‘Mining the materials’: a framework for independent learning

Learning and Teaching Conference
University of Glasgow, 2018
Context
• Level 1/2, pre-entry, international students.
• Intensive GE / EAP course.

Aims
➢ Socialize students to Graduate Attributes
➢ ‘Study Skills’: Moodle, Library, Office (365)

Outcomes
✓ 100% (14): “useful” / “very useful”.
✓ 2/3s: “significant improvement” - independent learning, collaboration, study skills.
✓ Increasingly sophisticated task design.
✓ 80%: “more confident” - Moodle (+ library, e-mail, Word)

Limitations
? “felt like homework” (self-directed?)
? Small-scale (sample size); opportunity to track impact

Research write-up - IATEFL LASIG ‘Independence’, Issue 70
http://edition.pagesuite-professional.co.uk/Launch.aspx?EID=beab91e7-d540-46e3-ac08-2762bbf318fc
1. ‘Mine’ classroom tasks: type; difficulty; usefulness

2. Form ‘mining’ teams: student-led, choose skill/language focus

3. ‘Create’ self-study tasks

4. Exchange >> Complete >> Reflect

5. Update reflective diary >>> post to Moodle

6. Feedback:
   Teacher: diary > consultations.
   Peer: Moodle

- ✓ Independent/critical thinking
- ✓ Collaboration
- ✓ Reflective
- ✓ Resourceful and Responsible

Mini Study Skills tutorials:
Moodle, Office 365, Library
Talk title

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