Curriculum-integrated active learning in information sciences and the role of the information specialist

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Library, learning and curriculum

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"Harry potter's school"

Koç University, quotes in Hall

George Bernard Shaw



"All great truths begin as blasphemies."

Don't be afraid to think out of the box Truth is always contextual

2002 -2011

Ghent University Medical Faculty

From print library to virtual learning environment

The faculty decided to teach « medical information », with focus on information ressources and content and not on software and hardware (informatics)

Teach « medical information sciences » in higher education ?????

QUESTIONS:

- What, when, where, why, by whom, to whom and how
- « academic » literacy ? Does such a thing exist ?
- Has the « library » a role in this education ?

Too many questions for one talk



Invite You to roundtable tonight just before gala dinner in the library.
21 persons are eligible to experience active learning on curriculum and information learning/teaching.



We will take some of these questions into the 2012 meeting

LITERACY

Core definition: the competences to read and write Expanded definition: AND ABLE TO **UNDERSTAND the content**

many submeanings: a lot of « adjectives » multiplying after ICT-period:

Literacy + ICT: Digital literacy, first in(ti) 1970 and 1987 Computer literacy, first in(ti) 1974 (digital) <u>Information literacy , first in (ti) 1983, NOW MOST USED</u> <u>BUT Almost entirely in library and information literature</u> Library literacy, seldom used, first in(ti) 1979 Internet literacy, very rarely, first in(ti) 1991 Media literacy , first in(ti) 1971 Network literacy, very rarely, first in(ti) 1984

New literacies (group name), first (book) 1991

« Academic (medical) literacy » as « my » final goal ?

The competences linked to literacy within higher and continuous education (role of information in learning processes)

Literacy in pubmed ?

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 The ability to recognize when information is needed and to locate, evaluate, and use the needed information effectively. 					~
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« academic literacy in LISA »

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Purpose – To acquire academic literacy students need library buildings that take account of "what the student does", changing learning styles and preparation for employment in a digital world. Equally as academic staff develop innovative e-learning activities, library spaces need to accommodate new learning opportunities. This paper aims to consider how the design of library buildings contributes to a complex and evolving range of academic literacies and emerging pedagogical frameworks. The paper also seeks to consider the contribution these literacies make to the experience of students reading for a degree in an increasingly digital environment.

Design/methodology/approach – The paper draws on the experience at Bournemouth University, where a higher education academy-funded project accelerated the introduction of new technologies into learning and teaching frameworks. A new library building, The Sir Michael Cobham Library, enabled the creation of learning spaces that are flexible and responsive to the changing needs of users.

Findings – Innovative spaces and evolving pedagogies demand different levels of academic literacy to enable students to succeed in physical and digital environments.

Originality/value – This reflective review adds new dimensions to the body of knowledge underpinning both the study of learning spaces and academic literacy.



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OECD: The learning environment

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Among the contributors are Brigid Barron, Monique Boekaerts, Erik de Corte, Linda Darling-Hammond, Kurt Fischer, Andrew Furco, Richard Mayer, Lauren Resnick, Barbara Schneider, Robert Slavin, James Spillane, Elsbeth Stern and Dylan Wiliam.		
The Nature of Learning: Using Research to Inspire Practice is essential reading for all those interested in knowing what research has to say about how to optimise learning in classrooms, schools and other settings. It aims, first and foremost, to inform practice and educational reform. It will be of particular interest to teachers, education leaders, teacher educators, advisors and decision makers, as well as the research community		~
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Learning environment, the « ECO »system in which we learn



Learning environments

Information and knowledge management processes are part of this « ecosystem »

Two requirements: capacity AND capability If we want to take profit of our technology investments, we have to adjust our learning systems to the benefits of the digital technology



Development of an outcomes-based educational approach.
Two factors are of great importance:
CONTENT MANAGEMENT
COOPERATION

Gontsharova N Biker, 1913

How did literacy (or illiteracy) becoming such a big problem that we are increasingly publishing, teaching, organising meetings and workshops about it, especially by library and information specialists....

And is it really the heart of the problem ?

Literacy

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Grades 3-4	 Education Policy Analysis 			
Grades 5-6	 <u>Review of Research in Education</u> 			
Grades 7-8	<u>The ALAN Review</u> (Assembly on Literature for .	Adolescents)		
Grades 9-12	 <u>Booklinks</u> from American Library Association 			
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- » About the website
- IL & library sectors
- IL definitions
- IL organisations
- IL advocacy
- IL publications
 - » IL case studies
 - » <u>IL books</u>
 - » IL reports
 - » IL journals
 - » IL websites & wikis
- Developing your teaching

A considerable amount of literature is available on information literacy. However, there are journals that concentrate on the topic.



<u>Communications in Information Literacy</u> is an independent, professional, refereed electronic journal dedicated to advancing knowledge, theory, and research in the area of information literacy. The journal is committed to the principles of information literacy as set forth by the Association of College and Research Libraries. CIL is also committed to the principles of open access for academic research.

The <u>Educators' Spotlight Digest</u> is a multimedia, online magazine dedicated to providing information and ideas to teachers of information literacy skills.



«PRINT Literacy »

Narrow: being able to read and write Based on « a simple technology »

Broad: idem + « cognitive function » Being able to understand what You read and write

WHAT HAPPENED WITH THE DIGITAL REVOLUTION?

ICT=constitutive+intellectual

- A constitutive technology:
- Is a technology that has an impact on all aspects of human life (social,cultural, technical ...)
- An intellectual technology:

It mainly affects our cognitive functions and therefore has a major impact on the 'handling' of information, knowledge and learning





How did we organize our education (1) ?

First period: 2002-2008

Only medical curriculum (bach1, bach2,Ms3)

Content:

library and document management oriented (document retrieval; use of bibliographic databases, reading and writing articles)

How did we organize our education (2) ?

Second period: 2008-2010

medical integrated and modular curriculum (bach1, bach2,Ms3) continued + doct school

Start 30hrs course in Biomedical Sciences Curr. (classical curriculum: 15 hrs auditorium. 15 hrs hands on PC class)

Content: changed after research on e-learning and upstarting collaboration with dept of educational studies Information query oriented

In 2009-2010 practical training (15 hrs) given by information specialist (Ann DM)

How did we organize our education (3) ?

Third period: 2010-2011

medical integrated and modular curriculum (bach1, bach2,Ms3) continued + doct school

Cont. 30hrs course in Biomedical Sciences Curr. (classical curriculum)

Content: more emphasized Information processing oriented

Book; Response colleges rather than ex-cathedra; structural exercises; reporting and presentation, group queries, example guided (malaria) first part of practicum, followed by self-activity ----- BLENDED LEARNING

Two very active collaborators: Ann DM en Daisy DS

Curricula modular versus classical

• Own experience:

the students in medicine (10 hrs + writing exerc.) are performing as well as the biomedical students (30 hrs) despite less hours of education

• Eskola:

problem-based learning helps to develop information skills (as defined by ALA literacy standards and Christine Bruce)

Planning 2011-2012

- Rewrite book and write an English version
- Develop e-modules with feedback
- Reorganise information sciences course in the medical curriculum
- Integrate more content management exercises in biomedical curriculum
- Stress more the relationship research-scientific literature
- STUDY SCIENTIFICALLY STUDENTS, OUTPUTS AND MODELS

Working hypothesis

(Information) literacy is a dependent variable related to the same determinants in the digital environment as in the print-environment:

- Critical (scientific) thinking
- Self-efficacy (creativity)
- Basic literacy (in its broad definition) cognitive functions



New competences of the information specialist needed

- Curriculum analysis
- Integrate « ressources » in content (=course building)
- Master learning methodology
- Special focus areas: doctoral school, dissertation and thesis (reference librarianship)
- « ad hoc » counseling of consumers
- Interactive learning skills (digital learning platform use, webmodules design, social media,)

Able to swim in sweet AND salt water



Future next exit (Prof. Kansu)

- Teaching 'basic' information sciences will be done in Kindergarten
- 'academic' literacy will be a requirement to start higher education and should be part of the curriculum

(Quote Kansu: the only thing they haven't learned is how to learn')

• Librarians will have another education, another role, a different work environment

An old philosopher's lesson



No person is free who is not the master of the technology he made

"No (wo)man is free who is not master of (her)himself."

EXTRA SLIDES

Main errors in past (in my opinion)

- Train the consumer to become a librarian.....
- Teach information outside the context of the real information needs
- Focus to much on technology issues
- Confuse technology with creativity
- Teach information unrelated to content