currently, the master's program has a virtual community that, in addition to the resources of a virtual learning community, provides access to the virtual classroom, the syllabus and to the complementary activities. The Community space and the virtual classrooms are built on the Moodle platform. This innovation project aims to incorporate a new level of interaction interconnected with the two levels of the virtual community above mentioned, taking as a reference the emerging concept of Personal Learning Environments.

More specifically, it proposes that community members can build their own Personal Learning and Working Environments -PL&WE- in order to integrate at the same virtual space both the virtual classroom and the supplementary curricular activities.

This project will use Elgg, an open source platform for creating social networks, to the design of PL&WE. The main objective of the proposal is to move toward a better articulation of the private and public spheres that create a specific personal learning ecology in an online environment.

The project is developed at the postgraduate program conformed by the InterUniversity Master in Educational Psychology (MIPE) and the Interuniversity Doctorate in Educational Psychology (DIPE). These programs are a joint initiative of four universities of Catalonia -Universitat de Barcelona, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Universitat de Girona and Universitat Ramon Llull- aimed to the students and the professionals interested in acquiring a solid theoretical and practical formation in the field of the psychological knowledge applied to educational practice.

The overall aim of the project is to provide the students with a Personal Learning and Working Environment -PL&WE- managed by themselves that allows them to:

1. Deciding on tools, services and learning resources they need and customize them to suit their needs and interests.
2. Manage their relationships and interactions within the virtual community, creating their own social network to share and exchange learning resources and to create joint activity to knowledge construction.
3. Decide how their own learning resources and their personal knowledge construction are shared at different levels: the most public level (open to the Internet), the community public level (open to the virtual community), the specific groups public level or the public level directed only to some specific members, even the most private level: the personal level.
4. Create synergies between different educational and professional contexts in which they are learning and working.
5. Acquire the skills needed to learning to learn throughout their lives (Life Long Learning) , through the construction and ongoing management of their own PL&WE.

(end of abstract)

