

Learning Sequence “Learning Growing Working”: A Helpful Method to Facilitate the Entry into The IT Faculty

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Abstract

Virtual teams and digital collaborative work have become an integral part of modern university teaching. The demand for suitable methods for group formation in virtual formats has increased, not least due to Covid-19. Although students at the university have become more confident in the use of digital communication facilities during this time, it has become apparent in recent semesters that first-year students in particular need support in both face-to-face and virtual group work. They find it difficult to form groups, to have close digital exchanges and to build lasting relationships. The aim of this paper is to describe how the digital learning sequence “Learning | Growing | Working” was set up and used, and to what extent it supports and develops the competences of the participants. The sequence focuses on intensive exchange and networking. It is a 12-week guided group work with 5 persons each. It was offered in the summer semester of 2022 in the subject “Working Techniques and Scientific Work” for the first semester students. Those involved seemed to learn to achieve goals systematically. They showed that they took advantage of development opportunities and that their intrinsic motivation to learn increased. They identified and established ways of solving problems constructively. The overall structure and application of the learning sequence and the partial results and initial reflections on them are presented in this paper.

Keywords: group bonding, learning method, networking, problem-solving, team work