IO6: COURSE EVALUATION, RECOGNITION AND ACCREDITATION

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IO6 details

- **Starts** M17 (January 2018)
- **Ends** M36 (end of project)
- **Leader**: UNITS
- **Final aim**: Attributing ECTS/ECVETS to LOs and modules

Some working definitions

- **ECTS/(ECVETS)**
- **Workload**
- **Module**

EU (2015) *ECTS User's Guide*. Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union.

Some working definitions

"**ECTS credits** express the volume of learning based on the defined learning outcomes and their associated workload. [...] ECTS credits are generally expressed in whole numbers." (EU 2015: 11)

Some working definitions

"**Workload** is an estimation of the time the individual typically needs to complete all learning activities [...] required to achieve the defined [LOs] in formal learning environments" (EU 2015: 11)

Typical full-time workload of an academic year = 60 credits = ranges from 1,500 to 1,800 hours >> one credit corresponds to 25 to 30 hours of work

Some working definitions

- **Modules**: "When educational components are of regular size (e.g. 5, 10, 15) they are often called 'modules'." (EU 2016: 25)

"It is crucial that the course design (IO3) and the educational components produced by ADLAB PRO (IO4) are **officially recognized** and **validated at a European level** to guarantee their quality and also the sustainability and resilience of the project. Through IO6, ADLAB PRO will dedicate special efforts to this aim" (Application Form)

HOW???

In fact

We will **explore the way** to do so, then it will be the task of each single institution (e.g. HEIs) to implement our curriculum (or part of it) in their syllabus and teach it.

ADLAB PRO will produce a curriculum + training materials, but not a course.

"**IO6 will develop along with other IOs.** ✔ While the educational components will be designed (IO3), created (IO4), tested & evaluated (IO5), they will also be accredited (IO6). **Each partner will** define the expected learning outcomes (i.e. what a learner knows, understands and is able to do on completion of a learning process), skills and competences to be acquired for each educational component, ✔ and will **calculate its credit value attributing a number of ECTS and ECVETS to each unit**" (Application Form)

"calculate its credit value attributing a number of ECTS and ECVETS to each unit" (Application Form)

to increase the **transparency** and readability of the educational process (p. 14), to allow students to benefit from diverse educational experiences in other settings (p. 25) and to develop personal learning pathways (p. 26)

In fact

Up to now, we have attributed **hours** (class + private study) to LOs (IO3 activity).

BTW: how is assessment considered?

    class hours

    private study

    extra

THINGS TO DO

Awarding credits

- How to award credits?
  - We can offer an **estimate** (HEIs will decide whether to change something or not, BUT modules can never be smaller than 3 ECTS)
  - To do so, we need to **think very carefully**: the best our suggestion, the more the chances HEIs will stick to our curriculum (and be satisfied with it!)
  - There is **no established/external/official method** to allocate credits

Awarding credits

«National authorities should indicate which institutions have the right to award ECTS credits» (EU 2015: 11). > **Where do we look for authorisation**?

• **Belgium: Ministry of Education > University > Faculty.** If a Faculty wants to award ECTS for a module, it has to formally ask the University that will need a formal permission from the MoE

Is it the same in other partner countries? **THINGS TO DO**

• We need to know to offer a clear roadmap as a result of IO6

Awarding credits

What is the role of the European authorities QF-EHEA, EQF-LLL?

Implementing our curriculum

- There is no ADLAB PRO course! There is an ADLAB PRO curriculum.

- Universities may decide to **formally adopt** our curriculum (all of it, or just a few modules), **implement** it in their syllabus, and eventually and **teach** it.

- They can use the ADLAB PRO curriculum as a guideline.

Implementing our curriculum

Universities can then freely decide on ECTS to allocate to each module (although modules can **never** have **less than 3 ECTS each)**.

They choose the module(s) to include in their syllabus and decide how to use it/them.

ADLAB PRO will produce a well thought out curriculum, based on what the consortium thinks is right and appropriate in terms of LOs and credits, **BUT in the end it is the institution which decides**

What about non-students???

- People not enrolled in a University cannot gain credits. Some ways out:

- download our materials from website and use it – in this case they will not get credits

- enroll in an institution (even for single modules and they pay proportionally) if they need credits > **We need to know whether this can be applied to other countries**

What about non-students???

NB: Universities can also set up **summer courses**, but e.g. in Belgium students enrolled can have an attendance certificate but probably not get ECTS.

- **Are we interested in this option?**
- **If so, What happens in other partner countries?**

THINGS TO DO

Possible options for credit allocation

- Will we really produce a 60 credit curriculum?
- 6 modules x 10 ECTS (Trieste, for example, has 6 ECTS modules)
- 6 modules x 10 ECTS = 8+2 (or 6+4) including final dissertation or practical demonstration
- **Suggestions! ... and decisions**

THINGS TO DO

More on our website:
www.adlabproject.eu/

Thank you!