Using MOOCs for development of transversal skills

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Background

Online learning approach:
• clear structure,
• defined objectives and learning outcomes,
• interaction / collaboration (co-creation),
• virtual sessions (webinars),
• extensive feedback,
• ...

Low completion rates

Take some and try to integrate them into the MOOC framework?
DESTINY

Delivering Employability Skills through Innovative Education using MOOCs for Youth → to enhance competitiveness

Managers: **TRANSVERSAL SKILLS** insufficiently developed

- General/soft skills that can be used in a wide variety of situations and work settings.

Highest mismatch between importance and satisfaction + interest of DOBA Business School

TEAMWORK
Innovative approach

Interaction + experiential learning

MOOC Study Clubs (MSCs):

- Interactive virtual sessions for practicing teamwork skills

H: MSCs enhance development of transversal (teamwork) skills & contribute to higher completion rate
MOOC design and development

**Pilot implementation**

- Slovene language
- Broader target audience
- Intensified promotion and communication to attract participants
- Reduced complexity and number of assignments
- Intensity levels of participation + certificates
- Upgrade and integration of MSCs

**Follow up implementation**
MOOC Study Clubs

• Technical support
• Summary of key topics
• Introducing team assignment + division in virtual teams
• Working on a team assignment
  - Ice breaker
  - Team challenge
  - Reflection, discussion
• Concluding discussion + feedback
Evaluation method

• Completion rate
  – Pilot: 3/61 → 4.9 %
  – Follow up: 37/145 → 25.5 %

• End of course survey
  – 46/145 → 31.7 %
Evaluation of the MOOC

- Overall implementation: $M = 6.23$
- The practicality of the course contents: $M = 6.23$
- The complexity of the MOOC: $M = 6.10$
- The complexity of provided activities: $M = 6.14$
- 97.7% of respondents would recommend the course

**Knowledge & Competences**

- Teamwork competences for virtual teams: 6.12
- Competences of communicating in a virtual environment: 6.10
- Theoretical knowledge about teamwork: 6.10
- Competences of learning in a virtual environment: 6.05
- Competences of teamwork (focus on usability): 5.95
Evaluation of MSCs

**GENERAL INDICATORS**

- The benefits of MSCs: $M = 6.45$
- The objective almost fully achieved: $M = 6.17$
- Considered as the most useful tool
- All aspects of MSCs (e.g. guidance of teachers, team assignments, reflection and discussion) were assessed as highly important for development of teamwork competences

**What contributed most to development of teamwork competences?**
- Combination of MOOC and MSCs (73.9 %)
Conclusions

• High satisfaction with the MOOC and MSCs + reported benefits of MSCs in developing teamwork competences

• MSCs + other adjustments (e.g. native language) => higher completion rate!

• Small markets: more opportunities to add interactive components into MOOC framework

• Further research for more precise estimates of contributions of different components (other measures of competence development?)
Any questions or comments?

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