

Flexleren – Approaches for flexible learning at Saxion University of Applied Sciences

Saxion Parttime School (*) Charge your career

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Overview



- The Dutch approach for flexible learning
- Collaboration between Higher Education Institutes
- Saxion Parttime School –
 A specific example





The Dutch approach for flexible learning

Advice committee Rinnooy Kan (2014):

- Improve flexibility of curricula
- Improve student-tailored curricula
- Improve curriculum alignment with (future) jobs

From advice to a national pilot: 'Flexible Learning in Higher Education'





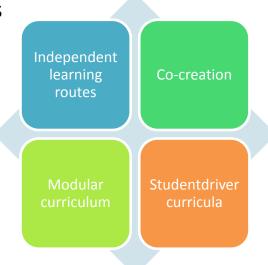


The Dutch approach for flexible learning

Characteristics of the Dutch approach:

- Learning outcomes
- Validation of prior (learning) experiences
- Flexible learning
- Innovative ways of assessment









The Dutch approach for flexible learning

Each HEI develops their own institutional policy

- Within given boundaries
- Aligned to part-time students

Netherlands Association of Universities of Applied Sciences

Independent learning routes

Co-creation

Modular curricula

Standarized curricula

Driven by demand

Group

Offered by institution

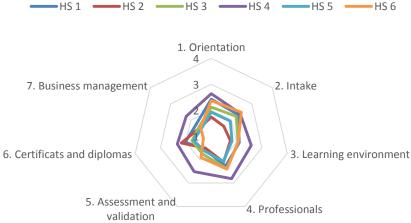




Collaboration between Higher Education Institutes

Collaboration to:

- Share experiences about the pilot
- Determine and fine-tune key aspects of the pilot
- Evaluate effects
- √ FlexScan



Students (current situation)





Life Long Learning at Saxion







Life Long Learning at Saxion







Life Long Learning at Saxion







Our modular education

https://video.saxion.nl/media/Our+modular+e ducation/1_ixfrxzt2





Pilot at Saxion Parttime School

One academy for part time education

- 1 institutional policy for all part time education
- 1 front office for students
- 1 exam committee for part-time education



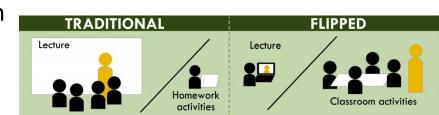




Pilot at Saxion Parttime School

Saxion Parttime School - Institutional policy

- Modular approach (courses 5 ECTS)
 - Improve flexibility
- Learning outcomes as a starting point
 - Improve alignment with daily practice
 - Valid for multiple educational programmes
- Professional products for assessment
 - Improve efficiency of learning
- Flipped Classroom Approach







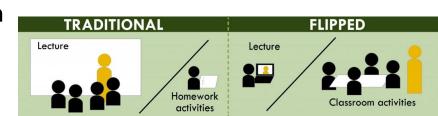
Pilot at Saxion Parttime School

Saxion Parttime School - Institutional policy

- Modular approach (courses 5 ECTS)
 - Improve flexibility
- Always 'think and work from the outside in' Learning

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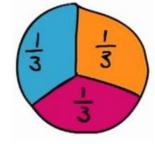
- products for assessment
 - Improve efficiency of learning
- Flipped Classroom Approach





Modular approach

- No pre-determined fixed curriculum
- Each quarter Personal selection of modules
- 240 ECTS consisting of modules of
 - 5 ECTS
 - Sector, cluster and study-specific
 - 3 modules per quarter (10 weeks)



- Identified common themes → multidisciplinary
 - development ànd in enacted curriculum





Learning Outcomes as a starting point



- Aligned to needs and daily practice of professionals
- Collaborative development with working field
- Opportunities for validation





Professional products for assessments

- Workplace learning 'relevant professional output'
 - Recognisable, example professional output forms the base of each test/assessment
- No knowledge tests, unless....
- Validate / appreciate what is already there
 - Formal qualifications
 - Profesisonal products
 - Knowledge, experience and products in conjunction
- Facilitate to pile up towards a degree (Ad/ Ba)

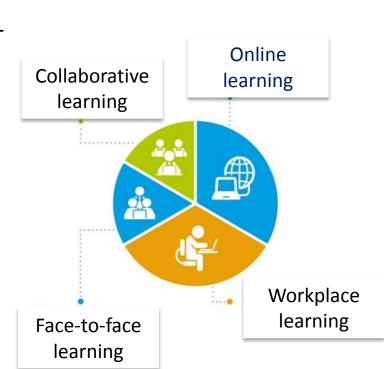




Flipped classroom

- Knowledge acquisition through elearning
- Formative evaluation

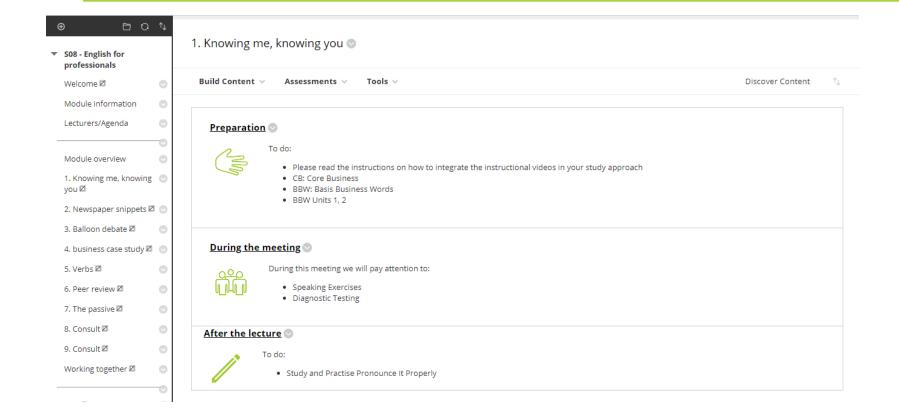
- During classroom meetings emphasize on:
 - Application of knowledge and skills
 - Sharing daily practice experiences







Blackboard: an example



Kom verde



From Intended Curriculum to Implemented Curriculum (1)

Working in Teacher Design Teams

(Handelzalts, 2009; Huizinga, 2014)

- Foster ownership (Kirk & MacDonald, 2002; Stenhouse, 1975)
- Opportunities for learning (Huizinga et al., 2013, 2014; Penual et al., 2007; Voogt et al., 2011)









From Intended Curriculum to Implemented Curriculum (2)

Supporting TDTs as the key to success

- Improve quality of designed products (Holterman et al., 2017; Huizinga et al., 2014; Nieveen et al., 2005; 't Mannetje et al., 2018)
- Stepwise approach ideal for 'novice designers' (Holterman et al., 2017; Huizinga, 2014; 't Mannetje et al., 2018; Rowland, 1992)









Results and insights (1)

- Working with learning outcomes
 - Higher level of assessment (practice oriented)
 - Learning path independent
 - Added value of interdisciplinary work
- Validation of prior (learning) experiences
 - Learning outcomes facilitate validation
 - Holistic approach is necessary















Results and insights (2)

- Flexible learning
 - Mix of assessments/ validation is possible
 - Order of modules is flexible
 - The pace of studying is flexible
 - Move from participant to student
- Innovative ways of assessment
 - Professional products work; direct impact in the practical situation
 - Formative assessment





Improvement points

- Culture change necessary within the entire organization; shared vison!
- Teachers need ongoing support to implement the new vision in everyday teaching-life
- Intensive study coaching for students to promote and advise individual pathways and connection with fellow students/ education





Recommendations (institutional level)

- Shared vision within institution
 - Key characteristics shared by management of various 'schools'
 - Internal alignment to develop a shared frame of reference
- Teachers and workfield are the key to success; ownership!
- Organizational flexibility is necessary
- Accreditation system not flexible enough?







Recommendations (working field)

- Market specific needs are utilized
 - Align expectations with those of various companies
 - Translating specific needs to learning outcomes
 - Curriculum design: collaboration with companies and institutions from early stages of renewal





Recommendations (teacher level)

- Involve teachers from the early stages of the renewal
 - Align expectations with those of students and market specific needs
 - Collaborative develop (between teachers and companies) and implement the courses
 - Support teachers during *all* stages of the design process
 - Provide exemplary materials of the intended curriculum





Further information

- Saxion Parttime School:
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- Flexscan Higher Education:
 - http://www.flexibelberoepsonderwijs.nl/downloads/CI NOP-Advies-Flexscan-A4Flyer-EN-042018-web.pdf