FLIPPED CLASSROOM IN THE EUROPEAN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

FLIPPED CLASSROOM TEXTBOOK FOR VET TEACHERS

The last intellectual outcome of Flip-IT! project is the textbook about Flipped Classroom Methodology for vocational teachers in Europe. The consortium distributed it online in electronic format in three languages, in English, in Hungarian and in Spanish. They are freely available on the project platform: http://flip-it.hu/en.

The aim of the Consortium with the book was to give an overview of the history and pedagogical background of Flipped Classroom methodology and to provide a practical guide for teachers on how they can implement the method in their classroom, including a description of the ICT tools and Open Educational Resources that can be utilized while applying the method.



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The textbook, as well as other intellectual outcomes of the project, puts the focus on pedagogy. It explains the pedagogical value of the method, its power in turning towards the needs of the 21st century, and even the advantages/disadvantages and the difficulties teachers might face when they start to apply the method.

The authors emphasize throughout the book that Flipped Classroom is not about technology, it is rather a new way of classroom management, and for it to be successful teachers have to create lesson plans (which is usually not popular among teachers) with detailed description not only of the learning objectives and didactic aims, but also the planned working methods, activities and assessment of the students.

It consists of two major parts. In the first part we introduce active learning and the flipped classroom method – its history, characteristics, and the changes in teaching, learning and the closely related student performance assessment and evaluation.



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The chapters of the second part summarize the experiences gained during pilot tests. The content varies in partner countries since the pilot courses in Spain and in Hungary were targeted at different groups of teachers: in Spain at the university students of teacher education, whereas in Hungary at teachers and trainers of various vocational education institutions. Accordingly, results and observations are somewhat different.

In the Hungarian e-book we reported on the practical experiences and pilot courses in various ways. We published some of the best results of the experiment (12 case studies) and besides this, some of our authors, teachers and mentors present their views on the topic. The Hungarian team wanted to include a selection of the lesson plans as well, but the time was too short, so they will add it to the e-book later, during the next months.

The reader of the book will see how many teachers collaborated in the authoring, which demonstrates the impact of the project results.

The English version includes only the first part of the content, as no pilots were run in Ireland and the UK, and the English content served as a base for translation.

However, the added value of teachers' experiences in the Spanish and Hungarian versions is so great that we are sorry that the scope of the project didn't allow us to translate this part into English.

If you are interested in the Hungarian experiences, contact the coordinator, who is ready to give more information about it.

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