

Dimensions of scholarly activity in employability from different disciplines

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TILT Practice and Scholarship Group on Assessment of work-based learning and employability

About our TILT group

Assessment of Employability and WBL TILT Practice and Scholarship Group focuses:

- To inform and enhance our own practices;
- To work as part of the wider University framework on employability development through promoting the group's work to other university-wide and local initiatives and activities via our own networks to inform and enhance works around employability and its assessment across the institution.

The particular activities the group engages with are:

- Building on an understanding of *employability* and *students' employability development experiences* via engaging with the disciplinary background each member of the group brings
- Sharing local research and scholarly activities
- Capturing students' perspectives regarding their expectations and experiences in relation to their employability development from different disciplines across the University (research planning stage)

Today's session

- Reflections from Business, Psychology and Physics & Maths colleagues
- Discussions on the disciplinary characteristics over assessment of employability

Problem Solving

Employer-led consultation condensed into a skills exercise

Designed to be everything Mathematics students hate:

- Group work
- Communication
- Commercial Awareness

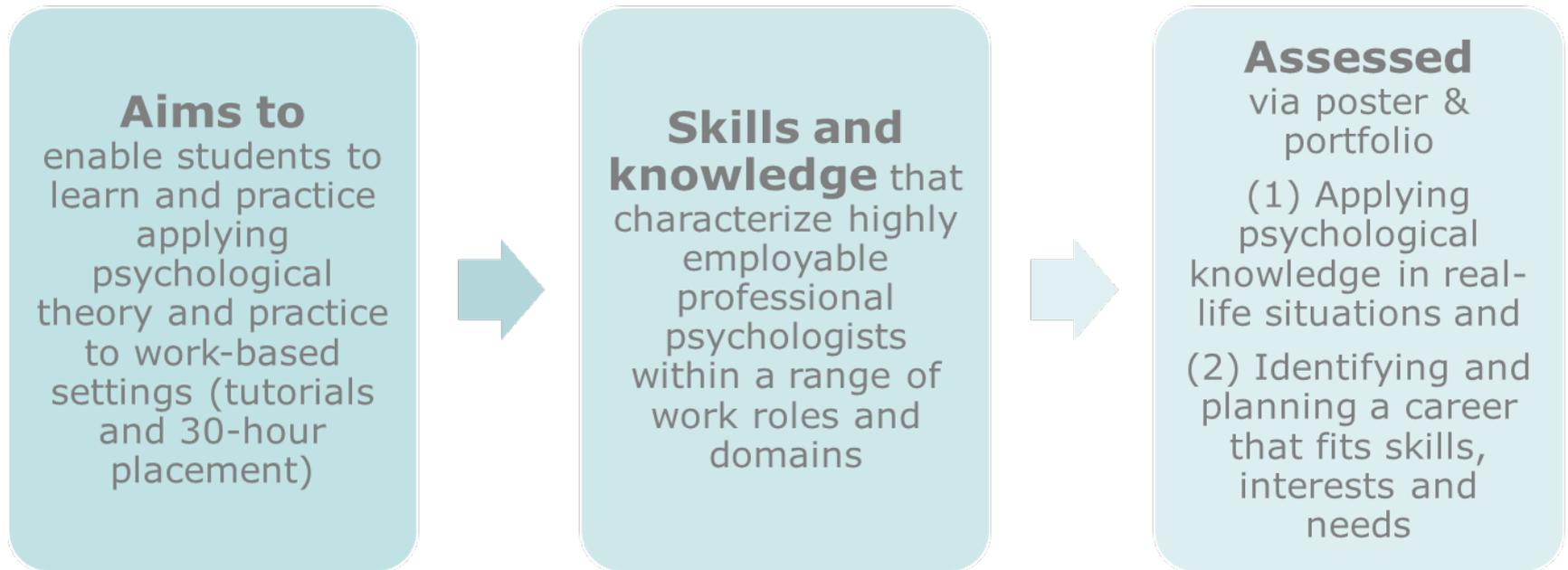
Iterative evolution

Assessed by report and presentation

Feedback needs long term viewpoint

Work-based Psychology Practice (WBPP)

Final year optional module, BSc Psychology single & combined hon, 3 years running



WBPP good practice

- Learning through experience and reflection
- Focus on career planning with placement relevant to students' career aspirations
- Development of professional skills and employability qualities (proactive, reflective, ethical practitioner)
- Draws from course content appropriate to the placement
- Understanding the limits of discipline, skills and knowledge
- Delivery responsive to student needs
- Bonus: Meets curriculum refresh criteria on employability

WBPP difficulties

- Assessing experiential learning
- Assessing professional skills and employability qualities
- Practicalities of securing a placement: learning may not always be linked to career aspirations
- Some students more open to self-reflection
- Delivery responsive to student needs
- Draws from course content

Learning by doing assessment

Desire for effective employability development

- Employers ask for the development of skills and competencies which go beyond the disciplinary expertise or technical knowledge.
- Assessing employability through the learning –by-doing philosophy.

Implications

- Issues with student expectations and individual performance
- Desirability of greater attention to tutor-student dialogue

Outcome

- Enhanced performance and setting realistic expectations
- Self-confidence and self-esteem

Discussion

Considering the characteristics of your
discipline/subject,

how can employability best be assessed as
part of your curriculum?

Stay in touch...

If you would like to know more about the group and/or join the group

Please contact: Vanessa.cui@ntu.ac.uk