Invitation to a Workshop

Problem-/Project-Based Learning (PBL)

How to do it and why it matters for the future

PBL is a set of pedagogies that begins with a typical problem or challenge, in order to learn and to integrate key theoretical concepts as well as to master a broader set of professional skills.

Most people need to start small, so let's work on putting a small, integrative project into a subject – particularly a subject that is traditionally taught out of a textbook. We will work through an example in the workshop.

What would the next step look like, using a bigger project to rethink how a fundamentals subject is taught? These sorts of projects can grow in sophistication of application of fundamental knowledge as well as specialist knowledge in a discipline. This is really the middle stage of a curriculum.

Students also focus on what they want to learn in terms of their future career directions, which evolves into student-led learning in later years. This is what problem-based learning prepares students for – working in an increasingly changeable world.

PBL confronts students immediately with what they do not know. They then use a structured problem-solving process to identify what they do know and what they need to know. This can be combined with more traditional instruction (usually online resources) if required. The use of online resources is critical to the future, given that students can learn most fundamental subjects online.

We want graduates who can grapple with problems that they haven't seen before by seeking the knowledge that they need. This is what the workplace increasingly needs.

The workshop will focus on:

1. What's the difference between a problem-based approach and a project-based approach?
2. What is project-assisted learning? Which method is best for which learning situation?
3. How to design a subject/unit this way – a group activity.
4. How to evaluate groups and individuals?
5. How to adapt the method to different content and year levels.

Lecturer:
Professor Dr. Roger Hadgraft,
Director, Educational Innovation & Research
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University of Technology Sydney

Target Group: academic teachers and professors

Date: Friday, April 20, 2018, 10:00 am–3:00 pm

Location: TU Berlin, Centre for Scientific Continuing Education and Cooperation (ZEWK),
Fraunhofer Straße 33-36, 10587 Berlin, room FH 1004

Please register via email: wwb@zewk.tu-berlin.de