Credits for Learning with Open CourseWare – Introducing a Learning Passport
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What will happen in the next hour?

- Cases of open learning recognition
- A tool & a new initiative (#VMPass)
- Exchange: quality procedures, assessment options, credits at your own institutions?
- An online clearinghouse
- How to join
#VMPass

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Anthony F. Camilleri

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Anne-Christin Tannhäuser
“Unbundled Learning” and existing cases of open learning recognition
Working model

Learners  Resources  Assessment  Recognition
Brick-and-mortar higher education

Open Learning: Process of “Unbundling”
ToEFL Model

Learners  Resources  Assessment  Recognition

diverse  diverse

Validation of prior learning

Excelsior College, NY State (Private university)

Challenge Exams

Excelsior Credits
2

Vendor specific recognition

Learners | Resources | Assessment | Recognition

Professionals
Vendor specific recognition

- OpenSource database MongoDB
- Opening up material of local f2f courses
Vendor specific recognition

Learners

Resources

Assessment

Recognition

Professionals

Pearson
VUE
Testcenter
University consortium

No profit consortium of HEIs
Pool of OER
26 partners around the globe
University consortium

Partnership agreeing to recognized OER based learning
Different arrangements for assessment
Course Format
Two lectures per week.
Three short papers (750 words), and one final paper (1500 words).

FAQ
• Does Princeton award credentials or reports regarding my work in this course?
No certificates, statements of accomplishment, or other credentials will be awarded in connection with this course.

Related Courses
Many learners wish to have formal, transferable recognition of their knowledge & skills!

Challenges:

• New players (private sector, non-profit) in unbundled learning provision

• Open learning recognition is a recent topic, lack of guidelines for interested actors
Many learners wish to have formal, transferable recognition of their knowledge & skills!

Potential

• Recognition would

  — create a link between traditional and open & flexible learning
  — Create trust in OER, MOOCs, OCW, Virtual Mobility

• Assessment and recognition might become a business model for OER, MOOCs, OCW...
The Learning Passport
– A Support tool for Open Learning Recognition
Tool to recognizing open learning

GOAL

• For use by staff within HEIs
• Create Transparency
• Create Trust
• Aid portability

• Based on existing tools and practices (ECTS, Diploma Supplement)
Information from OER provider (HEI)

Information from learner

Information from assessing/certifying institution
Information from OER provider (HEI)

- Applied Quality Procedures
- Estimated Hours of Workload
- Learning Outcomes described (Knowledge, Skills, Competences)
- Learning activities required by the learner
- Certification options

Information from learner

Information from assessing/certifying institution
Information from OER provider (HEI)

Information from learner

Information from assessing/certifying institution

- General personal information
- Period in which study occurred
- Information about the learning activities + evidence source (e.g. PORTFOLIO)
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<th>Information from OER provider (HEI)</th>
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- Assessment Components (form)
- Which LO were verified?
- Quality Control Procedures for Assessment

- Equivalence of certification within institution
- Position of certification within qualification framework
- Grading scheme (pass/fail, numerical)
Is this approach towards assessment/certification of OER-based learning considered feasible?
Is this approach towards assessment/certification of OER-based learning considered feasible?

Focus groups
- Senior management
- Administration
- Student registration offices
- Financial experts

Interviews
The VM-Pass initiative in a nutshell
Our Goal

Utilized OERtest results

Increase inter-institutional recognition of virtual-mobility and Open Education based (OER/OCW) courses

Give non-formal learning achievements meaning within the formal education system

Easier access to formal higher education through recognition of all valid forms of learning
Learning passport

Standardised form for collection of information about open learning experiences

Transparency & Recognition Tool
Learning passport

Test with VM-Pass partners

Are recognition offices enabled to recognize open learning?
Learning passport

Test with VM-Pass partners

Are recognition offices enabled to recognize open learning?

University of Leicester
International University of La Rioja
Vytautas Magnus University
Baden-Wuerttemberg Cooperative State University
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

European Distance and E-Learning Network (EDEN)
European Federation for Quality in E-Learning (EFQUEL)
MENON Network (European Economic Interest Group)
Learning passport

Web Tool “Clearing House”

- allow institutions to share the information gathered amongst each other

- Aim: European Recognition Database for Virtual Mobility
Learning passport

Web Tool “Clearing House”

Partner Up! Living Lab
Learning passport

Web Tool “Clearing House”

Open Courses Provider
• OCW, MOOCs, Virtual Mobility
• List your offering in Learning Passport format
• Map against European recognition instruments.

Partner Up! Living Lab
Learning passport

Web Tool “Clearing House”

Forward thinking university
- Willing to offer more pathways to students
- Possibly procedures for prior learning recognition in place
- Possibly own OCW, MOOCs, Virtual Mobility

Partner Up! Living Lab
Learning passport

Web Tool “Clearing House”

Forward thinking university
- Find information on open learning offer valuable for recognition
- List open learning offer that was recognized

Partner Up! Living Lab
Learning passport

Web Tool “Clearing House”

A growing record of a flexible learning pathway – jointly filled in and exchanged by all actors

Partner Up! Living Lab
Learning passport

Web Tool “Clearing House”

+++ Support Service & Help Desk +++

Partner Up! Living Lab
A Living Lab

• Co-creation, readiness to exploration & experimentation,
• Evaluation
A Living Lab

• Co-creation, readiness to exploration & experimentation,

• Evaluation

Quality checking & improving cycles

Changes to the clearinghouse functionality & its components
A Living Lab

Members shape the process and result!

Quality checking & improving cycles

Changes to the clearinghouse functionality & its components
Let’s hear your voice – Discussion Groups
• Is credit awarded for learning outcomes recognized through OCW in your own institutions? How/Why not?

• Which quality procedures enhance trust in certifications linked to OCW?
  
  What quality mechanisms for OER, OCW, MOOCs, Virtual Mobility
  
  • are you aware of
  
  • do you use/are in place in your organisation?

• What are feasible options for assessment and certification of learning outcomes achieved with OCW?

http://tinyurl.com/vmpass-ocwc
The VMPASS Clearinghouse

Anthony F. Camilleri
Difficulties in Recognition

• The vm/ocw course is not described in terms of existing recognition instruments, such as ECTS

• The ECTS is not recognised due to lack of trust in the teaching/learning methodologies used in course delivery

• ECTS is not recognised due to difficulties in integrating the content between several courses offered by different institutions.
Barriers to Recognition

• Lack of knowledge about VM/OCW providers and courses

• Lack of transparency regarding institutional procedures, pedagogy and assessment

• Lack of trust in institutional quality systems
A possible solution

• Concept of a “learning passport”

• A flexible record of a flexible learning pathway
Potential problems with a learning passport

• Requires information from several different actors, institutional and individual

• Validation of Prior Learning is labour intensive (and expensive), even under ideal conditions

• Different institutions use different validation procedures, making harmonisation of qualifications difficult
Validating the passport

• Proposal for a collaborative clearinghouse of recognition data for VM-based education

• Clearinghouse populated with completed learning passports

• Each passport validated by a recognition office, and results of that validation shared with the rest of the recognition community
Operational Schematic of Clearinghouse

Student asks for recognition of learning from VM or OER-learning experience

Recognition office check student records + CH

not in CH

Recognition office verifies credentials of institution, content + quality of course and forms of assessment

adds into CH for other institutions

makes decision on recognition

institution adds comment to CH record recognition awarded or not

student informed of decision

in CH

compares student into with record in CH

CH = Clearing House
JOIN OUR LIVING LAB
The idea...

• Bring together a coalition of institutions who are willing to test these ideas
• Test the passport
• Develop, Test and Pilot the Clearinghouse in a live setting
• Recruit a growing network of institutions
Why Join?

For Course Providers

• Extra visibility for your courses
• Gain data about the perception and recognition-value of your open-learning certification schemes
• Receive feedback on your open teaching and learning
• Enhance the value of your open-qualifications

For Recognising Institutions

• Enable and facilitate the recognition of open learning
• Increase attractiveness of your institution to (potential or current) students
• Gain valuable experience in recognition of open learning
We hope to:

• Create new flexible learning pathways for students inside Higher Education

• Allow institutions to increase the scope of their offer, by integrating teaching/learning done at other institutions into their curricula

• Improve resource-efficiency within HEIs

• Lead to an increase in the use and impact of Open Educational Resources (OER)
Join Our Living Lab

Contact:

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www.vmpass.eu

Presentation: http://www.slideshare.net/anthonycamilleri/vm-pass-ocwc-final

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