Pathways for learning:
Tertiary Educator programme

Course introduction webinar – 13th July 2020

Welcome

- Introduce ourselves

- Introduce themes that will be covered in the programme

- Introduce some of the platforms and activities

Introductions

Dr Tim Coughlan

Dr. Ephraim Mhlanga

Dr. Nashwa Ismail

Olivier Biard

The Open University and IET

- The Open University is the largest university in the UK

- It has pioneered distance learning since 1969

- We ran our first fully online course 20 years ago

- The Institute of Educational Technology (IET) provides teaching and expertise in technology enhanced learning to the university, and is a world-leading research institute
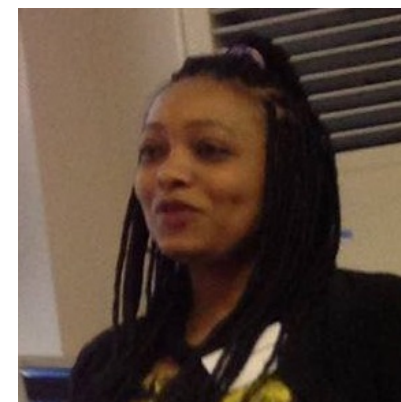
More of the Open University team

Prof Anne Adams
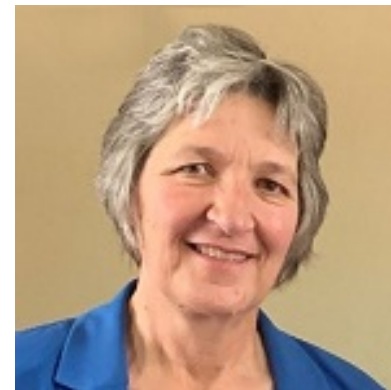
Dr Simon Cross

Chris Edwards

Dr Margaret Ebubedike

Dr Rob Farrow

Dr Christothea Herodotou

Kate Lister

Dr Kris Stutchbury

Prof Denise Whitelock

The Open University mission

> **"** Our mission is to be open to people, places, methods and ideas.

The Open University's mission is to be open to people, places, methods and ideas.

We promote educational opportunity and social justice by providing high-quality university education to all who wish to realise their ambitions and fulfil their potential.
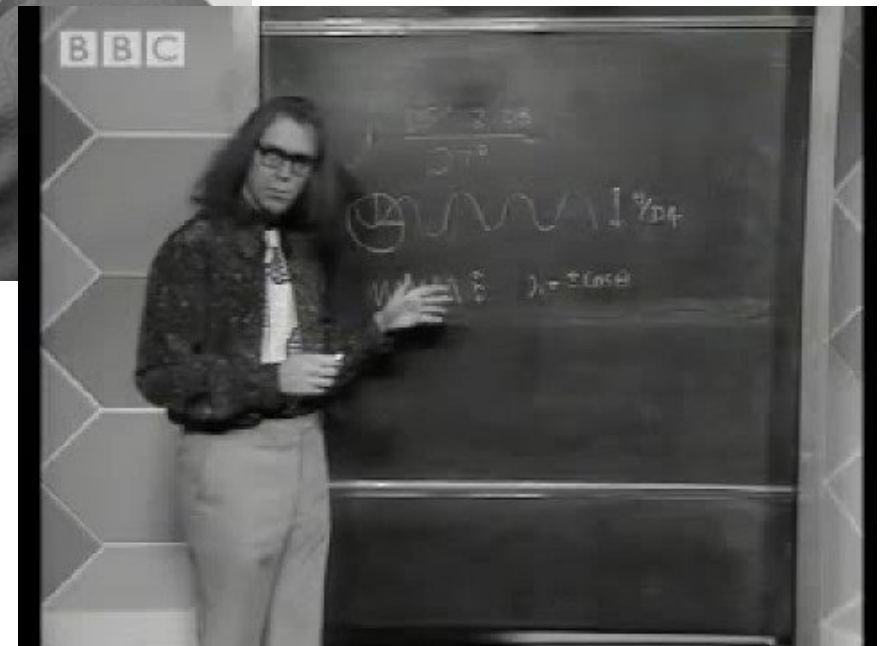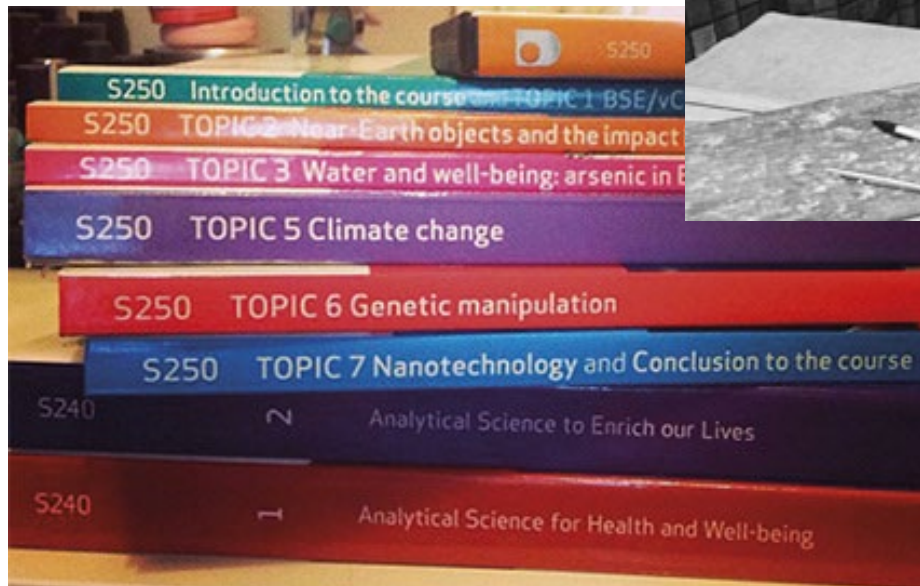
Through academic research, pedagogic innovation and collaborative partnership we seek to be a world leader in the design, content and delivery of supported open learning.

The Open University | 50 YEARS

Back then…

Now...

1 2–8 September **0 of 8** completed

Please read our Welcome message.

Block 1: Disabled students and online learning

Topic 1 Getting started
Available from *8 Aug 2017, 01:00*

Topic 1 Tutor Group Forum   (Tutor groups (H810-17I-OSEP))
Not available unless:
- You belong to a group in *Tutor groups (H810-17I-OSEP)* (hidden otherwise)
- It is after *2 Sep 2017, 01:00*
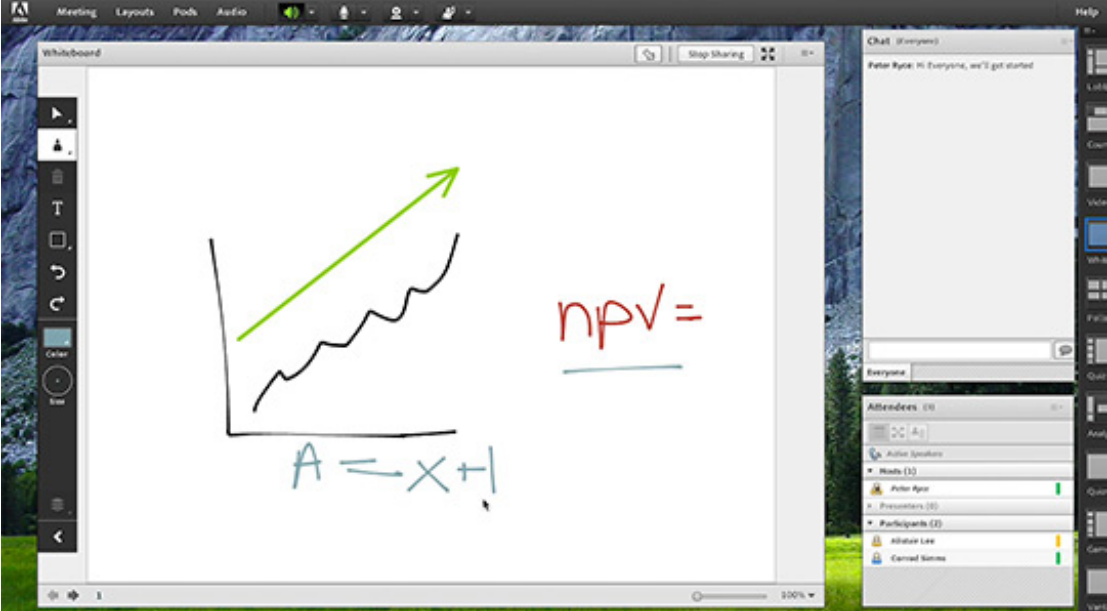
Topic 2 Accessibility?
Available from *8 Aug 2017, 01:00*

Topic 2 Tutor Group Forum   (Tutor groups (H810-17I-OSEP))
Not available unless:
- You belong to a group in *Tutor groups (H810-17I-OSEP)* (hidden otherwise)
- It is after *2 Sep 2017, 01:00*

Topic 3 Different models of disability
Available from *8 Aug 2017, 01:00*

The OpenScience Laboratory

Home   About   Contact us   IntranetHome

The OpenScience Laboratory

An initiative of The Open University and The Wolfson Foundation

This online laboratory brings interactive practical science to students anywhere and anytime the internet is available. The laboratory features investigations based on on-screen instruments, remote access experiments and virtual scenarios using real data. Several activities are available to all, while others are available only to registered users.

Come in and look around.

Lab tour

If you close this box, you can still see it at any time by clicking **About** from the main header above.
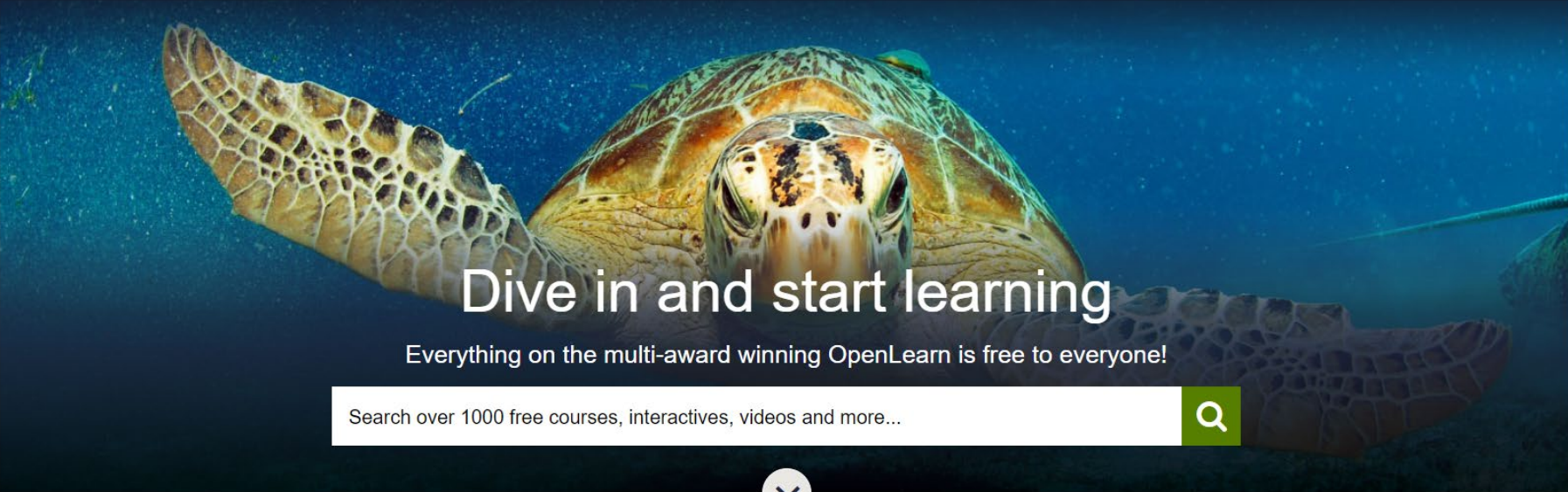
Close this box

Now…

African Council for Distance Education

The African Council for Distance Education (ACDE) is a continental educational organization comprising African universities and other higher education institutions, which are committed to expanding access to quality education and training through open and distance learning.

The mandate of the ACDE, as a unifying body of ODL providers in Africa, is primarily to promote research, policy and quality in open and distance learning to increase access to education and training in Africa. We do this by building capacity, fostering collaboration and partnership, and advocacy.

Background

SAME TEACHER

DIFFERENT TOOLS

Education is changing and responding to difficult times around the world.

We are excited to support you to learn more about online teaching and learning.

Teaching online is different.

This programme will help you to understand how to make the most of the opportunities, and overcome common challenges.

Poll: Where and how are you joining us today?

- How are you joining this call?
  - On a desktop computer
  - On a laptop computer
  - On a tablet computer
  - On a phone
  - Something else
- Where are you now?
  - At your workplace
  - At home
  - Somewhere else

Programme outline

- Introduction and conclusion webinars
- Take your Teaching Online – a Badged Open Course
- Community events throughout using a range of platforms and processes
- Website being updated as events are confirmed.

Take your Teaching Online

- Aimed at educators at any level
- Introduces key concepts and tools for online teaching
- Core material for this programme
- 24 hours of study

Figure 2 Teaching where learners are present at the same time is called synchronous teaching
Long description

Take your Teaching Online

- The course is split into eight 'weeks' of content and activities
- Each 'week' should take around three hours
- We have suggested 1-2 weeks of the course to study in each week of this programme
- Reading through the material and passing two compulsory quizzes leads to the award of a badge

WEEK 1 WEEK 2 WEEK 3 WEEK 4 WEEK 5 WEEK 6 WEEK 7 WEEK 8

1 Synchronous and asynchronous modes of teaching

One of the most common ways to think about teaching online is to consider whether it might be synchronous, asynchronous, or a mixture of both.

Synchronous teaching

Synchronous teaching is where the teacher is present at the same time as the learner(s). This is almost always the case in a face-to-face environment. Synchronous teaching can also take place via online learning, through the use of video conferencing and live chat or instant messaging. As with the face-to-face environment, the learners in synchronous online teaching can ask questions in real time.

Figure 2 Teaching where learners are present at the same time is called synchronous teaching
Long description

Themes of this programme

Teaching online is different

SAME TEACHER

DIFFERENT TOOLS

@bryanMMathers

How can we understand these differences?

- Synchronous and asynchronous modes of teaching
- Self-study and engagement with others
- Learning through various platforms and channels
- Structure, motivation and discipline
- Combining face to face and online: Blended learning, flipped classrooms

Poll: Have you learnt online before?

Have you:

- Studied for a degree through online learning
- Studied for a degree through distance learning
- Studied for a degree with face to face teaching
- Studied short or free online courses
- Used the Internet to study subjects informally

Choosing technologies for learning activities

How do we enhance learning with technology?

We should combine

- Concepts and theories to understand learning
- Knowledge of a range of technologies
- Skills in using technologies we adopt
- Design processes to lead us to good activities
- Quality assurance and evaluation

Innovating Pedagogy Reports

http://www.open.ac.uk/blogs/innovating/

Innovating Pedagogy Reports

- What concepts and designs for activities utilise technology well?

- Sometimes the innovation is driven by the technology

- But technology is not sufficient to improve learning without pedagogical innovation

http://www.open.ac.uk/blogs/innovating/
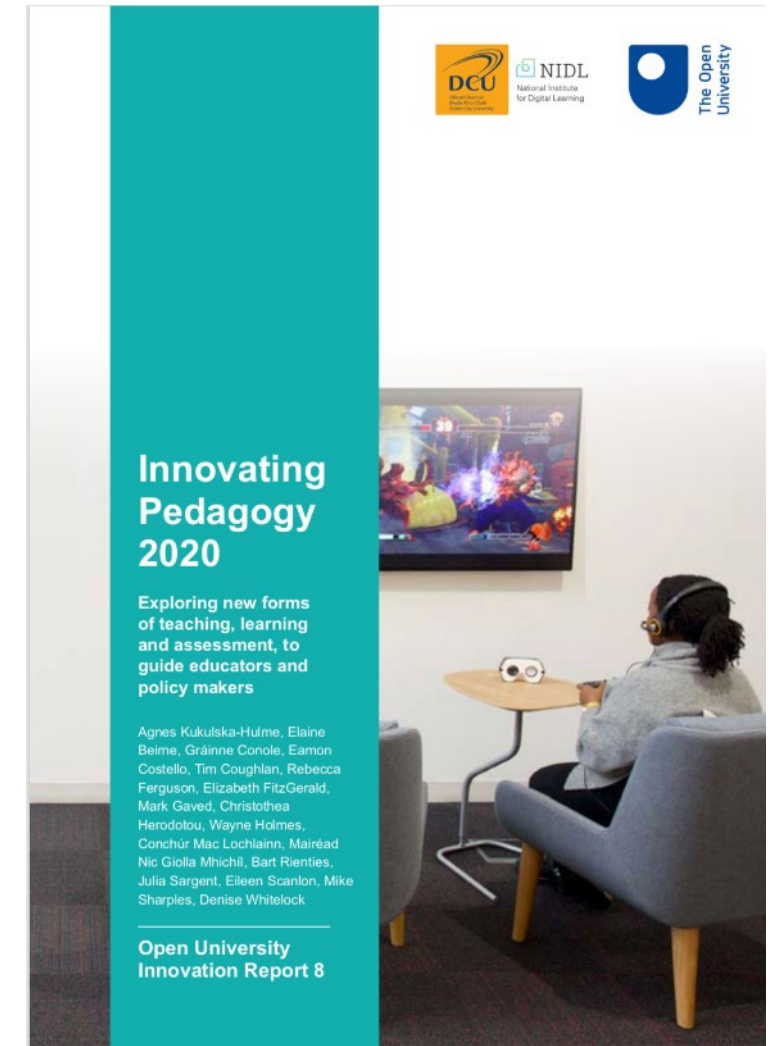
Poll: Which of these innovative pedagogy topics are of interest to you?

- MOOCs (Massive open online courses)
- Remote laboratories for science learning
- Flipped learning
- Inquiry learning
- Badges to accredit learning
- Learning analytics
- Learning from games
- Dynamic assessment
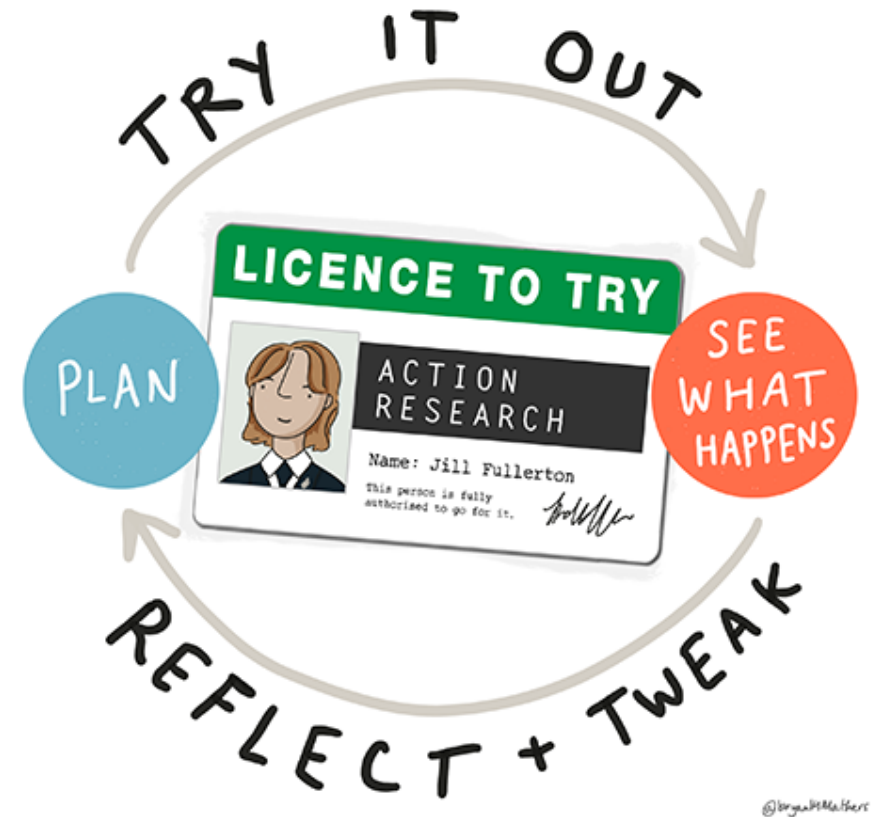- Learning through storytelling
- Threshold concepts
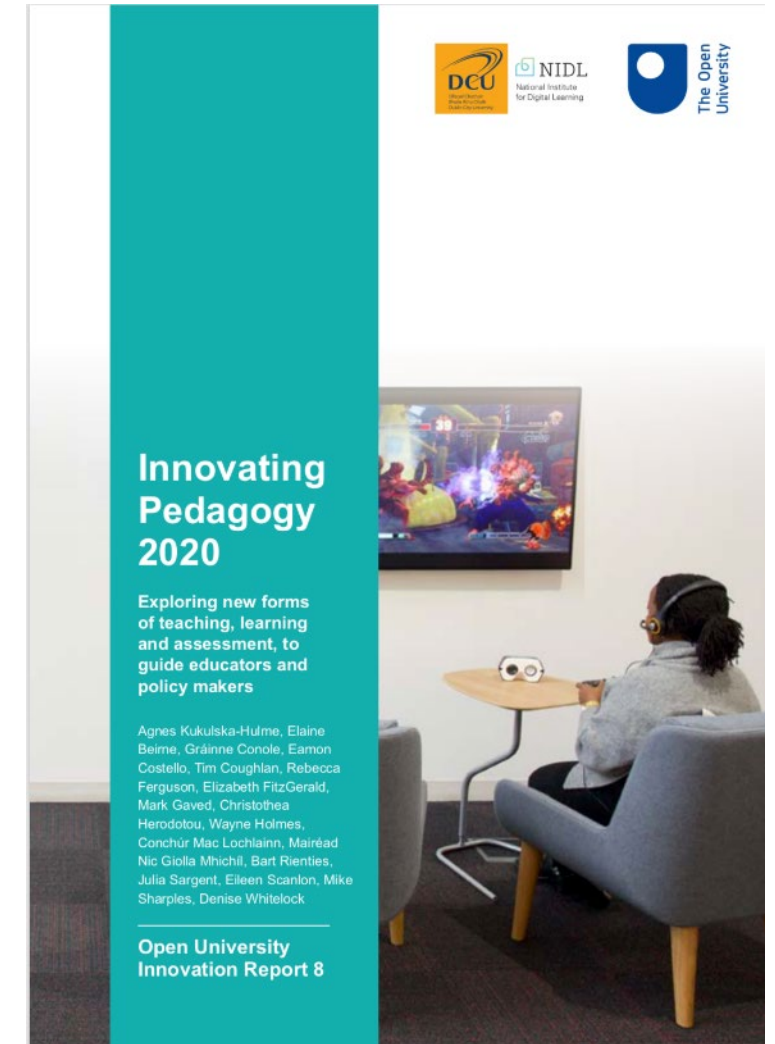
Making changes and evaluating teaching

At the moment many of us are making changes

How do we plan to change and improve our teaching?

How do we evaluate quality and respond to what we find?

Quality Issues in Online Learning

- COVID-19 sent many institutions into panic mode
- Haste to shift learning online without taking quality into account
- Result – watered down curriculum

  poor student support

  compromised assessment
- Criticism by sceptics that higher education institutions producing half-baked products

Need Robust QA Mechanisms

- What are the key elements of online teaching and learning that should be quality assured?

- What quality assurance approaches should we use?

- How do we know that the approaches work?

Saide
Enabling successful
open learning for all

Explicit QA Practices

- We need to ***prove*** and ***improve*** the quality of our educational processes, products and outcomes.

- This implies shift from implicit to explicit QA practices – accountability values.

- We will explore these quality aspects in the QA webinar.

Learning Design and Tricky Topics

Approaches to Learning Design are integrated into our teaching and evaluation.

This includes:

- Tricky topics that are essential to student understanding and are often barriers

- Personas to consider the study experience of diverse learners

- The balance of learning activity types
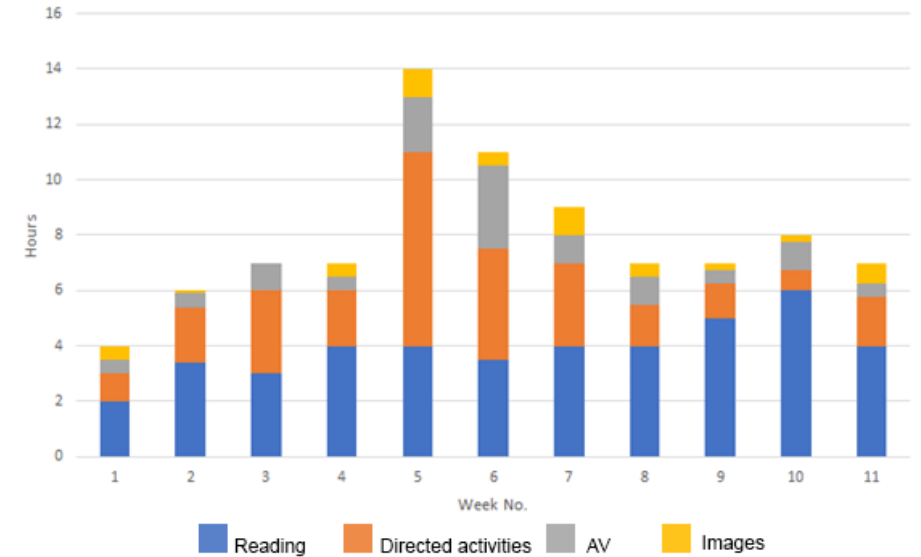
- Student workload

Networks and Communities

- As a professional, you can also make use of online tools to connect with others

- We all benefit from sharing practices and ideas

- We become better at teaching online by engaging with our own development through online communities

Support Networks

-Scheduled study groups

-Welcome to our Journey
http://ourjourney.ac.uk

-Support learning between webinars

-Q&A

-Engaged discussions

-Sharing resources

nQuire is a platform for peer learning and citizen science.

We hope you will contribute to a special nQuire 'Mission' to understand more about how teaching is changing across Africa at the moment

Finding and sharing educational materials

- Making quality materials takes a lot of time, expertise and effort

- High costs are a barrier for students

- Reusing the materials that have been created makes a lot of sense

- But the learners, teachers and and courses are different

- We need to be able to adapt the materials for our needs

- We need materials that are high quality and free to use

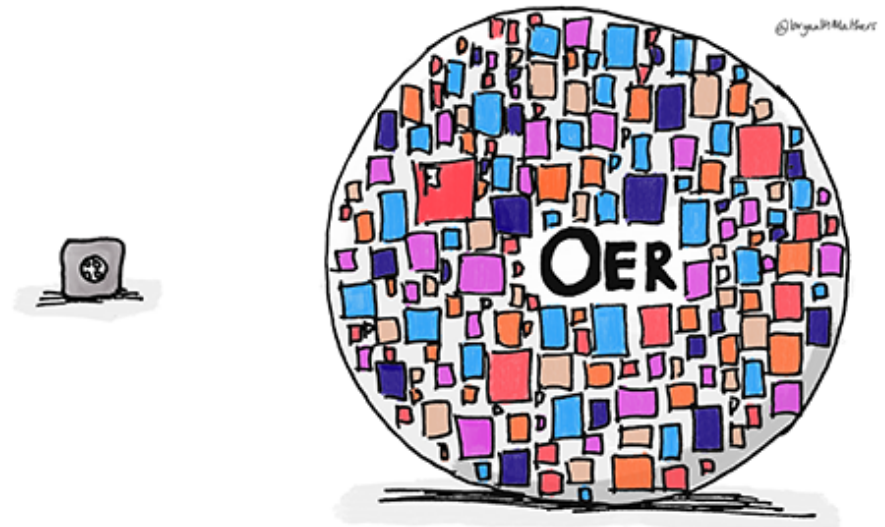- Open Educational Resources provides a framework for this.

Don't reinvent the wheel

Poll: Reusing learning materials

In my teaching I have:

- Used images created by other people
- Used video or audio created by other people
- Used textbooks written by other authors
- Suggested online resources for my students to use
- Used Open Educational Resources

Don't reinvent the wheel

Supporting diverse learners and contexts

Accessibility in online teaching
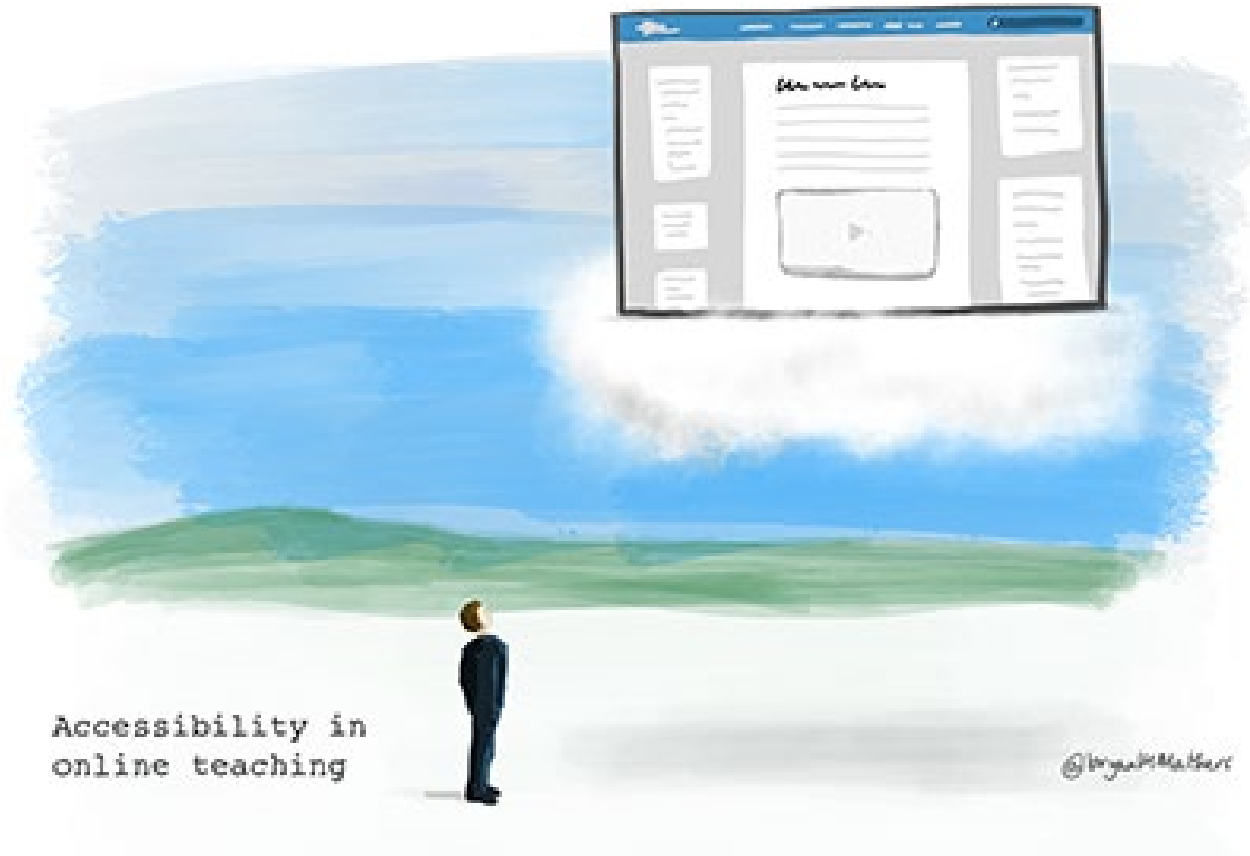
- Accessibility is a core concept in creating online learning

- Learners have diverse situations

- Computers provide assistance so disabilities need not be a barrier to learning

- Limited internet access and computing technology can be overcome

- Designing and teaching with these issues in mind makes a big difference
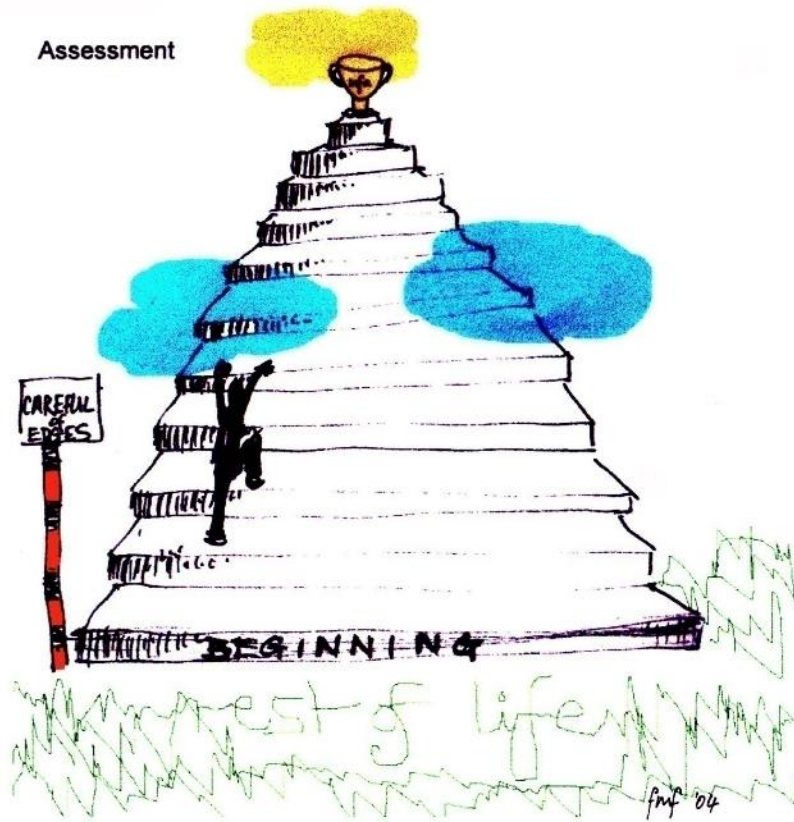
Assessment

- Assessment drives learning
- Students want more feedback from their assessments
- What good practices in assessment can be applied in online learning?

Capture your study journey with us

Our Journey is a new platform that we have created in IET

It helps students to map their study experiences and reflect on their achievements

It helps teachers and institutions to understand study experiences and support their students, making the invisible visible.
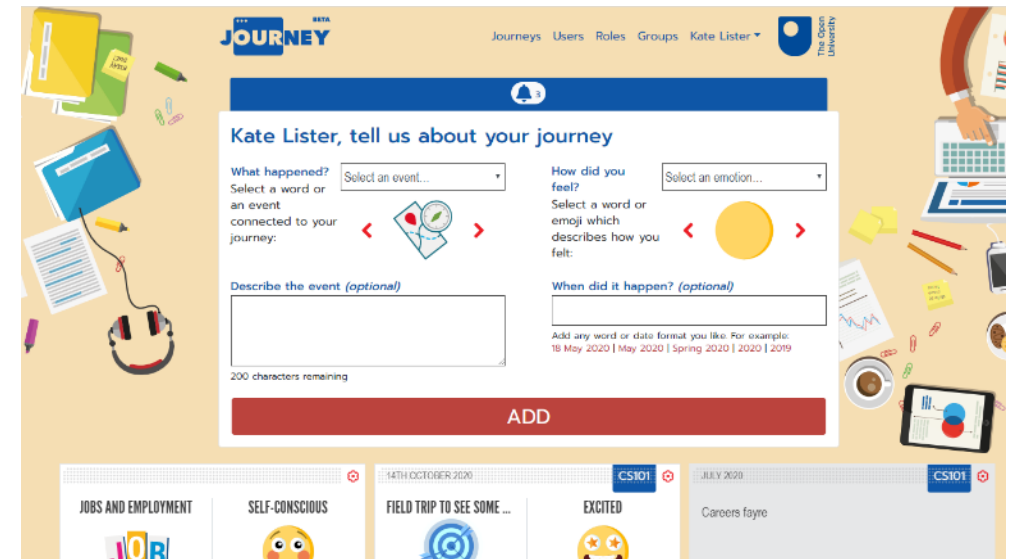
Capture your study journey with us

Try it for yourself and use Our Journey to make a record of your experiences while taking this programme

Go to https://ourjourney.ac.uk/ to find out more and to register

The link is also on the course website

Thank you!

- Post questions and thoughts in the chat
- We will try to answer either now or in a document afterwards
- Check the website regularly for updates
- Enjoy the programme!