

Course Unit	E-learning and Virtual Learning Communities		Field of study	Educational Sciences	
Master in	Information and Communication Technologies- Education and Training		School	School of Education	
Academic Year	2023/2024	Year of study	1	Level	2-1
Type	Semestral	Semester	1	ECTS credits	6.0
Code	1083-622-1101-00-23				
Workload (hours)	162	Contact hours	T 20	TP 10	PL -
			TC -	S 6	E 18
			OT -	O -	

T - Lectures; TP - Lectures and problem-solving; PL - Problem-solving, project or laboratory; TC - Fieldwork; S - Seminar; E - Placement; OT - Tutorial; O - Other

Name(s) of lecturer(s) Bruno Miguel Ferreira Gonçalves

Learning outcomes and competences

At the end of the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:

1. Understands the development of distance teaching and learning.
2. Understands the importance of e-learning and virtual communities in educational settings and training for the information society.
3. Uses virtual communities and understand their dynamics.
4. Implements the learning and training beyond the school walls.
5. Regards the culture of distance collaboration in community as the most efficient way to meet the training needs required by the information society.
6. Implements systems for e-learning or develop learning communities.

Prerequisites

Not applicable

Course contents

The distance learning in e-learning The learning communities Collaboration and learning communities models of learning in virtual environments The pedagogy of on-line learning environments. Social networks as promoters of learning environments. Evaluation in the context of e-learning.

Course contents (extended version)

1. From distance learning to e-learning
 - Rapid evolution of distance learning
 - The emergence of a multiplicity of concepts: e-learning, b-learning, m-learning, . . .
 - Technologies to support e-learning
 - In addition to technology: the pedagogic potential of e-learning
2. Communities of learning and practice
 - Different types of communities
 - Dynamics that characterize communities
3. Collaboration and learning communities
 - Mediated communication by learning networks
 - Collaborative paradigm in networks
 - Cooperation versus collaboration
 - Personal learning environments
 - Virtual learning environment
4. Learning pedagogy in online environments
 - Transformation of the role of the trainer
 - New function of student
 - The emergence of a new pedagogical relationship
5. Social networks
 - Pedagogical potential of social networks
 - Social network analysis methodology
6. MOOC
 - Characteristics and evolution of the MOOC
 - Pedagogical potential of MOOC
 - Platforms for creating MOOC
7. Assessment in the e-learning context
 - Types of assessment
 - Assessment support instruments

Recommended reading

1. Anderson, T. , & Dron, J. (2014). Teaching crowds: Learning and social media. Athabasca University Press.
2. Bates, A. W. (2022). Teaching in a digital age: Guidelines for designing teaching and learning (3rd ed.). Tony Bates Associates Ltd.
3. Cvetkovi, D. , (Ed.). (2022). MOOC (Massive Open Online Courses). IntechOpen.
4. Dias, P. , & Freitas, J. C. de. (2022). Educação digital, a distância e em rede. Universidade Aberta | Imprensa da Universidade de Coimbra
5. Moreira, J. A. , Henriques, S. , Melaré Vieira Barros, D. , Goulão, F. , & Caeiro, D. (2020). Educação digital em rede: Princípios para o design pedagógico em tempos de pandemia. Universidade Aberta

Teaching and learning methods

Approaches to some theoretical concepts are intended, as well as knowledge of some tools to implement in practice the knowledge acquired. The implementation of this knowledge in practice aims for teachers to use e-learning and virtual communities for their continuous improvement. This implementation must be accompanied by the teacher and complemented with joint reflection by the trainee group.

Assessment methods

1. Continuous assessment - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final)
 - Work Discussion - 100% (Participation in the community of practice 25%; Teamwork 25%; Individual work 50%).
2. Exam - (Regular, Student Worker) (Supplementary, Special)
 - Final Written Exam - 100%

Language of instruction

Portuguese

Electronic validation

Bruno Miguel Ferreira Gonçalves	Maria Raquel Vaz Patrício	Manuel Florindo Alves Meirinhos	Carlos Manuel Costa Teixeira
23-11-2023	23-11-2023	24-11-2023	08-02-2024