

Course creation

Course creation – overview

Each course should include a clear statement of the learning outcomes to be achieved on successful completion. These outcomes will be specified competency based (in terms of knowledge, skills, and attitudes). The self-evaluation mandala supports the teacher/trainer in creating these definitions and in finding out the pre-knowledge of the learners.

The development of each course should include a clearly documented course specification which sets out the relationship between learning outcomes, learning activities, assignments and assessment.

Hint: The project refers to the European quality benchmark for online, open and flexible education (E-xcellence). The concept is

- You have to select a topic out of the list of the benchmarks.
- The topic is explained by some text, comments, or hints.
- If applicable, the relevant item of the E-xcellence Framework (with the benchmark number) has been added.
- The relevant benchmarks are available from the [toolbox](#) as well.

Link: <https://www.vtt-box.eu/project/teachers-toolbox/list-of-quality-criteria/quality-of-course-design/>

Checklist for course creation

- The course is in line with the curriculum**
Check the curriculum for the content and/or competences that should be taught
- From the curriculum, a small unit (covering a competence) has been selected.**
Select the unit you want to perform in the distance learning
- The competence taught in the course is defined precisely.**
- The mandala is created** (defined in terms of knowledge, skills, and attitudes)
This must be done before the course starts. This covers both mandalas (one to be used before and the other to be used after the course).
- Learning outcomes are defined clearly and precisely.**
Create a clear statement of learning outcomes in respect of both knowledge and skills and use it to explain the learners the course expectations.
Reference: E-xcellence Course creation BM #10
- The means used to deliver the course are defined precisely.**
Reference: E-xcellence Course creation BM #11

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Source: VTT-Box project <https://www.vtt-box.eu>

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The Benchmarks below are from EADTU Excellence and the use of E-xcellence quality associates label in this context has been done with the agreement and consent of the EADTU (European Association of Distance Teaching Universities). In case of any adaption of the benchmarks suiting the context is in comments below the original benchmark. The original framework is available from <https://e-xcellence.eadtu.eu/>

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- **The course is created by experts.**
Care for the necessary experts with the necessary technical and academical expertise to create, perform and evaluate the course.
Reference: E-xcellence Course creation BM #12
- **The course uses Open Educational Resources (OER) or is an OER itself.**
Select OER and the strategies to include them in the course. The selection should regard learning outcomes, should fit to the learning context and must be easily integrated into other used learning materials. Consideration of using foreign language in OERs must be done regarding the language knowledge of the learners.
Reference: E-xcellence Course creation BM #13
- **The course uses interactive and multimedia-based material** (following the pedagogical framework)
eLearning material used in the distance learning must support interactivity (student - content and/or student - student) and should focus on the use of multimedia.
Reference: E-xcellence Course creation BM #14
- **The implementation of self-evaluating tools** (like digital competence checks in Moodle) **is foreseen and provided.**
Reference: E-xcellence Course creation BM #15
- **Practicable and well-selected assessments are part of the course.**
An adequate assessment should be foreseen. Assessments should be fair, explicit, reliable, and valid (and refer to the defined competences and learning outcomes). Assessments should be provided both formative and summative.
- **The material of the course can be used in further courses.**
Courses must be regularly reviewed in terms of learning materials, outcomes, and the feedback of the learners (and other stakeholders).
Reference: E-xcellence Course creation BM #17

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