

Strand within Future Learning:

Students actorship in meetings with
digital media in higher education

Initial participants:

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- (Vaikke Fors – consultative role)

Concretization:

- Within this project we intend to study the issues relevant to students' actorship in relation to their own studies in meetings with digital media. What does this mean - both within a broad and deep context?
- Previous research shows that students' own experiences of digital practices are not utilized in higher education (Buzzard et al., 2011; Kelm, 2011; Lichy, 2012). Limited amount of research are based on the students' everyday life with digital technology.

Pilot studies:

- A couple of pilot studies (which take starting point from the pedagogical practices that the involved researchers/teachers and students are part of) will be conducted in the spring 2015.
- These will form the sub-studies within the framework of this project and as such constitute examples of questions relevant to the field.

Substudy I:

- The interest of knowledge directs the focus on students' digital practices in everyday life and in educational situations. By digital practices we mean the different contexts in which you are participating in digital media (e.g. forums, communities) and use interactive on- and offline games.

Purpose & aim

The aim of the substudy is twofold:

- To contribute to the knowledge of students' everyday experiences of digital practices and the ways in which these are utilized in higher education.
- To contribute to the understanding of the ways in which higher education contributes to challenge and develop students' digital skills.

Overall questions

- *How can students' digital habits be an asset in higher education?*
- *How can higher education that includes digital practices develop students' digital skills?*

Realization:

- Teacher students (F-6); start fall 14, app. 75 students
- Preschool teacher students; start fall 14, app. 40 students

Step 1:

- Questions answered individually online through the logbook in Blackboard.

Step 2:

- Subsequent group discussions in forums in Blackboard.

Objective of the strand:

- Initial results for the planned database.
- External resources.
- Publication of scientific articles.
- To establish a research collaboration with Blackboard.
- To create possibilities for a PhD.
- Involvement of more researchers.
- For the sub-project to grow.
- Create an interest in issues of higher education in relation to ICT.