Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh

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Re-imagining Assessment and Feedback for Student Success Project Phase 2

Redesigning assessment and feedback to increase engagement in the online flexible classroom

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ATU Letterkenny
16th June 2023

1. Programme Details BSc (Hons) in Construction Contracts Management

2. Current Assessment Strategy Amended assessment schedule

3. Project actions

4. Outcomes

5. Future plans

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Programme Title:
BSc (Hons) in Construction Contracts Management
Level 8 programme 1-year add-on 60 ECTS

◇   Springboard+ HCI funded

◇   Online delivery started September 2022 – 17 students enrolled

◇   Programme runs over 4 no. 10-week sessions (15 ECTS per session)

◇   All 9 no. modules have previously been delivered on campus

◇   7 no. lecturers on programme team

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Indicative Assessment Schedule issued to students at start of programme

Session 1	Week No			
Module / Assessment	1-4	5-8	9-10	Final Examination
Construction Management 1	Project Execution Plan (5%) Project Team Organisation, Experience and Method Statement (25%)	Safety & Health Management (15%) Quality Management (15%)	Consultant & Design Team Fees (25%) Teamwork and Reflection (15%)	n/a
Statutory Approvals	H&S documentation (13.33%)	Planning documentation (13.33%)	Building Control documentation (13.33%)	Online Exam (60%) On campus exam 2024

Session 2	Week No			
Module / Assessment	1-4	5-8	9-10	Final Examination
Construction Management 2	Develop project schedule, resource plan, labour cashflow, margin target (25%)	Employee welcome booklet for a European (15%) Risk Assessment Method Statement (15%)	Owner & Contractor Furnished Procurement Plan (20%) Project Recovery Plan (25%)	n/a
Construction Law & Professional Ethics	Professional Ethics Assignment (10%)	Construction Law Assignment (15%) Guest lecture report (10%)	Online MCQ (5%)	Online Exam (75%)

Assessment methods are a mix of group and individual assessment in the form of class exercises, reports, essays, and online tests. 3 out of 9 modules have a final examination.

Formative assessment also takes place in the form of Blackboard quizzes, wikis, in-class tasks and draft reviews. Changes highlighted

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2. Current Assessment Strategy

Session 3	Week No			
Module / Assessment	1-4	5-8	9-10	Final Examination
Financial Information & Decision Making in Construction		Case study/assignment (25%)		On campus Exam (75%)
Dispute Mitigation & Resolution	Group research and poster presentation (group) (20%) Dispute Resolution summary table (10%)	Claims scenario (10%) Guest Lecture reports (30%) Guest Lecture summaries (10%)	Academic Journal review (20%) Guest lecture review class discussion (20%)	Online MCQ test (10%)
Research Report	Logbook (10%)		Final written report (75%)	Presentation (15%)

Session 4	Week No			
Module / Assessment	1-4	5-8	9-10	Final Examination
Work Placement	Pre-placement training (25%)	Work Placement students E-Portfolio (35%) *Alternative to work placement including peer review of PDPs (75%)*	Final report & presentation (40%)	
Industry Case Study	Research Aim, Objectives and Case Study selection (10%)	Research and Academic Writing class exercises (25%)	Case Study Report (50%)	Presentation (15%)

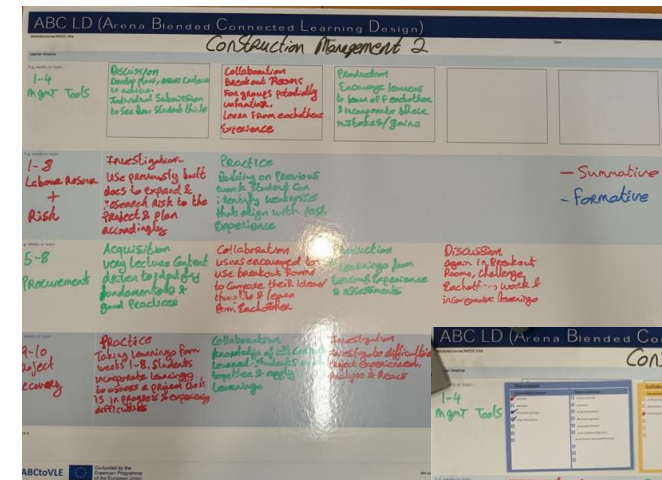# Under the National Forum themes of Digital Transformation in T&L and Academic Integrity, our aims for this project are

✓ Programme team lecturers to make at least one small change to their current practice and employ new assessment methods and TEL tools

✓ Investigate how multiple means of action and expression by giving the students a choice of assessment method can improve motivation and ownership of learning

✓ Employ digital technology and assessment activities to allow students to review and redraft assignments for academic integrity

✓ Produce a final showcase of innovative/authentic assessment and/or feedback strategies from the programme

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ABC Learning workshop:

On 30 November 2022, the programme team undertook an ABC Learning Design workshop with Dr Deirdre McClay to evaluate the types of assessment methods employed across all 9 modules on the programme.

This encouraged the programme team to reflect on their own module assessment methods and consider these in the context of assessment methods adopted on other modules.

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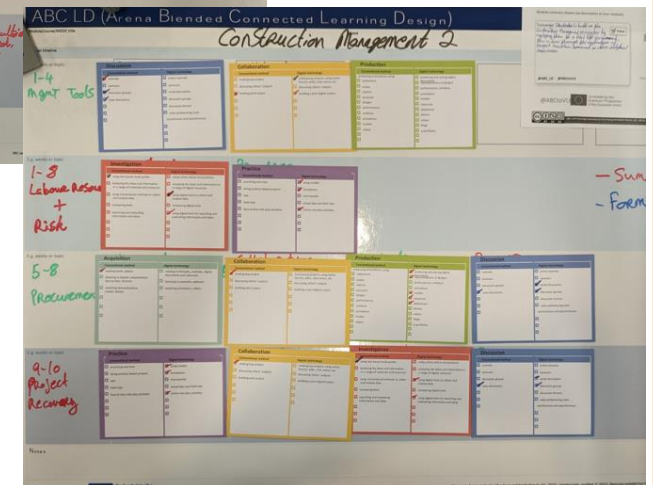
ABC Learning Workshop

Learning Types Activity Graphs

Acquisition

Collaboration

Production

Report
weekly log

Practice

Discussion

Investigation

Industry Case Study
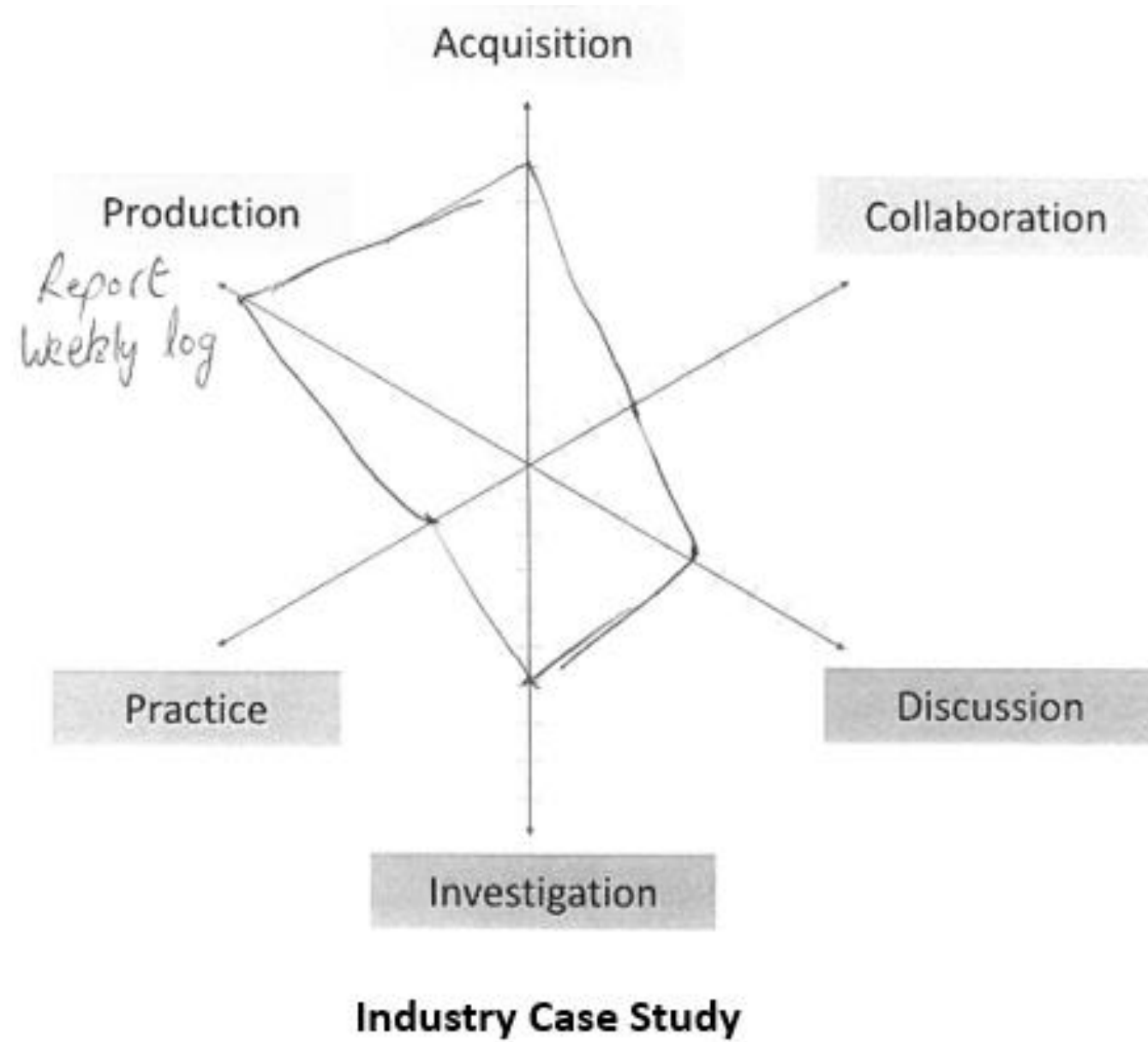
Outputs:

In February 2023, the programme team finalised the audit and review of the programme assessment. The spreadsheet was submitted to the project coordinator and the formative assessment used by individual lecturers was shared amongst the team.

The session order has been amended for the next academic year intake.

Feedback from Programme Team (June 2023):

Focus very much on practical and team working. Further focus on group sessions, determine a key list of recordings tailored for struggling attenders to promote submissions

Breaking the class into groups improved engagement from students, so I might look to enhance that.

I will try to increase the variety of assessment methods.

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Feedback from Programme Team:

> *"My module was essentially complete when we did the workshop, so it did not influence my assessment strategy. **I did find the reflective process within the ABC framework useful – I was able to consider my assessments through different lenses. I think the diversity of my assessment pieces covered a good breadth of the ABC types, but I feel some could be strengthened a bit, and I will consider that for the next deployment of the module**."*

- Have you made any changes to assessment and/or feedback practices? *This is my first time presenting this module online so I have not implemented changes yet. However, what I have prepared is a method of further extending the theme of collaboration for next years session by changing the group sets on a number of occasions.*

- Any future plans for changes to assessment and/or feedback? *All assignments are individual, however, developed in group environments. Next year I may introduce the requirement of a team member environment and delegate certain portions of the assignments to individuals and mark as a group assignment.*

- The attached "audit" compiles the information from the ABC workshop on each module (completed by Eleanor with her photographs). Did you learn anything/take anything away from this process? *Yes the assignment of the ABC type did increase my confidence of the delivery of the module as all types were captured.*

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Feedback from Programme Team:

"The ABC workshop gave me an opportunity to develop a bespoke assessment strategy for Alternative to Work Placement which now includes an aspect of students peer reviewing each others work. This module is yet to be completed but considering the variety of assessment methods has provided me with the confidence to diversify the assessment approach which I hope can encourage ongoing engagement from students on an online environment."

"I felt that the ABC Learning Design workshop was beneficial as a programme team, this can be built upon in upcoming programme team meetings for professional re-accreditation. Encouraging shared practice can be difficult, however recording our current assessment methods provides a benchmark from which progress in the next academic year can be measured. We can track the assessment strategy changes and assess their impact."

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Future programme team activities

Digital Transformation in T&L

TEL tools – sharing practice event in September 2023

Staff survey on digital skills JISC

Continue student survey and collation of available resources/skills training

Assessment & Feedback methods

Formative assessment – do students do it if there are no marks for it? - Feedback as learning

Assessment rubrics – sharing resources, e.g. Group discussion rubric, Blackboard quiz pools.

Academic Integrity

Student survey on academic integrity – incorporate information from Emma McDonald research

Assessment activity to include review of Turnitin to improve referencing skills – completed in Session 2

Review, reflect, reinforce

Review and revise assessment strategy for next academic year

Champion T&L seminars and workshops within the team

Prepare evidence for CIOB accreditation, share practice

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Q & A session

Thank You

Re-imagining Assessment and Feedback for Student Success Project 2022-2023