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Developing Reusable Learning Objects at ITT Dublin via the Irish National Digital Learning Repository

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Developing Reusable Learning Objects (RLOs) at ITT Dublin via the National Digital Learning Resources repository


Aims & Objectives

To develop reusable teaching and learning objects covering core academic skills; to enhance the student learning experience and provide learners with opportunities to develop, reflect and assess their progress as they acquire an independent approach to learning; to facilitate student transition from second to third level and develop information literacy. RLOs include:

- Academic research
- Study skills
- Writing skills
- Plagiarism
- Grammar
- Referencing

How To resources:

- Sound pedagogical principles
- Constructivist approach
- An active learning experience
- An element of reflective learning
- Requirement for critical thinking and problem solving
- Elements requiring collaboration between students
- Engaging, interactive content
- Available 24/7 as self paced online resources

Reinvent resources:

- Additional funding via the NDLR will facilitate delivery of new RLOs
- Embed tutorial into further academic modules
- Increase collaboration with teaching staff
- Tutorials integrated into new Learning to Learn Module – September 2012
- Ongoing development and evaluation of existing tutorials
- Seek funding for further software provision
- Ongoing staff training / skills development
- Include audio and tutorial translation
- Interact and collaborate nationally and internationally

Challenges

- Time Commitments – creating resources dependent on student/staff availability
- Technical issues – audio and training, managing version control
- Design – ensuring tools were interactive, engaging and meeting pedagogical needs
- Collaboration – integrating tutorials into academic modules
- Feedback – not all usage stats being captured at start of project

Evaluation

Mechanisms used to measure effectiveness of learning objects include:

- Formal feedback
- Library website (Google Analytics)
- Moodle (Institute VLE)
- Online survey tool (SurveyGizmo)
- NDLR Website

Since September 2010 when the first RLO was launched, the tutorials have achieved nearly 3,300 completions with over 2,500 students providing online feedback via SurveyGizmo.

References


References

The National Digital Learning Resources (NDLR) repository promotes and supports the sharing and creation of digital learning resources amongst the higher education academic community in Ireland. For more information, please go to www.ndlr.ie

Institute of Technology Tallaght (ITT Dublin) is a higher education provider in South County Dublin. The Institute has over 4,600 students and offers a range of qualifications from Higher Certificate to Masters and Doctorate level across programmes in the areas of Business, Computing, Engineering, Humanities and Science.