Microcredentials and the link to the OpenU project

13 October 2021 9:30-13:00 CET

The meeting will <u>not</u> be recorded.

OpenU
High-level
Authorities' Meeting
hosted by the
Flemish Ministry of
Education and
Training







Agenda

9.30-9.45 Welcome Speeches

- a. Flemish Ministry of Education and Training Magalie Soenen
- b. OpenU Coordination Julién Frémont / Yasmine Cherif, Paris 1
- c. OpenU Policy Cluster Coordination Alexander Knoth, Chief Digital Officer DAAD

9.45-10.00 The OpenU Project and the current status

10.00-10.45 Overview of European and Flemish policy on Micro-credentials

- a. Micro-credentials in the EU and EHEA Magalie Soenen
- Flexibility and micro-credentials in the Flemish Higher Education System –
 Liesbeth Hens

10.45-11.00 Q&A Session

11.00-11.20 Health Break







Agenda

The **chat** is always open for your questions.

Please use the "raise hand" function to indicate you want to contribute to the discussion.

11.20-12.10 Institutional perspectives

- a. KU Leuven Una Europa, Peter Lievens
- b. Artevelde University College, Dries Vanacker & Ingrid Verbanck
- c. Ghent University ENLIGHT, Frederik De Decker

12.10-12.30 Concrete ways in which Micro-credentials can be supported by the OpenU project / the BLOOM hub – Johannes Posel, FU Berlin

12.30-13.00 Questions & Discussion

- a. Which parts in the puzzle are missing?
- b. What is needed at the HEIs?
- c. How can OpenU/ BLOOM hub respond to that?

13.00 End of Meeting









OpenU: Current status

High Level Authorities' Meeting hosted by the Flemish Ministry of Education and Training

13 October 2021

OpenU – a brief description

Erasmus+ program – KA3 Support for policy reform, European Policy Experimentation

Partners : 21 partners and 10 associated partners

Duration : 20 February 2019 – 19 December 2022 (47 months)

Objectives:

- Develop policies to support innovative teaching
- Create a European-wide hub for online learning, blended and virtual mobility, virtual campuses and collaborative exchange of practices
- Bringing researchers, practicioners and policy-makers together

Target groups: Students, HEIs and their staff, European university alliances and initiatives, National and European policies





OpenU structure



Policy Dialogue (WP1)

Coordination: DAAD
6 Ministries of Education (GER, FR, ES, PT, BE, LV) + Erasmus
Student Network

Experimentation of the BLOOM Hub (WP3)

Coordination: Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and Rennes 1

Una Europa

Paris 1, FU Berlin, Università di Bologna, University Jagiellonski, KU Leuven, Universidad Complutense de Madrid

EIT Group

Rennes 1, Aalto University, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Università di Trento Evaluation of hub, experimentation, impact and peer-learning events Universität Potsdam

Technical Development & Implementation (WP2)

Coordination: FU Berlin
EADTU, Paris 1, EUF and University
Jagiellonski



European hub for blended and online learning, networking and mobility

Notable outcomes and activities in 2020-2021

Policy



- Resumption of Policy Dialogues
- 1 HLAM (PT) + Policy Recommendations
- 2 webinars on Quality Assurance

Experimentation and implementation

- Pedagogical Guidelines and COPs
- Alternative to Potsdam withdrawal
- Pre-call and launch of 1st exp.
 Phase

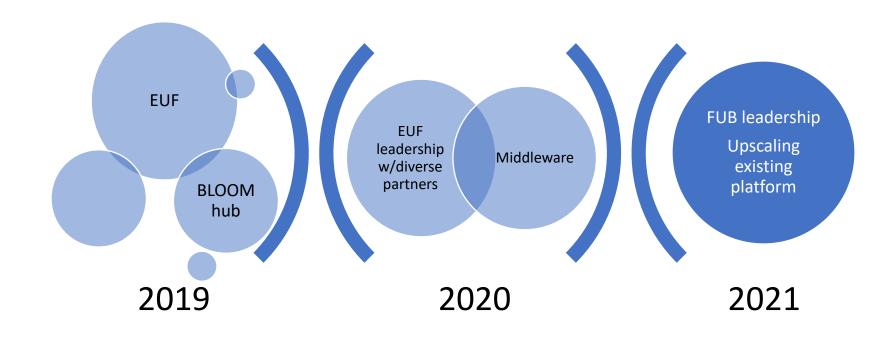
- Regular meetings, permanent communication
- Approval NWP
- Submittal progress report
- 19 partnership agreements
- Quality Assurance and Risk mitigation

Management Communication

- Resumption of DAC meetings
- Release of 3 newsletters (1 public)
- Website update
- Communication material

Implementation Cluster – current status and update





Experimentation Cluster – Update on the WP3 submitted projects





July 2021 14 experimentations online cooperation/modules, trainings Most covered PAs: 4, 5, 6, 7, 8



Regular meetings and interactions: 9 partners involved Followers in each project



October – November 2021
Coordination of Phase 2
Experimentation
OpenU and Alliances partners
2/3 experiments of phase 1
involved



January 2022
Phase 1 Experimentation
Internal workshop
Sharing experiences, work in progress,
key debates, policy session

Expected next steps: October – December 2021





October 2021

- Flemish HLAM
- 2nd Interim Progress Report
- Start of the BLOOM hub development



December 2021

- HLAM (Germany), consortium meeting
- End of 1st experimentation phase
- End of 1st evaluation phase
- 2nd call for projects

November 2021

- WP1 public webinar
- Interim evaluation report
- Needs' analysis
- Pedagogical Guidelines







Thank you!



Contact : Yasmine Cherif, OpenU Project Officer, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne <u>openu@univ-paris1.fr</u>

Julien Frémont, Deputy Director of International Relations, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne <u>international-cooperation@univ-paris1.fr</u>

Micro-credentials in European perspective

HLAM Belgium OpenU project

Magalie Soenen

13 October 2021

Micro-credentials

A joint initiative: Cssrs Gabriel and Schmit







New Skills Agenda



Part of the Skills Agenda:

- The new initiative will support the quality, transparency and use of micro-credentials throughout the EU
- The Commission will work with all stakeholders to develop European standards of quality and transparency
- Explore the inclusion of micro-credentials in qualification frameworks
- Inclusion in Europass (Europass Digital Credentials Initiative)

Part of the European Education Area:

- Focus on HE, re-skilling and upskilling
- Higher Education Consultation Group on Micro-credentials at the level of DG EAC
- Commission preparing Council recommendations to be published in December 2021 (consultation in spring 2021)
- European actions should support European trust in microcredentials
- Member States should strive to take all necessary steps for a wider use, portability and recognition of these micro-credentials by 2025

Higher Education Consultation Group on Micro-credentials:

Higher Education Consultation Group



Higher Education Consultation Group on Micro-credentials:

- 3 meetings in 2020
- aim: develop a proposal for a common definition and recommendations for a European approach to micro-credentials in Europe
- final report presented on 14 December 2020 "A European approach to microcredentials - output of the microcredentials higher education consultation group"



Higher Education Consultation Group on Micro-credentials:

Definition:

A micro-credential is a proof of the learning outcomes that a learner has acquired following a short learning experience. These learning outcomes have been assessed against transparent standards.

The proof is contained in a certified document that lists the name of the holder, the achieved learning outcomes, the assessment method, the awarding body and, where applicable, the qualifications framework level and the credits gained. Micro-credentials are owned by the learner, can be shared, are portable and may be combined into larger credentials or qualifications. They are underpinned by quality assurance following agreed standards

Proposed EU Standard of constitutive elements of micro-credentials

The essence of an EU Standard

- > Identification of the learner
- > Title of the micro-credential
- Country/Region of the issuer
- Awarding body
- Date of issuing
- Notional workload needed to achieve the learning outcomes (in ECTS, wherever possible)
- Level (and cycle, if applicable) of the learning experience leading to the micro-credential (EQF, QF-EHEA)
- Learning outcomes
- Form of participation in the learning activity
- Type of assessment
- Quality assurance of the credential and, where relevant, of the learning content

This information should offer verifiable, free and secure access to data, which is available over time, in order to support transparency and recognition.

- Prerequisites needed to enrol in the learning activity*
- Supervision and identity verification during assessment *
- Grade achieved*
- Integration / stackability options*
- Further information*

* Optional information



Roadmap:

Way forward

Consultations covering all sectors of education and training throughout 2021

Commission proposal for a Council Recommendation in December 2021



Microbol

Micro-credentials linked to the Bologna Key Commitments





Details project:

• Title: Micro-credentials linked to the Bologna Key Commitments

 Erasmus+ KA3: Initiatives to support the implementation of European Higher Education Area (EHEA) reforms, 2019



Period: March 2020 – March 2022

Partners:

- Belgium Flemish Ministry of Education and Training
- Finland Ministry of Education and Culture
- Italy CIMEA
- EUA
- ENQA
- Experts: Anthony F. Camilleri, Frederik De Decker, Ann Katherine Isaacs, George Ubachs, Peter Van der Hijden



Aim project:

- Raise awareness among national governments
- Encourage and guide national governments to include microcredentials on the agenda
- Check whether existing Bologna tools are fit for micro-credentials and/or propose changes for adaptations on European level
- Recommendations to check and adapt national legislations
- Create a European Framework for micro-credentials to propose to ministers in BP



Structure & timeline:

- Desk research (April-Aug '20)
- Kick-off conference (Aug-Sept '20)
- Working groups (Sept '20–May '21)
 - Quality Assurance (Belgium Flemish Community, Peter van der Hijden, Anthony Camilleri)
 - 70 participants, 34 countries, 7 stakeholder organisations
 - Recognition (Italy, Frederik De Decker, Peter van der Hijden)
 - 60 participants, 33 countries, 5 stakeholder organisations
 - Qualification Frameworks (Finland, George Ubachs, Ann Katherine Isaacs)
 - 60 participants, 32 countries, 7 stakeholder organisations
- Survey among EHEA countries (Okt '20-Feb '21)
- Recommendations on QA, Recognition & QF&ECTS (May-June '21)
- European Framework for Micro-credentials (July-Dec '21)
- Final Conference (Jan '22)



Working definition:

A micro-credential is a small volume of learning certified by a credential. In the EHEA context, it can be offered by higher education institutions or recognised by them using recognition procedures in line with the Lisbon Recognition Convention or recognition of prior learning, where applicable. A micro-credential is designed to provide the learner with specific knowledge, skills or competences that respond to societal, personal, cultural or labour market needs. Micro-credentials have explicitly defined learning outcomes at a QF-EHEA/NQF level, an indication of associated workload in ECTS credits, assessment methods and criteria, and are subject to quality assurance in line with the ESG.



MICROBOL survey:

• Aim of the survey: gain a picture on the state-of-play on microcredentials in different member states of the European Higher Education Area and encouraging national discussion

 Target: members of the Bologna Follow Up Group as well as the nominated representatives in the MICROBOL working groups

Respondents: 35 countries participated in the survey



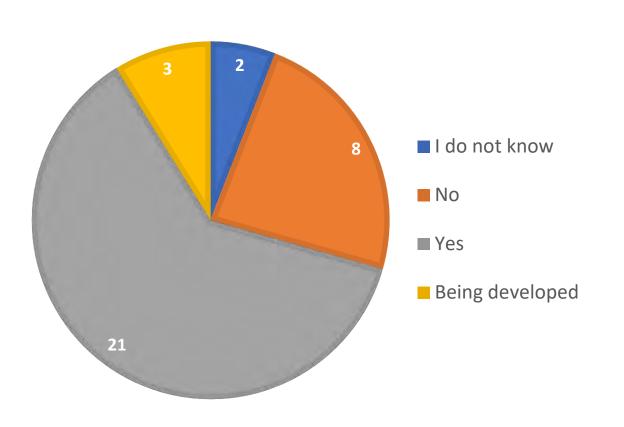
Section 1 Investigating the use of micro-credentials

Overview of micro-credentials offered or being developed

Regulation of micro-credentials at national level



Countries that offer or are developing microcredentials



- Offered: 21 countries
- Being developed: 3 countries
- Not offered/not being developed: 8 countries



Examples of micro-credentials offered/recognised by HEIs

		Supplementary additional courses	Further adult training	Law Committee Co	Single courses module	Short program and executive	
	MOOCs	Supplemental award	Stackable modules	short lifelong programmes Informal learning		Exit qualifica	
				Postgraduate lifelong learning		al	
Modules/course units part of degree programmes (also online)	Special purpose awards	Postgraduate education	Modular units/ single courses (micro-degrees)	Open studies	Credit certificatio	n Badg	

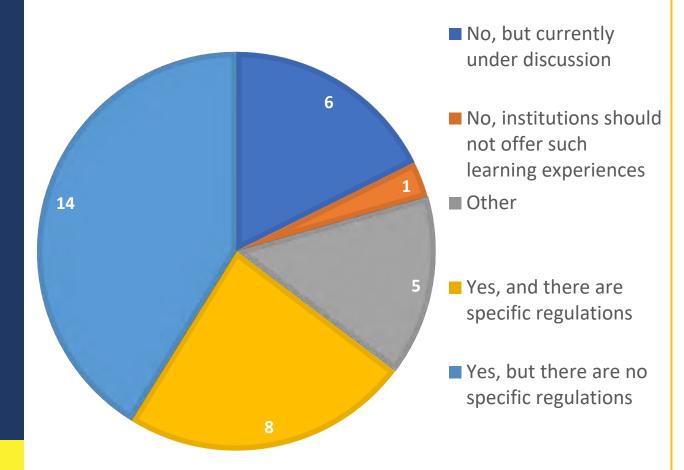


Official record or register of micro-credentials and providers

No, we do not have a record/register of the micro-19 credentials on offer No, we do not have a record/register or register of 18 providers Yes, we have a record/register of (most of) the 9 providers Yes, we have a record/register of (most of) the (accredited) micro-credentials on offer I do not know Countries



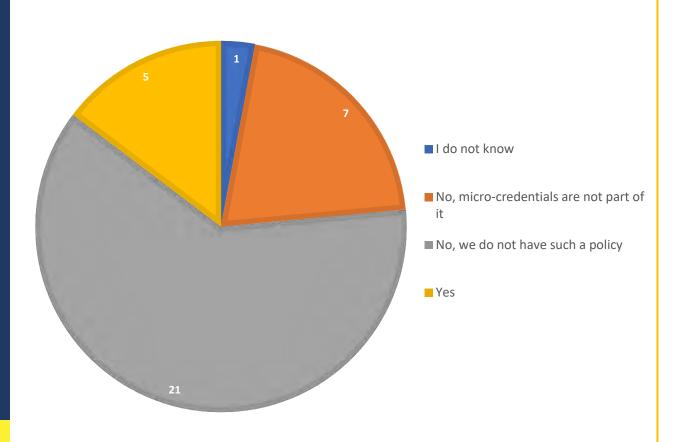
Regulation of micro-credentials at national level



- Regulated/allowed at national level:
 22 countries
 - Specific regulations: 8
 - No specific regulations: 14
- Under discussion: 6 countries
- Institutions should not offer MCs: 1 country



Micro-credentials and digitalisation policies



- NO policy on digitalisation:
 - 21 countries
- Yes policy but MCs are not part of it
 - 7 countries
- Yes MCs are part of this policy
 - 5 countries

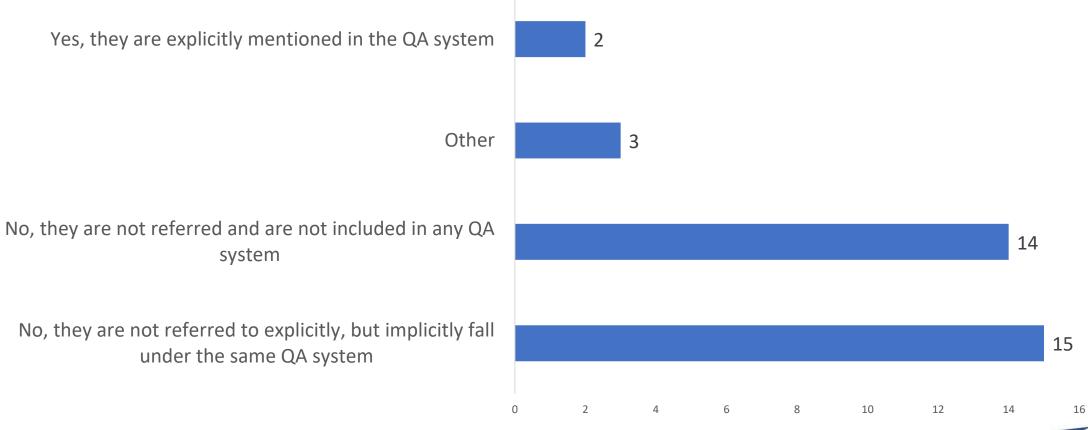


Section 2 Applying Bologna tools to micro-credentials

- Quality Assurance
- Recognition
- Qualification Frameworks & ECTS

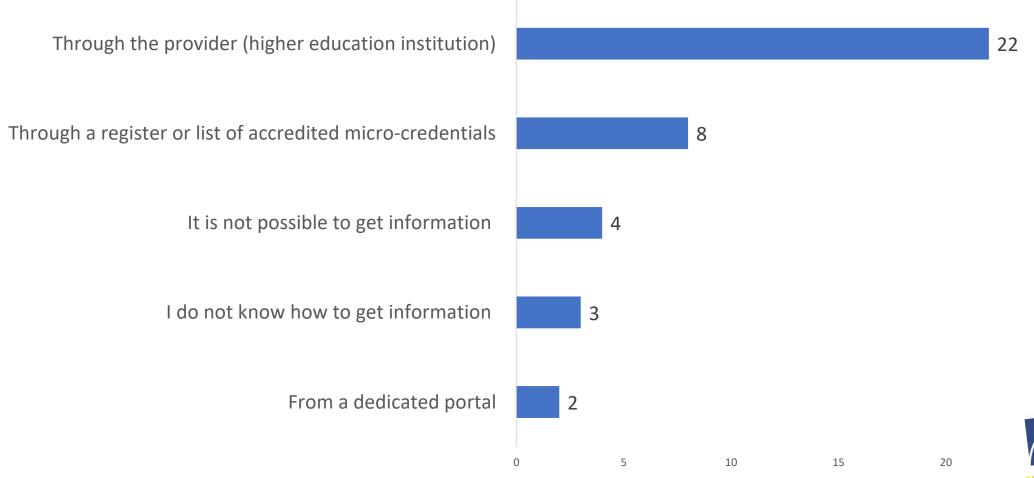


Micro-credentials included in the national QA



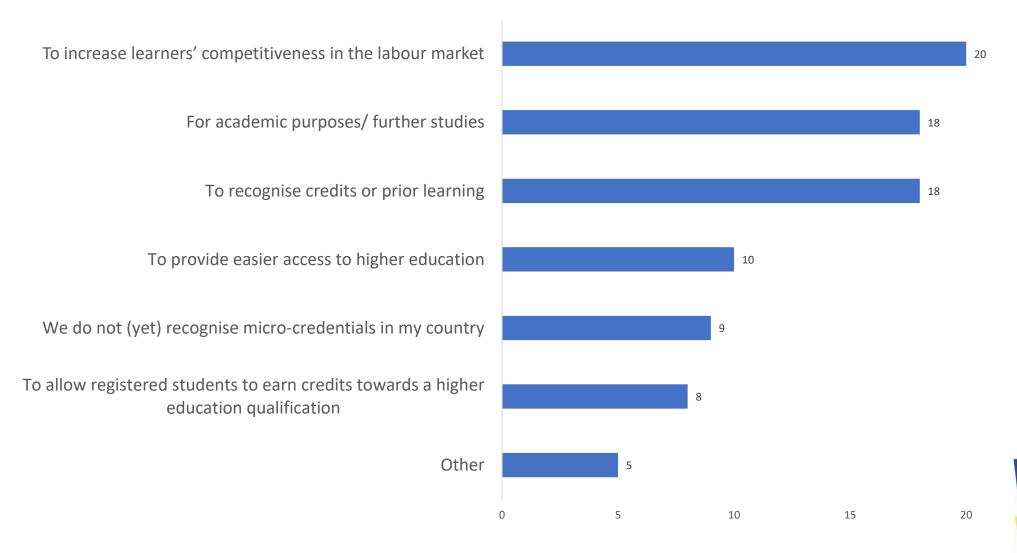


Sources of information on the QA status of the awarded credential



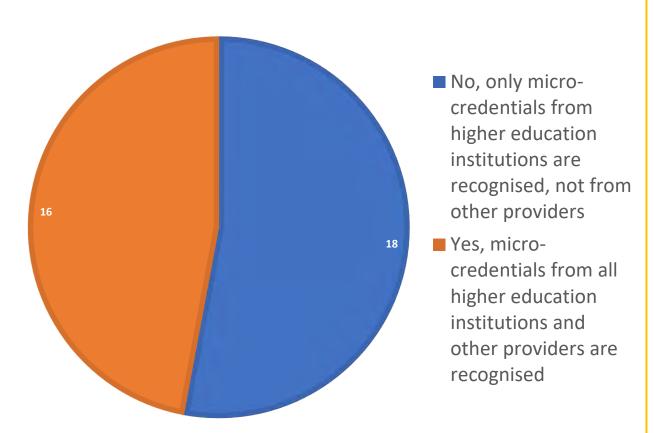


Purpose to recognise micro-credentials





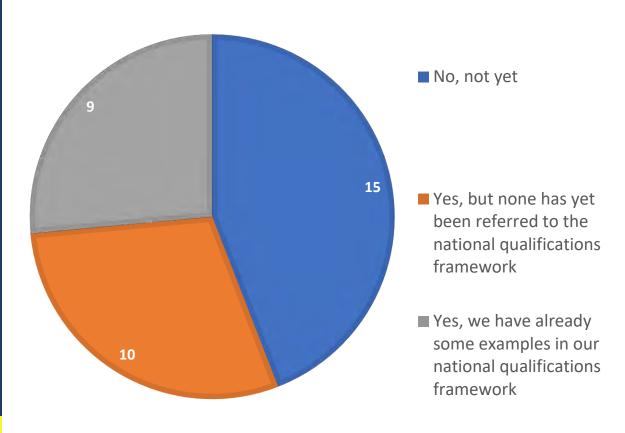
Recognition of micro-credentials offered by non-HE providers



- Only from HEIs: 18 countries
- From HEIs and other providers: 16 countries



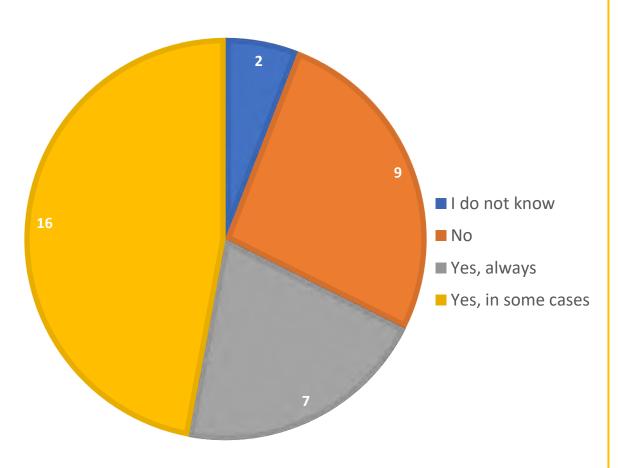
National framework open to micro-credentials



- Open to MCs: 10 countries
 - At any level
 - 5, 6 and 7
 - 6
 - MCs awarded by HEIs can be referred to QF
 - Full degree referred to QF
 - Single module within a full degree (HEIs) can be referred to QF
- Some examples of MCs referred to QF: 9 countries
- Not yet: 15 countries



Micro-credential expressed in ECTS



MCs expressed in ECTS in some cases

- 2-4-6 ECTS
- 4-6 ECTS
- Usually less than 10 ECTS
- 3-20 ECTS (module/single course within a full degree)
- 3-25 ECTS
- 20-50 ECTS
- 1-60 ECTS
- Maximum 30 ECTS
- Awarded by HEIs 13-30 ECTS (less frequently 0-6 ECTS. Continuing education 10 ECTS

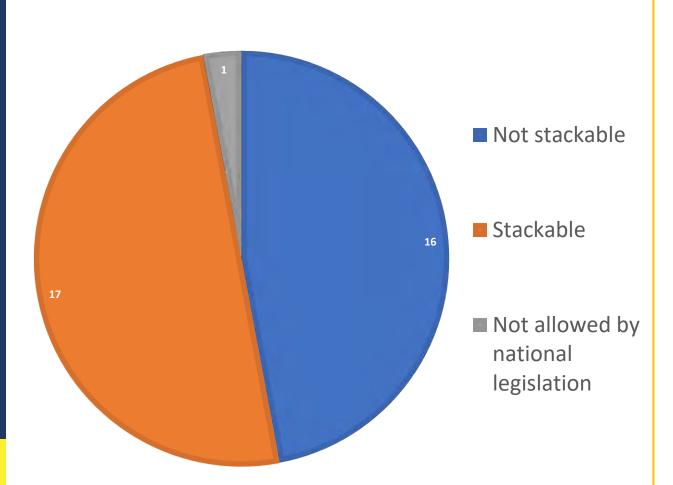
MCs always expressed in ECTS

- 1 to 5 ECTS;
- 3 to 6 ECTS;
- from 3 to 36 ECTS;
- 7.5 credits, 15 and 30 credits (for single courses within a full study programme in HE);

microbol

- 20-30 ECTS;
- 2-70 ECTS;
 - from less than 180 to less than 30 ECTS.

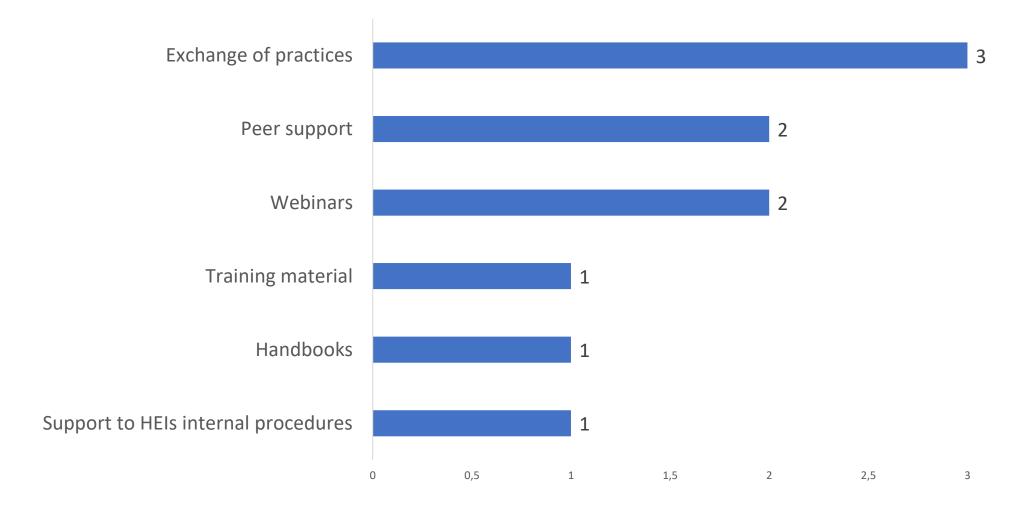
Stackability of micro-credentials



- Learners can accumulate MCs:
 - 17 countries
 - Most countries (8) recognise MCs in a full degree programme;
- Learners cannot accumulate
 MCs: 16 countries
- Not allowed by national legislation: 1 country



Type of support required

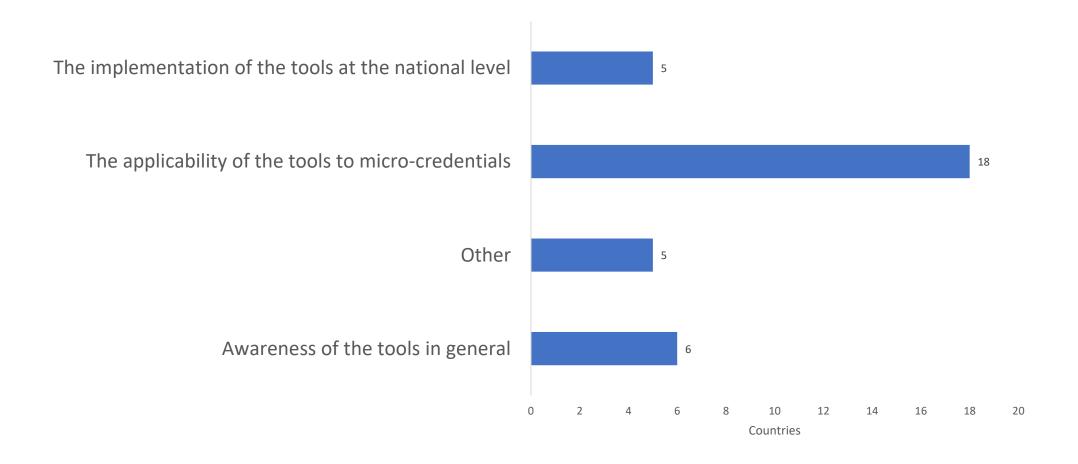




Section 3
Challenges regarding the application of Bologna tools to micro-credentials



Biggest challenges to apply Bologna Key Commitments to micro-credentials





MICROBOL recommendations:

- Based on survey results & discussions in the working groups
- Joint publication of 34 recommendations on QA, recognition & QF & ECTS
- Target: EHEA countries and stakeholder organisations, but also European Commission -> Consultation
- Download: https://microcredentials.eu/wp-content/uploads/sites/20/2021/07/MICROBOL-Recommendations-1.pdf

MICROBOL recommendations:

Transversal themes:

- 1. An opportunity to rethink higher education's role in lifelong learning
- 2. Awareness of and common agreement on what a micro-credential is
- 3. A common format
- 4. Legislation
- 5. Digitalisation

Peer exchange and support, involvement of all actors, guidelines



MICROBOL recommendations:

Bologna Key Commitments:

- Quality Assurance
 - 1. Internal and external QA
 - 2. Learner involvement in QA
 - 3. Transparency of information
 - 4. Register and catalogues of providers and micro-credentials
- Recognition
 - 1. Coverage/link with Lisbon Recognition Convention
 - 2. Recognition of prior learning
- Qualification Frameworks & ECTS
 - 1. QF & ECTS
 - 2. ECTS



For more information on the microbol project:

www.microcredentials.eu/

Or contact us:

microbolproject@gmail.com





Flexibility and microcredentials in the Flemish Higher Education System

Liesbeth Hens, Policy Advisor liesbeth.hens@ond.vlaanderen.be

Flemish Ministry of Education and Training

Flexibility and micro-credentials in the Flemish Higher Education System

Overview:

- Information on the current situation in Flanders
 - Micro-credentials in HE
 - Legal framework
- Challenges and future plans

Definition / reference Framework



A micro-credential is a <u>small volume of learning certified by a credential</u>. In the EHEA context, it can be offered by higher education institutions or <u>recognised</u> by them using recognition procedures in line with the Lisbon Recognition Convention or recognition of prior learning, where applicable. A micro-credential is designed to provide the learner with <u>specific knowledge, skills or competences</u> that respond to societal, personal, cultural or labour market needs. Micro-credentials have explicitly defined <u>learning outcomes</u> at a QF-EHEA/NQF level, an indication of associated workload in <u>ECTS credits</u>, assessment methods and criteria, and are <u>subject to quality assurance</u> in line with the ESG.

Micro-credentials: misconceptions

- Microcredentials = microcredits
- Limited to lifelong learning (so only 'post' types of education)
- Limited to 'new' forms of learning e.g. MOOCs and other types of elearning
- Something completely new

Situation in Flanders

No official notice of micro-credentials in decrees, but in reality,

We have 4 types of micro-credentials in place:

- Regular HE programmes
- Post-graduates
- LLL offer
- Micro-degrees

All HE Programmes are a combination of micro-credentials

- Since 2004-2005: flexible organisation of HE
 - → No full time/part time
 - → All HE programmes consist of courses of at least 3 ECTS
 - → With each learning outcomes/competences, assessment, ...
 - → Adapted funding, enrolment fees, study grants, ...

^{*} Remark: in the Flemish context <u>competenc(i)es</u> and <u>learning outcomes</u> are often used interchangeably...

All HE Programmes are a combination of micro-credentials

Certification by a credit certificate (creditbewijs) or diploma

Definition (legal): an acknowledgement that, after an evaluation, a student has proven to master the competences* of a particular course unit. This acknowledgement is recorded in a document or is established by means of an electronic registration.

Used:

- → Short, specific training
- → exemption of parts of another study programme when shifting to another programme → RPL

Example Recognition of Prior Qualifications

Programme Ba in Economical Sciences at a HEI

Programme Ba in Business Management at a HEI

Course	ECTS	Result	Course	ECTS	
Accounting 1	6	Credit cert.	 Basic accounting	5	exempted
Economic English	3	Credit cert.	 Business English	3	exempted
Mathematics	5	No	Statistics	4	not
Total	60	20	Total	46	

Basis of recognition = defined learning outcomes, QF level & ECTS credits

Example Recognition of Prior Qualifications

- Procedure developed by the HE Associations
- Assessment of an applicant's competences based on a portfolio + one or more of the following methods: reflection file, competence-based interview or capability test
- Possible result:
 - → "Certificate of Competency"
 - → Can be used to get exemptions of courses (see above)

Postgraduate education

- Offer of at least 20 ECTS
- Focus on:
 - → Further professional development
 - → After a bachelor or master degree
 - × Specialisation
 - × Widening competences
- No governmental funding, no legislation, no obligatory QA

LLL offer

- HEI are free to organise LLL courses
 - → Lecture series
 - → Specific courses
 - → Dissemination of research
 - → Professional training, less then 20 ECTS
 - $\rightarrow \dots$
- No governmental funding, no legislation, no obligatory QA

Micro-degrees

- Combination of courses of regular programmes
 - → Combination of credit certificates
 - → Same funding and regulation as the regular programmes
- Combination of courses or parts of non regular programmes
 - → No 'official' certification
 - → ? Funding ? Legislation ? QA

Overview..

definition	HE courses	postgraduates	LLL offer	Micro-degrees
Small volume	x	x	x	x
recognition	x	+/-	?	+/-
Learning outcomes	X	X	?	x
specific knowledge, skills or competences	X	X	X	X
ECTS	x	x	?	x
QA	x	?	?	+/-

Advantages of this legal framework

- Opportunities to increase the potential use of the existing learning offer, encompassing all types of learning (related to HE), i.e. beyond lifelong learning, MOOCs etc.
 - → Enhances flexibility (although this has its limits...)
 - → Openness towards
 - more diverse learners but also beneficial for 'regular students': working together with mature students, students from different backgrounds,
 - × more diverse ways of learning (e.g. also non-formal, online)

Advantages of this legal framework

For different stakeholders

- → HEI's: fits with existing practices e.g. ECTS, especially the concept of "credit transfer" (portability / stackability) as we know it from international student mobility
- → End users: increased ownership
- → Potential employers: increased trust

Downsides of this legal framework

- Not all initiatives are fully compliant with the definition
- No common vision of the HE sector
- To much diversity?
 - → Employers
 - → Students
 - → Data
- Hard to include new initiatives in the HE system

Challenges

– Flemish Education Council:

- → Develop a common framework
- → Don't make more legislation then necessary
- → Include micro-credentials in known QA procedures
- → Define "short"
- → Adequate funding, infrastructure and staff
- → Participation and ownership learners
- → Make sure micro-credentials are complementary with the existing system

Policy initiative

- RFF funding: Higher Education Advancement Fund
 Three action lines:
 - The development of a Flemish training portfolio that is future-proof, agile and flexible;
 - Further develop lifelong learning in higher education;
 - Focussing on the sustainable implementation of digital forms of education
- Each action line consist of short term (2-3 y) concrete implementation action in HEIs and a more long term reform, based upon an in depth dialogue with HEIs.

Higher Education Advancement Fund action 2

Further develop lifelong learning in higher education:

1. call for an agile offer of lifelong learning

- → The development or adaptation of an educational offer that is specifically aimed at those who wish to retrain/reorient or reskill: both for initial programmes (graduate, bachelor and master programmes) but also post-initial programmes and microcredentials;
- → the strengthening of the cooperation with industry/labour market. s;
- → The implementation of new, innovative training paths that specifically focus on vulnerable groups that currently have too little connection with higher education, such as jobseekers, non-native speakers or newcomers with a higher education diploma that is not (fully) recognised.

Higher Education Advancement Fund action line 2

Further develop lifelong learning in higher education:

- 2. Vision development on lifelong learning for the Flemish HE sector.
- Development of a widely supported and shared vision on lifelong learning in higher education.

The current higher education law includes possible solutions, but does not contain specific guidelines on organising and stimulating activities within the framework of lifelong learning.

Within this action, the government, together with the higher education institutions, social partners and involved actors will develop a vision on lifelong learning in higher education.



Contact/ more information

Liesbeth Hens, Policy Advisor liesbeth.hens@ond.vlaanderen.be

Flemish Ministry of Education and Training





OpenU High-level Authorities' Meeting – 13 October 2021



The added value of universities in the context of microcredentials



Quality Assurance



Universities already have QA procedures in place for regular programmes in line with the European Standards and Guidelines, which can equally to learning experiences leading to microcred Challes

Challenges:

- Existing QA procedures will apply automatically to short learning experiences which are embedded in the regular educational offer (e.g. credit contracts) but not to other additional trajectories.
- Existing QA procedures might be too rigid and complex for short learning experiences.



European Credit Transfer System



Universities are already used to working with the European Credit Transfer System. This system offers a reliable, recognized and transparent mechanism which can also proaphth a pathway to stackability and portability of microcredential

Challenges:

- National legislation can be a barrier. E.g. in Flanders ECTS can only be awarded to a course which comprises at least 3 study points.
- On the other hand it might be worth to set a lower limit (e.g. 0,5 or 1 study point) to avoid proliferation of countless short formats leading to microcredentials.



Focus on academic offer

(una europa)

Universities can offer added value to the "market" of microcredentials, by offering short learning experiences:

focusing on academic skills and critical reflection,

learning content based on (inter)disciplinations insights

Opportunities:

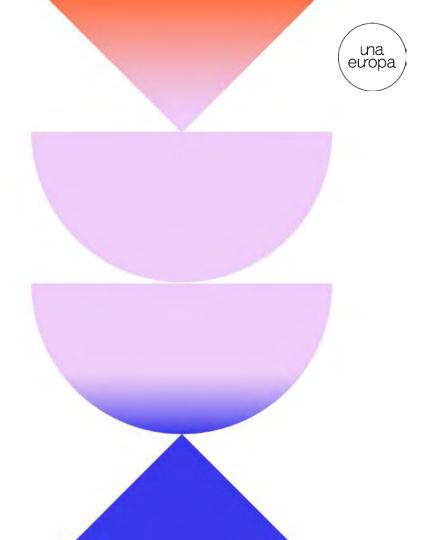
- Microcredentials as an instrument for improving access to higher education, to provide service to society.
- Universities can offer microcredentials for level 6 (bachelor), 7 (master) and 8 (PhD) in the European Qualification Framework

Challenge:

How to align the offer of higher education institutions with this of other providers? Need for a common language.

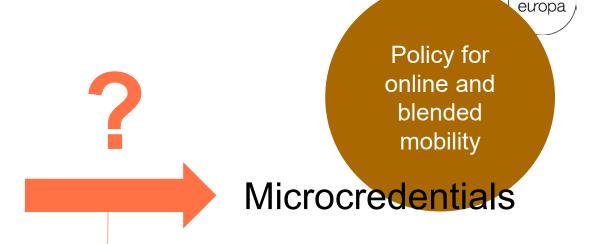


KU Leuven & microcredentials



Current offer of short learning experiences @ KU Leuven:

- Postgraduate Studies
- Credit contracts and Academies
- MOOCs
- Honours programmes
- Certified Continuing education
- Continuing education with proof of attendance



una

- Target group: demand for microcredentials?
- Future funding mechanisms vs. existing business models?
- Consequence for the regular educational offer?
- ..



The added value of European Universities in the context of microcredentials



Key roles for European Universities



CO-DEVELOPERS OF A TRANSPARENT FRAMEWORK AT EUROPEAN LEVEL

- identification of (legal) barriers
- harmonisation of different national practices and movements (e.g. regarding qualification frameworks)

MEDIATORS

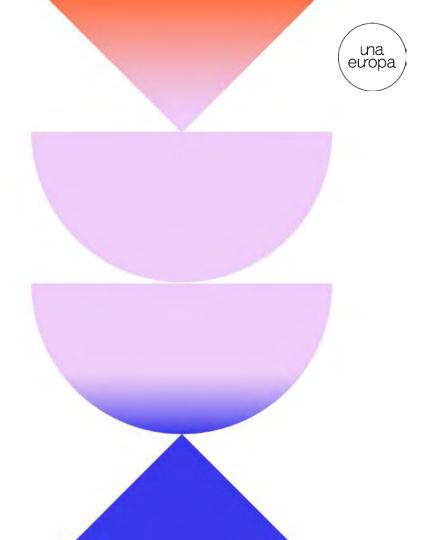
- Bringing the European dimension to discussions on national levels.
- Bringing together and bridging different national perspectives

FRONTRUNNERS

- Piloting IT infrastructure
- Development of new international learning paths



Una Europa & microcredentials





Una Europa joint microcredentials are offered as proof of successfully completing a short learning experience with the following characteristics:

- International and multilingual
- Connecting local communities
- Interdisciplinary, combining the complementary strengths and expertise of eight universities

Example 1: Micromodule in Sustainability

- Collection of MOOCs and led by differer universities
- Learners cho path
- Internation
- Involveme
- Target gr broader (

Example 2: Training on Sustainability for Local Public Services

- Joint online lectures in English by experts from the different partner universities
- Local working groups in mother tongue
- Joint final discussion in the international group
- Target group: professionals



Current implementation issues



- Quality assurance for modules/training outside of regular offer
- Online and blended format: which platform(s) to use?
- How and where will learners register?
- Need for further development of the blockchain project in the context of microcredentials.
- How do the learning outcomes align with national qualification frameworks?



Some final considerations



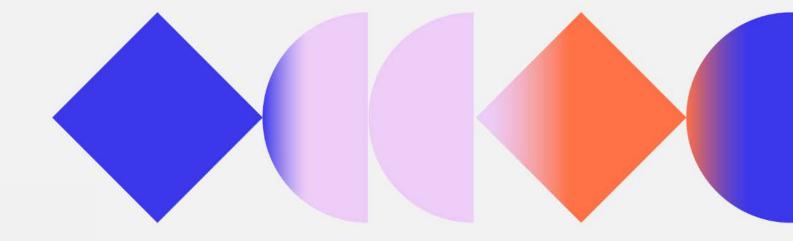
- Learners point of view
- Terminology and confusion on μ (one millionth)
- Credentials certificates credits degrees
- Added value:
 - Recognition goes hand in hand with QA
 - Stackability (probably) requires credits or certification



@Una_europa #Una_Europa



Follow us on Social Media





Micro-credentials

Micro-credentials in a Lifelong Learning context



Micro-credentials & LLL

- Table of contents
 - Trends in the Labour Market in Belgium/Flanders
 - Trends in Life Long Learning in Belgium/Flanders
 - The role of Micro-credentials in a lifelong learning context



TRENDS LABOUR MARKET

Lifelong Learning as a solution for the 'war on people'

Lifelong learning a means for professionalisation

War for talent => war for people



ARBEIDSMARKT

Huishoudhulp nodig? Dat wordt wachten

Heel wat huishoudhulpen stromen door naar een andere, betere job. Heel wat klanten van dienstenchequebedrijven moeten lang wachten.

Karsten Lemmens

Maandag 20 september 2021 om 3.25 uur





Lifelong learning as means for professionalisation

War for talent => war for people

Toenemende krapte op arbeidsmarkt brengt herstel in gevaar



Politiek rijpt het besef dat alleen maatwerk de krapte op de arbeidsmarkt kan verhelpen. Of België slaagt of faalt, zal vooral in Franstalig België bepaald worden. Maar daar loopt de spanning hoog op.







Lifelong learning a means for professionalisation

War for talent => war for people





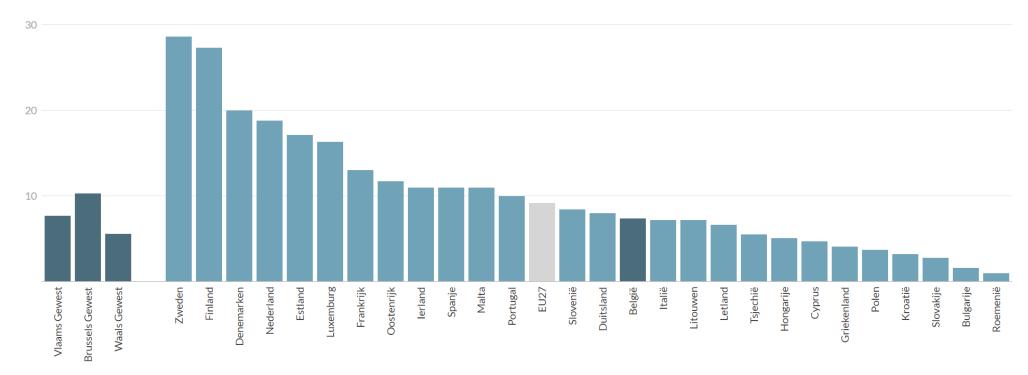
TRENDS LIFELONG LEARNING

Lifelong Learning as a means for personal and professional development

Trends in lifelong learning

Opleidingsdeelname tijdens afgelopen 4 weken van de bevolking van 25 tot 64 jaar $\,$

Belgische gewesten en EU-landen, 2020, in %



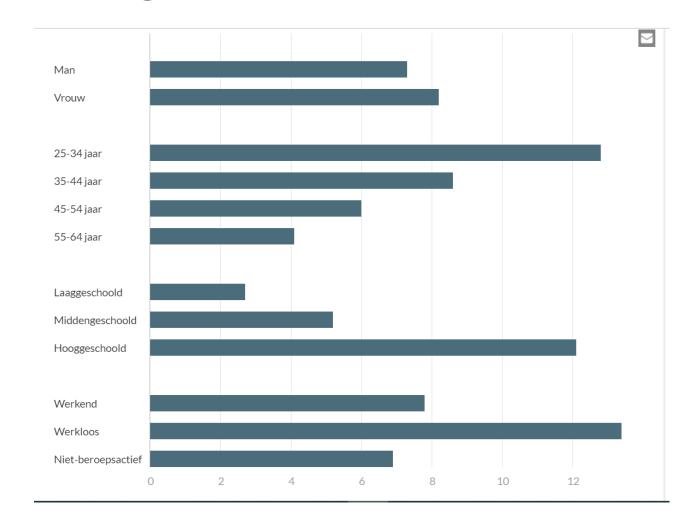
Noot: de gegevens in de figuur zijn schattingen gebaseerd op een enquête. Bijgevolg moet rekening gehouden worden met een onzekerheidsmarge. EU27: Europese Unie zonder Verenigd Koninkrijk. Zie: 'Meer info over definities en bronnen'.

Bron: EAK Statbel (Algemene Directie Statistiek - Statistiek - Statistiek - Statistiek Steunpunt Werk en Statistiek Vlaanderen



Trends in lifelong learning

- On average more women than men
- The younger, the more eager to participate in lifelong learning
- The higher skilled participate more in lifelong learning than semi- and short-skilled people
- Unemployment is a driver for lifelong learning (encouraged by government).
- People in the workforce tend to use lifelong learning (formal learning) for further professional advancement (re-skilling, upskilling)



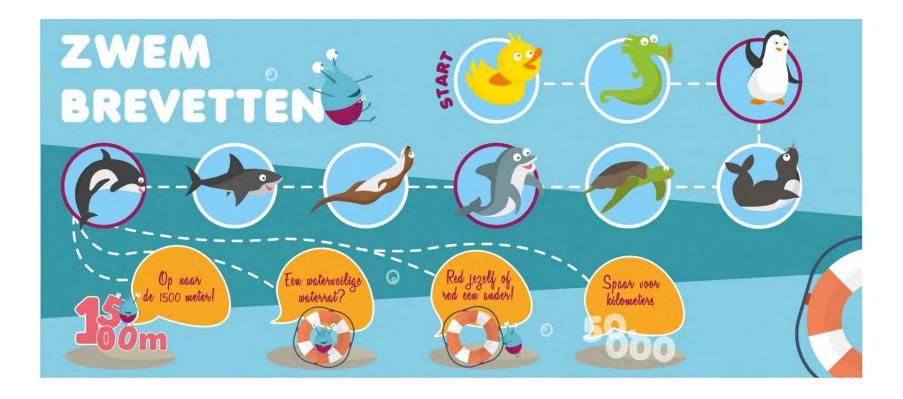


Lifelong learning a means for professionalisation





Lifelong learning a means for succes





MICRO-CREDENTIALS IN A LIFELONG LEARNING CONTEXT

Micro-credentials as means for succes

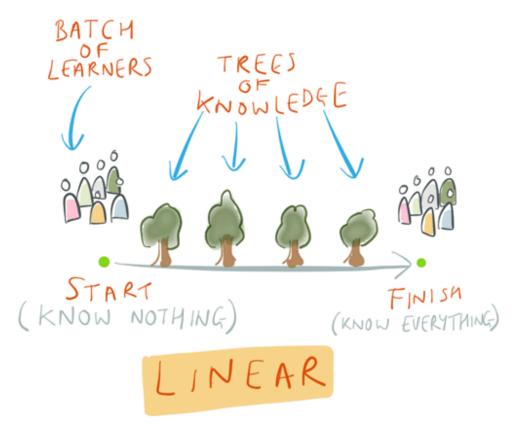
What is a micro-credential? (European Commission)

Box 2: Definition

A micro-credential is a proof of the learning outcomes that a learner has acquired following a short learning experience. These learning outcomes have been assessed against transparent standards.

The proof is contained in a certified document that lists the name of the holder, the achieved learning outcomes, the assessment method, the awarding body and, where applicable, the qualifications framework level and the credits gained. Micro-credentials are owned by the learner, can be shared, are portable and may be combined into larger credentials or qualifications. They are underpinned by quality assurance following agreed standards.





VS.



NON-LINEAR



@bryanMMathers

Arteveldehogeschool

Hoogpoort 15 - 9000 Gent

Tel.: 09 234 90 00 - Fax: 09 234 90 01

Email: info@arteveldehs.be - Website: www.arteveldehs.be



CREDITBEWIJS

Professioneel gerichte bacheloropleiding

Bachelor in het bedrijfsmanagement

Academiejaar 2019-20

European Business

(Identification 5738/6803/1920/1/26 - 8068368)

Credits: 4 Examenresultaat: 10

Quoteringssysteem: Op 20 (tot op een geheel getal)

Inhoud: Volgende onderwerpen komen aan bod:

- 'Economische actualiteit en respectievelijke invloed op het Europese Bedrijfsleven
- Economische en handelskenmerken van Europa
- De Europese interne markt
- 'Europese concurrentieregels
- *Europese consumentenbescherming
- *International Marketing
- 'Bedrijfsleven in Europa en Europa's beleid naar KMO's toe

<u>Doelstellingen</u>: LDV-V De student houdt ermee rekening dat de internationale culturele, economische en politieke context zowel het eigen professioneel functioneren als bedrijfsprocessen kan beïnvloeden.

LDV-IV De student komt zelfbewust en weerbaar voor zichzelf op, met respect voor anderen

verantwoordelijkheid in verschillende taken en rollen binnen een bedrijf of organisatie en werkt

LDV-I De student past de relevante wet- en regelgeving toe in een gegeven internationale context,

LDV-II De student onderzoekt kritisch internationale economische, ecologische, maatschappelijke, politieke

en culturele gebeurtenissen in functie van de impact op internationale bedrijfsvoering

Eindcompetenties: De bachelor BEM handelt op een ethische, duurzame, deontologische en maatschappelijk verantwoorde wijze en heeft aandacht voor de internationale en/of interculturele context. De bachelor BEM heeft inzicht in internationale bedrijfsvoering, kan uitdagingen en opportuniteiten in een bestaande of nieuwe globale bedrijfscontext identificeren, analyseren en beoordelen en is daarbij alert voor economische, ecologische, maatschappelijke, politieke en culturele factoren. De bachelor BEM neemt

Destripateven in Europa en Europa a Deleio naar Kirio a toe

Doelstellingen: LDV-V De student houdt ermee rekening dat de internationale culturele, economische en politieke context zowel het eigen professioneel functioneren als bedrijfsprocessen kan beïnvloeden. LDV-IV De student komt zelfbewust en weerbaar voor zichzelf op, met respect voor anderen LDV-II De student past de relevante wet- en regelgeving toe in een gegeven internationale context. LDV-III De student onderzoekt kritisch internationale economische, ecologische, maatschappelijke, politieke en culturele gebeurtenissen in functie van de impact op internationale bedrijfsvoering <u>Eindcompetenties</u>: De bachelor BEM handelt op een ethische, duurzame, deontologische en maatschappelijk verantwoorde wijze en heeft aandacht voor de internationale en/of interculturele context. De bachelor BEM heeft inzicht in internationale bedrijfsvoering, kan uitdagingen en opportuniteiten in een bestaande of nieuwe globale bedrijfscontext identificeren, analyseren en beoordelen en is daarbij alert voor economische, ecologische, maatschappelijke, politieke en culturele factoren. De bachelor BEM neemt verantwoordelijkheid in verschillende taken en rollen binnen een bedrijf of organisatie en werkt constructief en flexibel samen als lid van een divers team.

De opleiding Bachelor in het bedrijfsmanagement situeert zich in het studiegebied handelswetenschappen en bedrijfskunde en de toegekende kwalificatie situeert zich op niveau 6 volgens de Vlaamse Kwalificatiestructuur (VKS), zoals vermeld in het decreet van 30 april 2009.

Gegeven op 15 juni 2021.

Tomas Legrand

Algemeen Directeur





Micro-credentials in a lifelong learning context

























Microsoft 365 Certified: Teamwork... Microsoft







licrosoft 365 Certified: Enterprise...

Microsoft



AZ-301 Microsoft Azure Architect Design

Microsoft



Microsoft Certified: Azure Solutions Architect Expert

Microsoft



MS-100 Microsoft 365 **Identity and Services**

Microsoft



VIS-101 Microsoft 365 Mobility and Security Microsoft.



AZ-300 Microsoft Azure Architect Technologies Microsoft

Microsoft Certified: Azure Administrator Associate

Microsoft

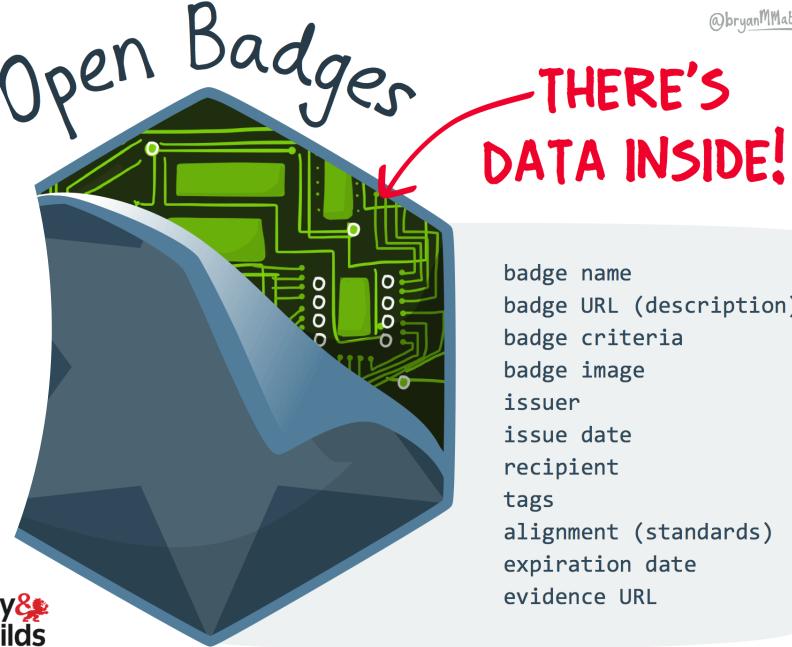


Microsoft Certified Trainer 2018-2019

Microsoft



- Making competencies tangible
- Stackable via Open Pathways
- Recognition of different levels of learning
- Digital vehicle -> IMS standards
- Possibility to add evidence
- Very concrete and *granular*
- Online wallet, owned by the learner
- Shareable
- Verifiable



badge name badge URL (description)

THERE'S

badge criteria

badge image

issuer

issue date

recipient

tags

alignment (standards)

expiration date

evidence URL



De verpleegkundige als coach en leider en critical companion op verdiepend/verbredend niveau



ssued on Oct 22, 2018

Als verpleegkundige als coach, leider en critical companion ga je met leerdoelen aan de slag die gericht zijn op een (doorgedreven) integratie van de elementaire componenten. Hier kunnen aanvullende of meer specifieke kennis, vaardigheden en attitudes aangeleerd worden die verbonden zijn aan meer complexe contexten. Doorgaans vinden we dit niveau terug in de tweede en derde opleidingsschijf, dit is echter geen noodzaak.



Verified

Last verified by Badgr on Mar 25, 2021

Re-verify Badge

EARNING CRITERIA

Recipients must complete the earning criteria to earn this Badge

OLR 6 De creatieve, ondernemende, innoverende verpleegkundige

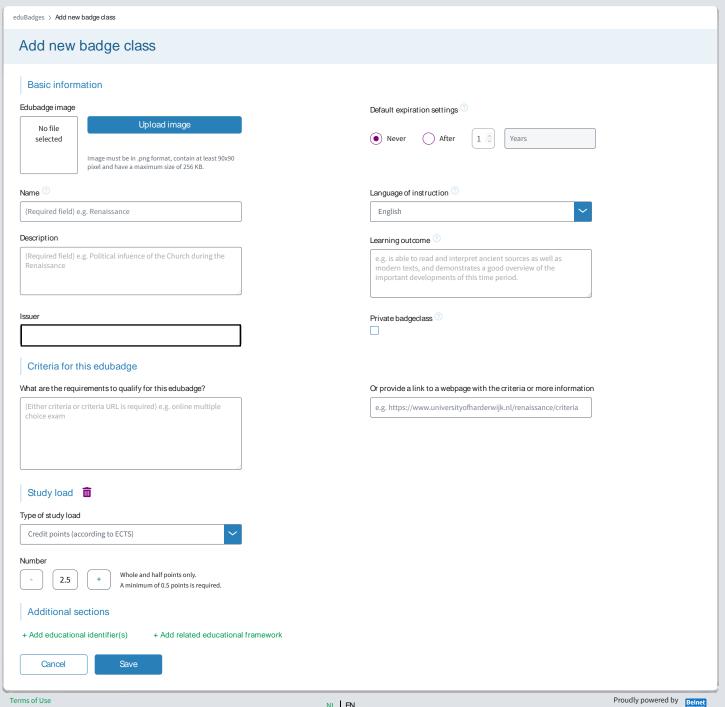
- De student ontwikkelt creatieve ideeën en innovatieve oplossingen in een context met een lage complexiteit en hoge mate van zelfstandigheid en zet deze om in daden.
- De student levert een prototype van een creatief en innovatief product af in een context met een lage complexiteit en hoge mate van zelfstandigheid.
- De student neemt op zelfstandige wijze initiatief en verantwoordelijkheid op voor de inbreng en inspanning bij het ontwikkelen van een prototype van een creatief product.
- De student toont durf en verlegt op zelfstandige wijze persoonlijke en professionele grenzen bij verpleegkundige uitdagingen in een context met lage complexiteit.
- De student volhardt op zelfstandige wijze in doelgerichte actie en energie tijdens het ontwikkelen van een prototype van een creatief en innovatief product voor een verpleegkundige uitdaging met een lage complexiteit.

OLR 8 De verpleegkundige als coach & leider en critical companion

- De student coacht vanuit een inspirerende en waarderende houding onder begeleiding van een individu of een team in een formele en informele context met hoge complexiteit.
- De student stuurt en stimuleert op zelfstandige wijze een individu of een team in een formele en informele context ten einde collectieve resultaten te bereiken binnen een gemiddeld complexe context.
- De student voert op zelfstandige wijze kritische dialoog met collega zorgverleners in een laag complexe context.
- De student stimuleert op zelfstandige wijze professionele en persoonlijke groei binnen een context met een lage complexiteit.

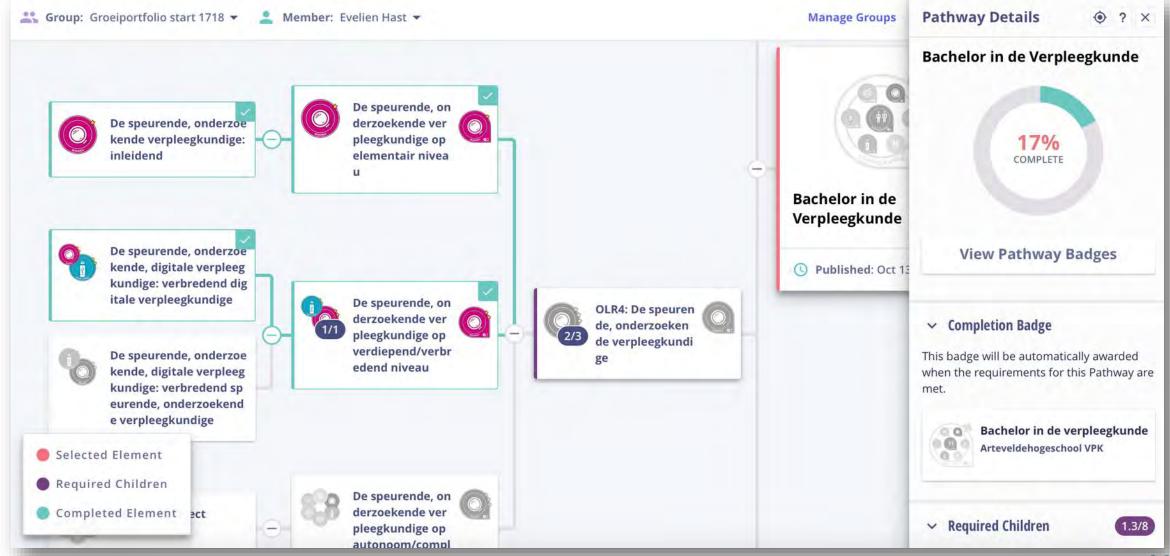


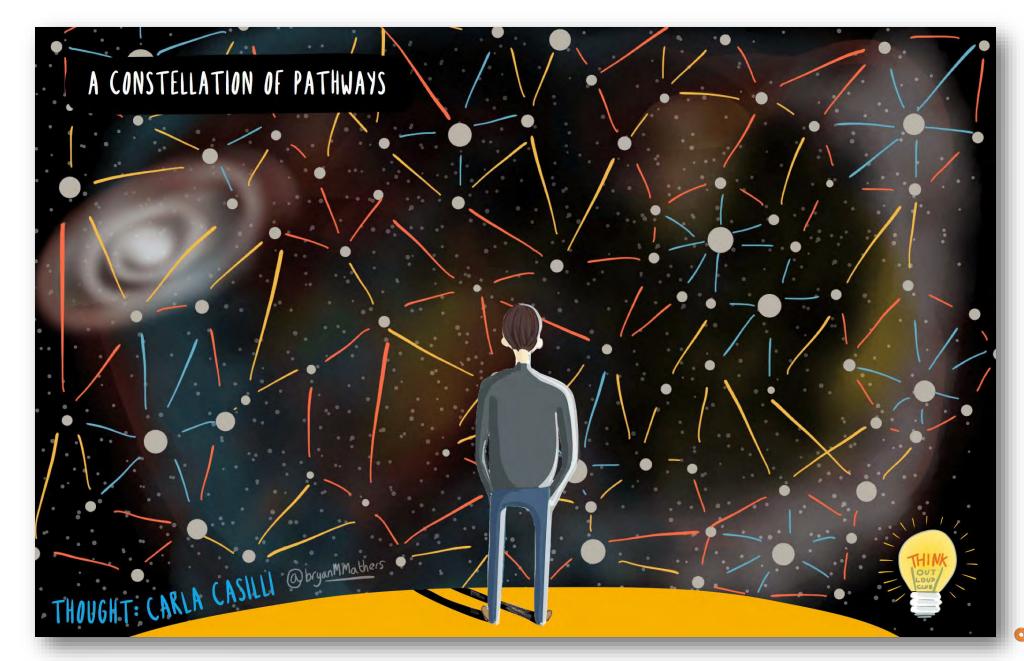




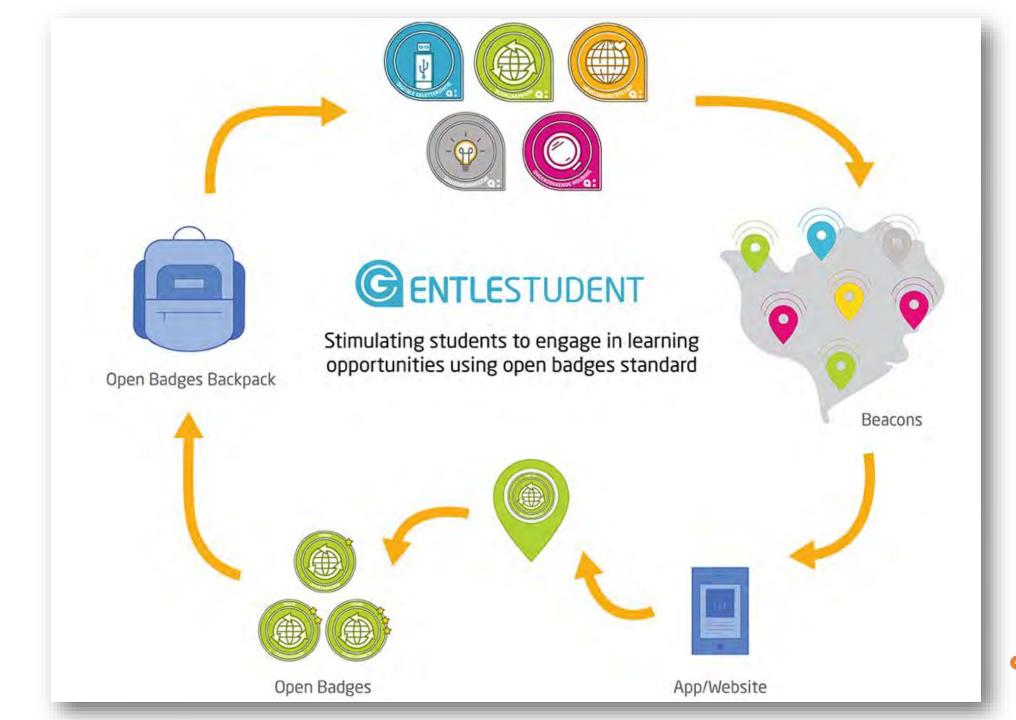




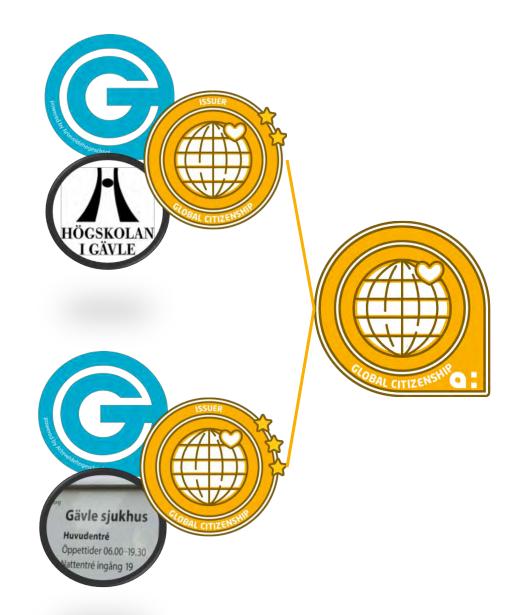














Badgr.eu

https://info.badgr.com



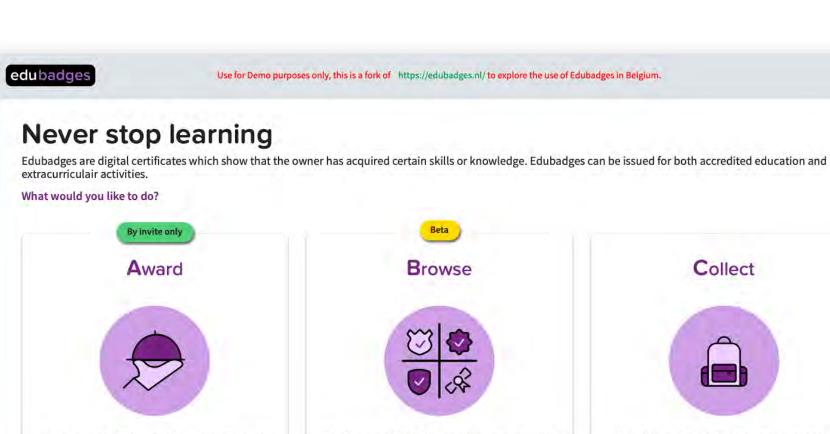




Organizations around the world use Badgr to create branded learning ecosystems that support their communities with skills-based digital credentials, stackable learning pathways, and portable learner records.







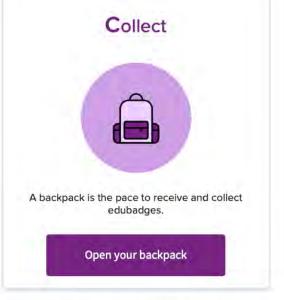
Award your students with edubadges, the micro credentials of the future.

Open the issuer portal

The issuer portal is by invite only. If you want to enter, but don't have access, please contact your institution admin.



The catalog shows all the badgeclasses of all institutions using edubadges.



An eduID is needed to create and use your backpack. Creating an eduID takes less than 30 seconds

Terms of Use **Privacy Statement**

NL EN

Proudly powered by SURF About edubadges



Our challenges

- Shared understanding among HEI
- Perception by the labour market
- Shared and common infrastructure
 - Integrations
 - with Student Information Systems
 - with Learning Management Systems

• ...



MICRO-CREDENTIALS AT GHENT UNIVERSITY AND IN ENLIGHT EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY

Frederik De Decker, Head International Relations Office, Ghent University



THE SITUATION IN FLANDERS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION



RECAP: MICROBOL DEFINITION

"A micro-credential is a small volume of learning certified by a credential. In the EHEA context, it can be offered by HEIs or recognized by them using recognition procedures in line with the Lisbon Recognition Convention or recognition of prior learning, where applicable. A microcredential is designed to provide the learner with specific knowledge, skills or competences that respond to societal, personal, cultural or labour market needs. Micro-credentials have explicitly defined learning outcomes at a QF-EHEA/NQF level, an indication of associated workload in ECTS credits, assessment methods and criteria, and are subject to quality

assurance in line with the ESG"

("European project MICROBOL. Micro-credentials linked to the Bologna Key Commitments", August 2020, p. 7).



RECAP: SITUATION IN FLANDERS (BE) FOR HE

- "Offered by higher education institutions": Credit certificates
- "Recognised by higher education institutions":
 - Formal learning (HE) "Recognition of Prior
 Qualifications" (incl. these credit certificates) ("EVK")
 - Non-formal/informal learning "Recognition of Prior Competences" ("EVC")



MICRO-CREDENTIALS AT GHENT UNIVERSITY

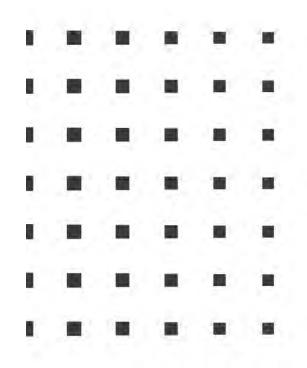


MICRO-CREDENTIALS AT GHENT UNIVERSITY

- Much of what we offer can be considered as MC's (→
 "Credit certificates")
- Focus on new Ghent University policy re. Lifelong Learning that has an explicit focus on microcredentials
 - 5 Academies, covering all disciplines of the university
 - Nova Academy = cooperation between:
 - Ghent University
 - Vrije Universiteit Brussel
 - University of Antwerp



:Nova:Academy:



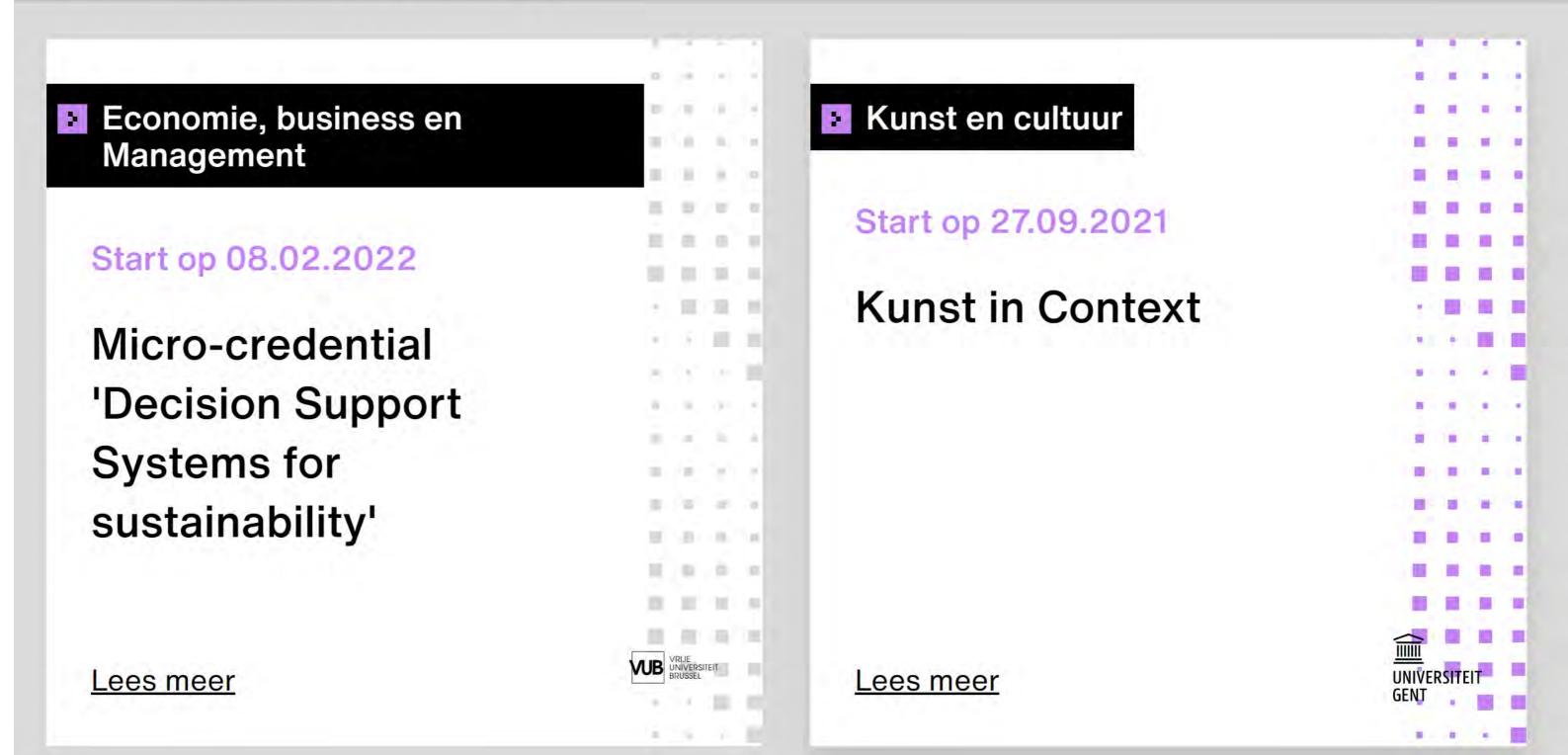
Home / Programmes

Programmes

Overview of the postgraduate courses, continuing education courses and summer schools offered by the University of Antwerp, Ghent University and the Vrije Universiteit Brussel.



:Nova:Academy:





CHANGES INTRODUCED FOR LLL-OFFER

- Included in Internal Quality assurance (note: in Flanders we have institutional accreditiation)
- Defined learning outcomes
- Use of ECTS-credits (incl. assessment)
- Link to QF-level
 - → Qualify as micro-credentials

! Extra boost by means of Advancement Fund!



BROADER APPROACH AT GHENT UNIVERSITY

- Opportunities to increase the potential use of the existing learning offer
- Encompassing all types of learning (related to HE), i.e. beyond lifelong learning, MOOCs etc.
- To further enhance:
 - flexibility (although this has its limits...)
 - openness towards
 - more diverse learners but also beneficial for 'regular students': working together with mature students, students from different backgrounds,
 - more diverse ways of learning (e.g. also non-formal, online/blended,...)



USE OF BADGES (COMPLEMENTARY TO MC'S)

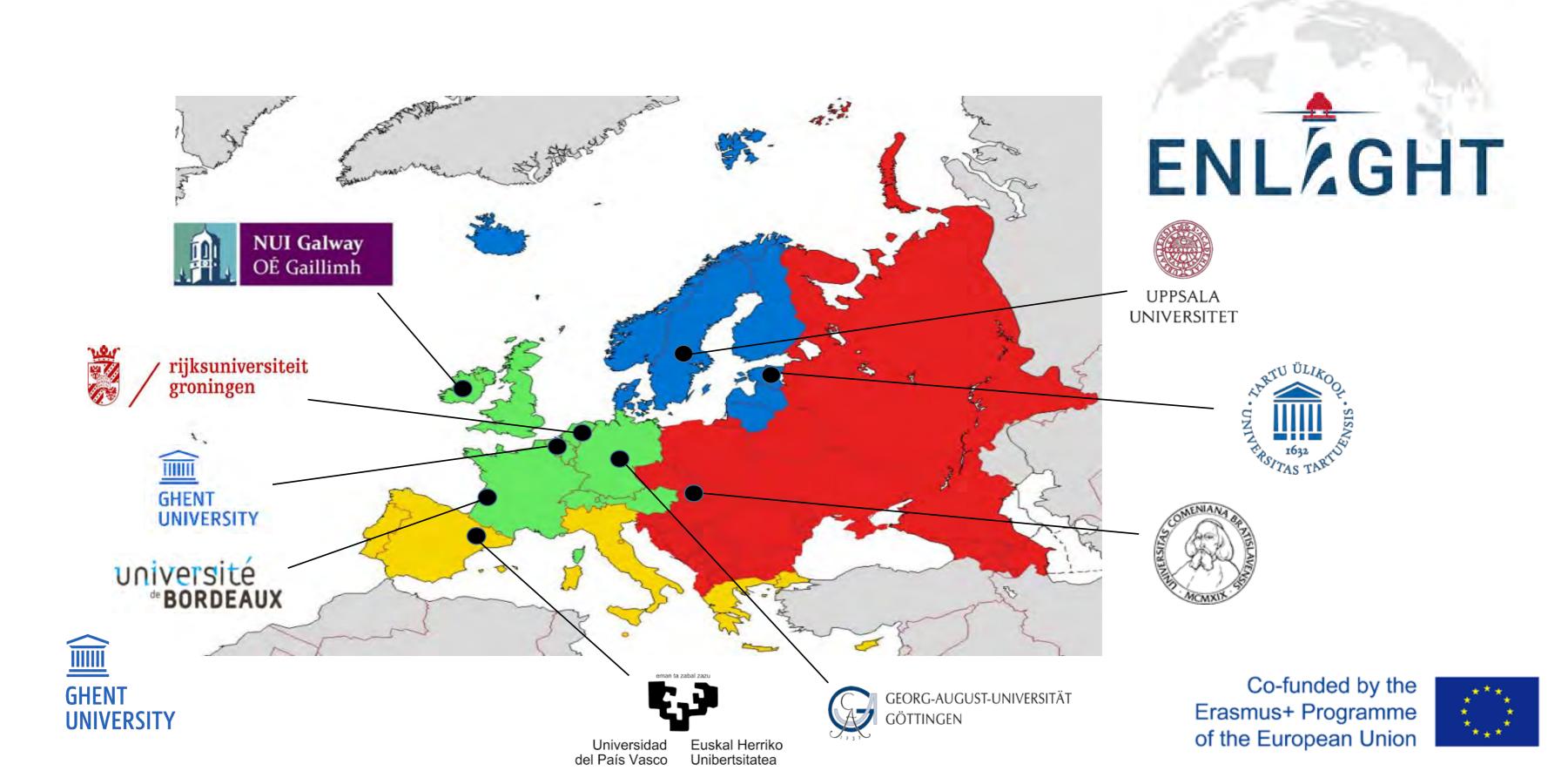
- Ghent University is setting up a system to support and validate students' (local, international) societal engagement through "Badges" (= based upon an the Badger standard)
- Not a micro-credential (no need for QA, credits,...) (would create extra obstacles)
- But can lower threshold to apply for "Certificates of Competency" (= type of micro-credential)



MICRO-CREDENTIALS WITHIN EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES NETWORK ENLIGHT



EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES NETWORK ENLIGHT



MICRO-CREDENTIALS WITHIN ENLIGHT

- MC's for courses focused on the achievement of generic competences (in areas such as multilingualism, global engagement,...)
- MC's for initiatives in 5 Flagship areas:
 - Health and well-being
 - Digital revolution and Impact of digitalization
 - Climate action
 - Energy transition and Circular economy
 - **Equity**









Educational Change in Times of Rapid Technological Innovation

ENLIVE (ENLIGHT Network Language and Intercultural Virtual Exchange)

Online Seminar Food Supply Chain Management



Deep Learning in Forestry



Equity and Equality in Education and Medicine



Global Engagement module



Interdisciplinary Study of the Climate Neutral City

Use advantages of our legal framework

- Origin: ENLIGHT Flagship area
 Energy Use and Circular Economy
- Lead institution: Ghent University
 (Faculty of Bioscience Engineering)
- Partners: all eight ENLIGHT partners
- Status: in design, first iteration in Spring 2022



LOOKING FORWARD



POTENTIAL FOR THE FUTURE

- Investigate links with already existing formats and projects e.g.
 - Europass Digital Credentials for Learning,
 - European Student Card Initiative (= integration of Erasmus Without Paper, EMREX and the European Student Card → focus on student data portability)
 - Aim \rightarrow give ownership of the microcredential to the end-user
- Use the potential of all the attention for micro-credentials in European Universities → huge leverage



CONTACT

Frederik De Decker, Head of IRO 'Het Pand', Onderbergen 1, BE-9000 Ghent, Belgium

E-mail: Frederik.DeDecker@UGent.be

Tel.: +32 9 264 70 11



@FrederikDD





IC Freie Universität







WAYS OF CONCRETE SUPPORT FOR MICRO-CREDENTIALS

WP2 IMPLEMENTATION CLUSTER





AGENDA

- Open U@FU
- Overview of functionalities and components
- Next steps moving forward





OPEN U@FU

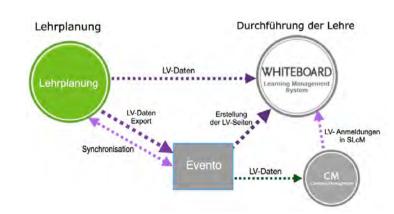
- Freie Universität Berlin is part of WP2 since the beginning, believing in the benefit of Open U and willing to step in despite challenges (esp. re the time constraints)
- Open U@FU is mainly carried out
- for the WP2 by Henrik Steller, with advisement by Prof. Margarita Esponda-Argüero and backing by Steffen Hofmann and our ZEDAT central IT Service Center
- for the WP3 by René Perfölz, with backing from Karoline von Köckritz and our CeDiS eLearning competence center
- for overall coordination and "sweeping" by Johannes Posel, under the auspices of Vice President Prof. Verena Blechinger-Talcott





OVERVIEW OF FUNCTIONALITIES AND COMPONENTS

- FU is mainly a SAP shop (Student Lifecycle Management), but there are exceptions:
- Room scheduling is mainly Evento by Crealogix SA
- Enrollment/matriculation is HIS
- Semester planning is carried out by each department, sometimes in an archaic way
- · Additionally, our main LMS is Blackboard
- Responding to user feedback, the Department of Mathematics and Computing Science developed "MyCampus", a collection of tools interacting both with each other and with the "central" systems to provide i.a.
- a course catalogue with comments and a "site browser"
- the pre-enrolment towards courses and the possibility of preferential choices
- application for courses and examinations
- student enrolment lists
- performance records/transcripts/course assessments/ credits
- collaborative project spaces crossing courses







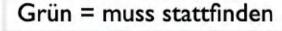
HIGHLIGHTS OF "MYCAMPUS"

- Curriculum planning and administration
- > Planning supports spanning over several semesters, including monitoring deadlines
- Integrity of the curriculum can be immediately assessed, including non-overlapping of courses
- Focusses on ease of use for all target groups, including multilingual UI (95% de & eng descriptions)
- Administration of study regulations, including recognition/accreditation of foreign course assessments/credits as well as individual study plans
- Issuing of course assessments/credits
- Tracking of teaching load requirements
- Implementation of the curriculum
- a course catalogue with comments and a "site browser"
- > collaborative spaces per course, already populated and including calendars
- project spaces crossing courses
- Course or event enrolment for students both on site or external, factoring in student preferential choice and capacity restrictions

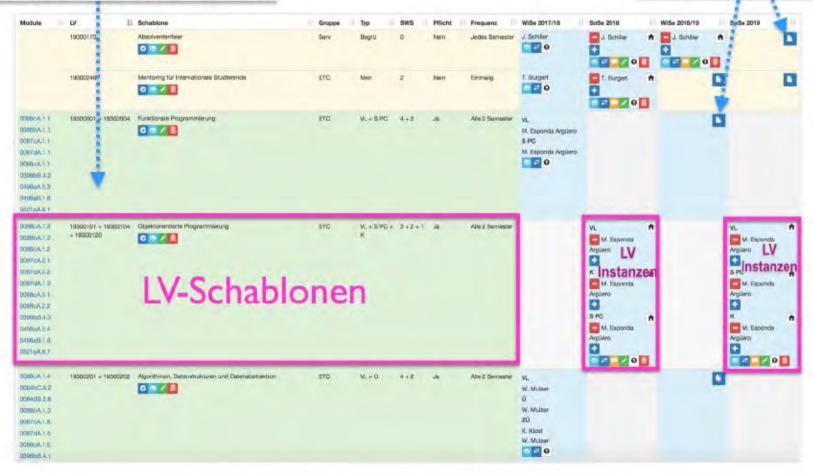










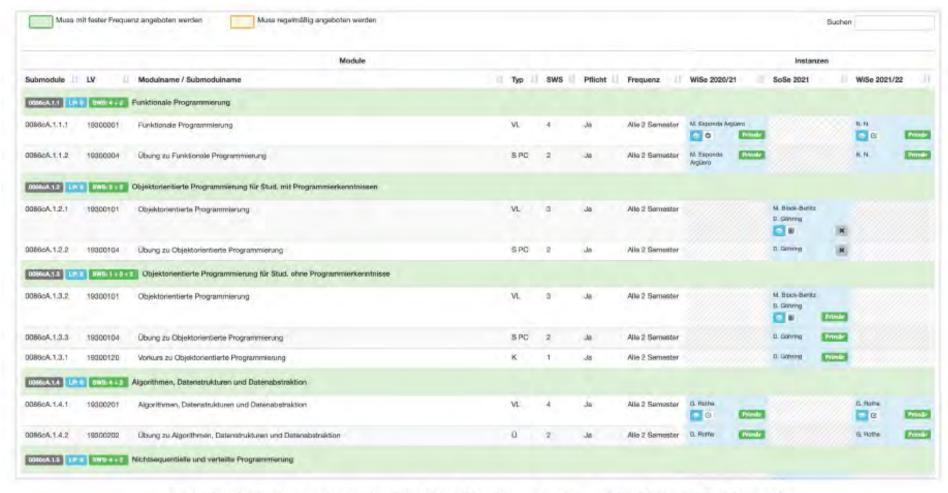


Teilansicht der Langfristplanung des Informatik-Instituts







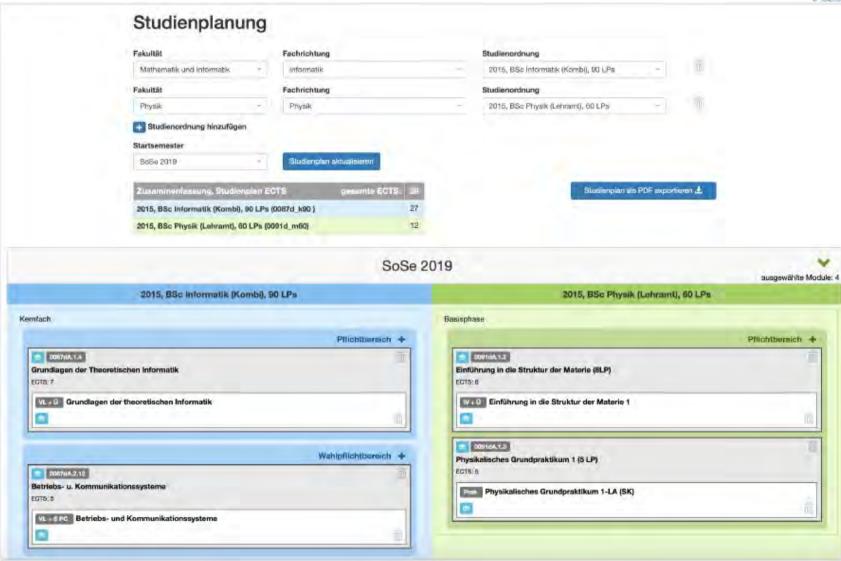


Beispiel des Lehrangebots des Bachelor-Studiengangs Informatik (Grün = Pflichtmodul)





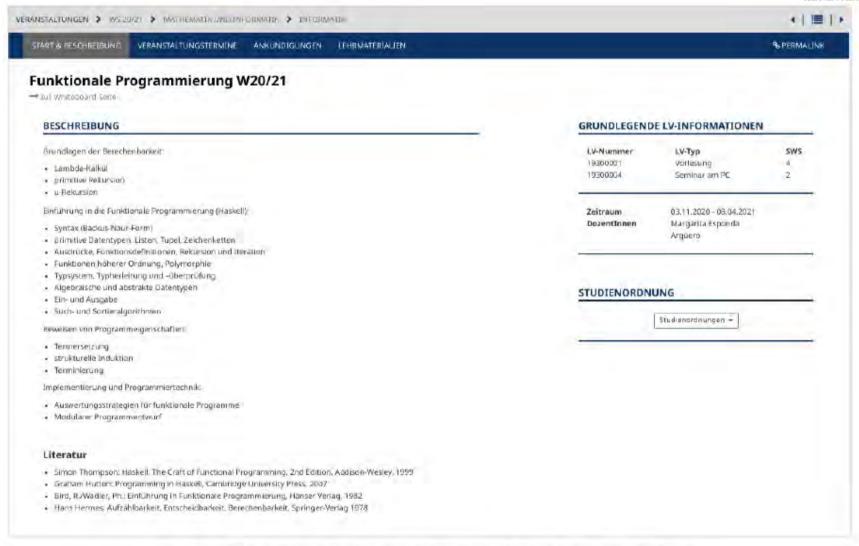












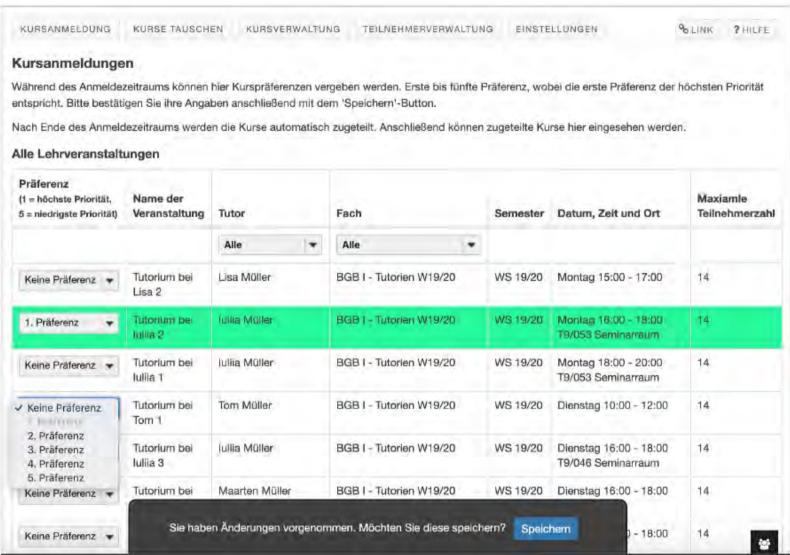
Beispiel einer von Whiteboard automatisch erstellten öffentlichen LV-Seite.

OpenU High-level Authorities' Meeting October 13th 2021





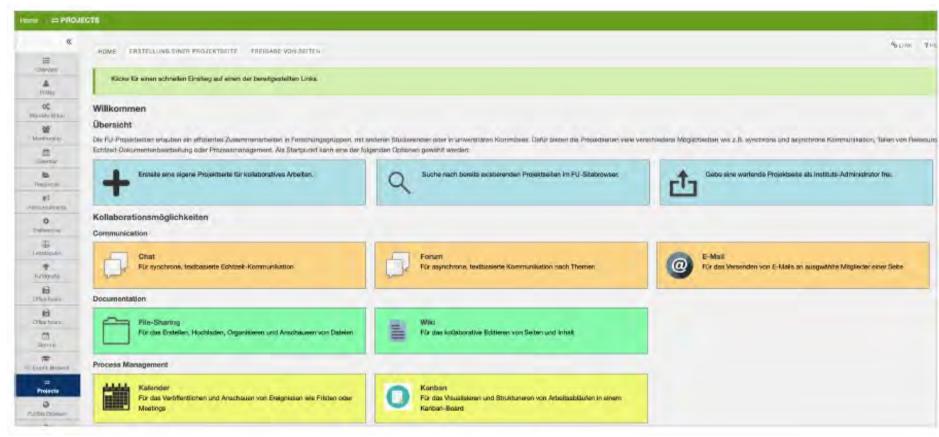








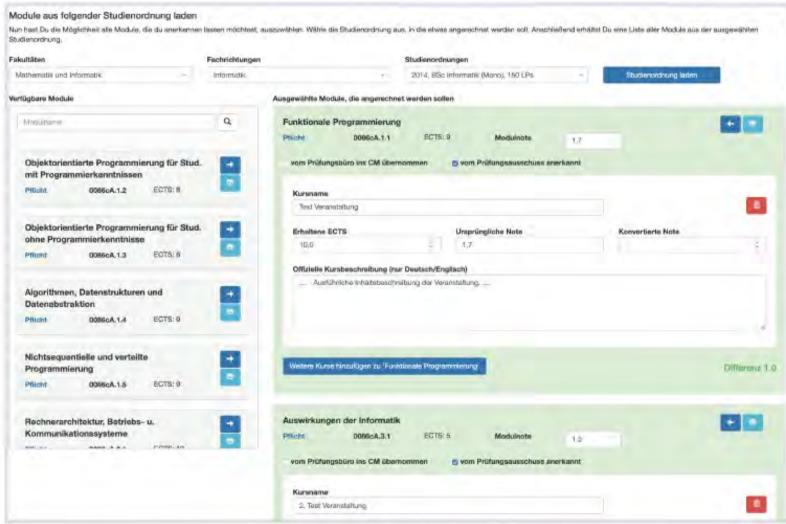










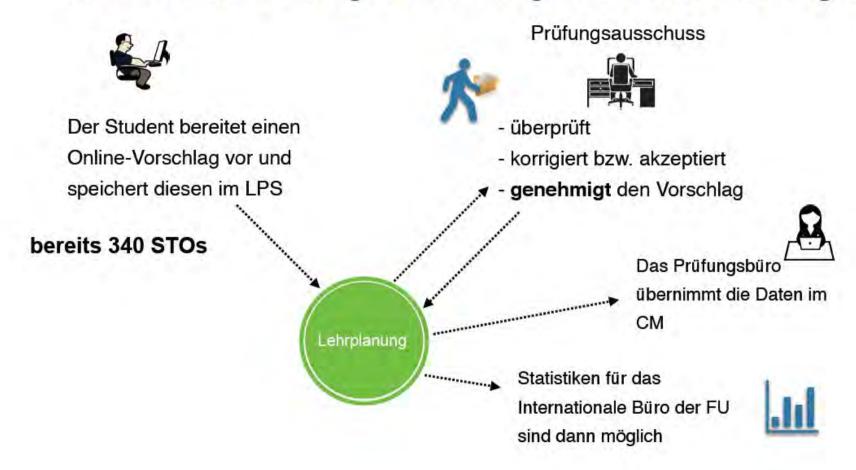








Online Anerkennung/Anrechnung von Studienleistungen







OVERVIEW OF FUNCTIONALITIES AND COMPONENTS (II)

- MyCampus is also used to offer and administrate the "ProInformatik" early studies program, geared at high school graduates before their first semester but open for prospective students alike, featuring enrollment, course scheduling, queues for modules and user management including fee tracking.
- MyCampus is used to manage course catalogues and course enrollment for the Berlin Mathematical School, the Graduate School of the Berlin Math+ Excellence Cluster, and thus supports "federated" access via Shibboleth AAI (currently in the German NRENs AAI).
- Software and tools are based on the Sakai LMS project by the Apereo Foundation, geared towards
 Higher Education and Research Institutions, being available under an open source license and
 designed with modular aspects in mind
- Interfaces for import and export allow the flow of data both towards a user-friendly representation via HTML, for example for the site browser aggregating the commented course catalogue, as well as XML-based for automated use or re-use in other systems. We also had export to our campus mobile app Cassis.

OpenU High-level Authorities' Meeting October 13th 2021







OpenU High-level Authorities' Meeting October 13th 2021





NEXT STEPS - MOVING FORWARD

- We believe the first "technical" step to take is to get a test bed system up and running, in order to support WP3s experimentations at least for their "second round".
- In parallel, we need to map the needs gathered to a list of features, weighted in short term and mid term availability.
- There is obviously a lof of technical requirements to solve, and we are not spared of the administrative "voodoo"/paper trails either, but we are committed!





LOOKING FORWARD TO CONTRIBUTING TO OUR COMMON GOAL

THANK YOU!



Questions or feedback?
Get in touch: openu@daad.de

Thank you!





