

Moodle Deluxe!?

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Abstract

In this presentation it will be tried to explicitly emphasize possible advantages of the practical use of the Learning Management System Moodle in combination with various creative and collaborative Web 2.0-applications (i.e. "Moodle Deluxe") in the context of EFL seminars at Vienna University of Education for future language teachers. The practically oriented part of this demonstration is dedicated to the extensive potential of Moodle with its didactically-implemented Web 2.0 tools. The author provides several scientific approaches taken from his PhD. thesis in order to highlight the practically and theoretically possible use of "Moodle Deluxe" in foreign language lessons and to emphasize that successful working procedures with Moodle (in this context for student teachers) are not based on technical competence but on didactical talent and creativity (i.e. the knowledge of how internal Moodle Plug-ins and external Web 2.0 applications can be effectively used in EFL lessons).

Referring to empirical data, this demonstration tries to show how several Moodle-Web-2.0-teaching-sequences carried out by student teachers were received by pupils and to what extent various learning goals in the field of EFL teaching have been achieved. It will be shown how popular Social Media Applications like Twitter or Facebook can be used within the environment of Moodle in order to design effective EFL-Blended Learning sequences. In order to establish a link between scientists and practitioners, participants will be shown several applications which they can immediately use in their (EFL) classrooms.

Presentation based on author's currently finished doctoral thesis and a current empirical research study:

"The Moodle-Cyberschool in Foreign Language Lessons – Blended Learning as a didactically-innovative approach or pedagogical flash in the pan?"

(University of Vienna, 2010, written in German, Prof. Tanzmeister)

The current empirical research study shows how Moodle in combination with Web 2.0 is used in EFL student teachers seminars at Vienna University of Education and how students use these inputs in order to efficiently use Moodle in their classrooms. The study has been carried out in order to analyze Moodle's didactic versatility in combination with Web 2.0 and to come up with interpretations concerning the reception of Moodle among students of Vienna University of Educations and among students of Viennese secondary schools.

For more information about the author: www.learning-reloaded.com