

'Living and working on the web'

This exemplar is relevant to Digital Student challenges:

Deliver a relevant digital curriculum Engage students in dialogue about their digital experience and empower them to make changes

This award-winning module is open to all undergraduates at the University of Southampton. It is an example of how a centre of research excellence – in this case Web Science – can have a positive impact on curriculum innovation. Students carry out all their module research, interactions and assessed work online. Their personal course blogs are aggregated into the main course web site, which has become an open resource for all students interested in online identity and digital life. Twitter is also used extensively for sharing ideas and references, with the course hashtag #UOSM2033. Students are given clear guidance on academic standards for online participation and the production of digital artefacts. One assessed outcome is the production of an effective digital profile on a service such as LinkedIn.

The module has received excellent ratings from students and was awarded the Student Union prize for Innovative Teaching in 2013. There are now plans to roll it out to undergraduates on a partner campus in Singapore.

How does this meet the challenge?

- The university's digital expertise and know-how is leveraged to support curriculum innovation.
- Work by digitally pioneering students is openly available to all students as a learning resource.
- Students' digital identities are an explicit focus and outcome of the module.
- Teachers are explicit about how academic standards can be met (and assessed) in digital settings.
- Students from different subject areas work in loose collaboration, sharing their different digital preferences and know-how.

Find out more

- Main course web site
- Presentation on course assessment and feedback
- Presentation on students as creators and change agents

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