UNIVERSITÄT HOHENHEIM STUDIUM 3.0





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Bozen - ICA-EDU - Education the Net Generation in Life Sciences

< notes of presentation >

With "**mobile learning** hohenheim" we are going to use smartphone-technology for teaching at the University of Hohenheim. We will combine digital data with real places, thus we will make use of augmented reality.

augmented reality being an enviroment, where real and virtual elements are combined.

Next october students of Marketing, Biology and agricultural sciences and the corresponding professors at the University will make use of "mobile learning hohenheim". That is to say students will study on campus - literally; they will study in town, on fields, in real places. They will use their smartphones to find places, that are relevant for their courses, they will discuss content right "on-place", they will pose questions and leave them on specific sites.

Who is involved?

The development is integrated in the universitys endavours of improving teaching - bologna-commission, a.o.

It is conducted by different parts of the University of Hohenheim. As there are, Mr. Fehrle, webmaster of the University, Mr. Forster, ILIAS-representative in Hohenheim, the itservices-department and the office of the vice-president for academic affairs (Prof. Kruse, Cornelius Filipski). Furthermore a group of professors who are interested in the project itself and of whom some will be actively involved in our pilot in winter term 2012/13.

What is possible: technically

We will provide students and professors with an app for their smartphones, which will enable them to study in this mobile way. It will be possible to tag places to make them trackable. Furthermore, it will be possible to leave digital information at the tagged places, for example texts, forums, pod- or vodcasts, and to leave comments and photos, for example with a question.

The app, that will be usable with android and ios, will be a **native app**, that communicates with ILIAS, the content management system we use in Hohenheim. Professors will enter data within ILIAS. Thus they will use a software, they are used to. Students will enter their data mostly via the app.

Furthermore the development of a mobile skin is on its way - being quite relevant for the project! And we are planing to provide a pool of smartphones for students who do not want to or can't use their own device.

What ist possible: concerning the educational use?

Location-based-studying is the process of working on study-related content at specific real places, with the content being relevant for the place and being communicated via digital devices.

The reason for us, not calling the described process "learning" lies in our understanding of learning in general. Learning being the gain of options to act differently, excluding physiological maturing.

If a student engages actively and conciously in order to learn, this process itself (with an explicit beginning an ending, plus activities that are describable (genau)) is sometimes referred to as "learning" (i have to learn maths this afternoon). In order to differentiate these two phenomena, we call the latter "studying", or "studying" (im engeren sinne). this obviously makes way for two meanings of studying. The just mentioned studying as an episode (explicit beginning and ending, with a official topic) versus studying as the bundle of activites within a longer time, connected with beiing enrolled as a student.

Since the pair of studying (episode) and studying (bundle) can be seperated far better, than the pair of learning (gaining) and learning (episode), we prefer studying for the "episode-activity".

"Location-based-studying" offers a wide range of options. In the first place: It is not an educational concept! It is a technical tool.

Therefore concepts have to be developed for each lecture, course, or seminar using "mobile learning hohenheim". This is one of the core aspects of the project, the technology has to be integrated into a fitting educational-framework. Whether it might be situated learning, cooperative learning, pol or even cognitive apprenticeship - the framework is to be found for each case. Hence coaching processes to do so, are a key-element of the project.

Whether the use of "mobile learning hohenheim" will be optional or mandatory, whether it will be professors or students, who will tag places, whether the app will be used to illustrate relevant content or whether it will help students to organize possible projects ... all of this depends on the course, its aims and contents, on the professor, his/ her way of teaching, how he/she envisions good teaching, what he/ she wants to achieve with the use of mobile learning.

The concepts for the upcoming pilot are "**pathfinders**" for a marketing lecture by Prof. Voeth, "**podcasting the zoo**" for a biology lecture by Prof. Steidle and a combination of mobile use in the laboratory and on specific fields in the agricultural sciences.