Enhancing Professional Practice Portfolios (PPP) in Teacher Training (TT)

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Introductions
What if.... : case study

- You just have won some important ICT lottery funding...
  - Think what ideas on ICT innovation you would do in your academic practice
  - What would be on top of your priorities?
- 5 mins in pairs
- Feedback
Well.. We feel ICT ‘rich’ at the TT programme

- We have a great TT team
- We have IT infrastructure in place
- We have a newly & innovative revalidated TT curriculum
- We have a healthy TT intake
UoB TT PPP Background and present
What is PPP in TT?

Professional Practice Portfolio Levels 5,6 & 7

20 Credits (Generic Pathway)
25 Credits (ESOL/Literacy Pathway)

The assessment for this module is in the form of a portfolio in which trainee teachers provide evidence related to your personal and professional development as a teacher in the FE and Skills sector.

The portfolio is completed on line throughout the course as part of personal and professional Development.
Main parts of the PPP Module in a TT programme

**Part 1:** Action plan, Minimum Core and Observations
**Part 2:** Reflective journal
**Part 3:** M Level: Professional Development Project
**Part 4:** Portfolio of Professional Practice
Part One

Identify and engage in personal and professional self development to improve own practice, including development of personal skills in literacy, language, numeracy and ICT. (Learning outcomes 2 and 3)

• (i) Consider your initial assessment results and produce an action plan which evaluates your current strengths and development needs. Describe how you intend to develop your own knowledge, practice and skills, including literacy, language, numeracy and ICT skills and demonstrate how this will improve your practice.

• (iii) Complete the Minimum Core Booklet for Literacy, Numeracy and ICT.

• (iv) Write up at least two ‘peer observations’ using the templates provided.
Part Two

Critically evaluate, interpret and apply theories, principles and models of reflective practice to personal and professional development (Learning outcome 1).

On-Line Discussions

1. What is Reflective Practice? (500 words)

2. Reflection on a Significant Incident (500 words)

3. Reflection on Professional Practice (1500 words)
Part 3

Professional Development Project (up to 1000 words)

- Demonstrate autonomy and reflexivity to engage in personal and professional development to improve own practice. Research and undertake appropriate professional development opportunities to enhance your expertise in a specific area of practice, critically reflecting on the outcome. (learning outcomes 2 and 4)
Part Four

Portfolio of Professional Practice) (learning outcome 5)

Including:

- log of teaching hours signed by Mentor
- Action Plans from throughout the course
- copies of assignment feedback sheets
- copies of successful teaching observation reports (including relevant lesson plans, resources, self-evaluations etc.)
- two peer observations,
- mentor tracking sheet, evidence of mentor discussions,
- Minimum Core booklet
PPP: Who and how

• Approximately 300 students are doing PPP

• 4 different Pathways: Generic, ESOL/literacy, Numeracy and Teaching Learners with Additional Needs (TLAN)

(Also used by our partner Colleges: Bolton College/Bury college/Salford City College/Economic Solutions / Brooksby Melton College)

• 2014-2015: First year of pilot platform being used by all TT providers from the UOB and partners - we are gaining continual formative feedback and sharing using different approaches and reflections
The PPP - background

- Trainees feedback ‘You said-we did’
- PPP efficiency
- Multimedia capability
- UoB eStrategy
- Subject group TEL commitment
- FELTAG
- Storage capacity
- Students excuses...
Excuses...

- Someone has stolen my folder...
- I came on my motorbike today and couldn’t carry it...
- I left it home, I’ll bring it in ‘Mañana’...
- Due to personal circumstances, I can’t come today...
- I’ve left my folder on the bus
- My dog ate my folder...
- My cat/dog is ill...
To Paper-less: practical, efficient and enriching!

PPP Moodle Front page

PPP Moodle Key Information

Discussion forum for reflective collaboration
Turnitin for ‘submissions’

Skills for life PPP live example:  [http://elearning.bolton.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=10496](http://elearning.bolton.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=10496)
Option evaluated

Options considered:

- Online blogs (Cloud-based: Edublogs, WordPress)
- Open-Source:
  - Mahara
  - MyKnowledge Map
- VLE based (Blogs within Moodle vs VLE ‘module’)
Main challenges

• Design
• Inclusive approach
• Staff resistance
• Student resistance
• IT/ICT infrastructure support
• Learning curve
• Portability
How we are trying to overcome them...

- Staff development
- Peer-support
- Ownership (based on template)
- Cross-University collaboration (Employability, Alumni, Student Union teams)
- Piloting in online (test IT/ICT infrastructure support)
- Share good practice
- Embedding ‘portable’ (cloud-based) eResources (i.e. online CVs, Linkedin, webpages, blogs, etc).
What’s next?
Next steps

- Organic enhancement (continuous learning from good practices)
- VLE upgrade
- Start testing/piloting other portable resources (revisiting Mahara and explore MyKnowledge Map/My Showcase outside the ‘health’ TT)
- Dissemination of good practice
- Keep exploring emerging options
Questions
Thank you for listening!

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