

An Intelligent Electronic Assessment System Proposal

Aim: Harnessing I.C.T. for Accreditation of Informal Learning in Higher Education

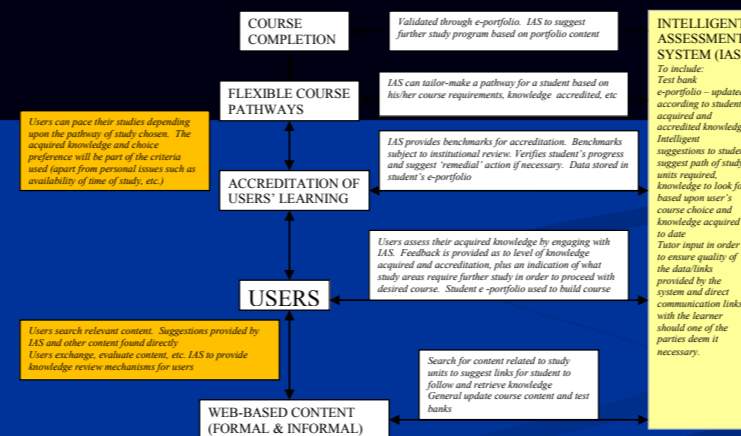
21st Century Learner

- The 21st century Student (Borges, 2007)
 - Virtual identity and digital mobility
 - Need to train and retrain
 - 'Student customer'
 - Technological, communication, browsing, information skills
 - Use internet in a varied way (work, train, communicate, be informed, leisure..)
 - May become an issuer of knowledge
- S/he becomes the agent of her/his own learning around which the institutions and the teaching action pivots

The Maltese Scenario

- The endorsement of Moodle and the official e-learning platform of the University of Malta
- An electronic student information system (e-SIMS) for students of the University of Malta
- Matriculation and Secondary (MATSEC) examination boards run by the University of Malta
- A need to reach out to 'other' categories of learners apart from the 'traditional' university student

Intelligent Assessment System (I.A.S.) Proposed Layout



Challenges Faced By Institutions

- Developing an e-assessment strategy incorporating pedagogical and technical aims
- Introducing sustainable ways of supporting computer-based assessment
- Setting up a viable physical and I.C.T. infrastructure to support e-assessment to the required scale
- Policies and procedures to support e-assessment
- The inclusion of informal learning processes to complement formal learning
- Research moves at a slower pace as new technologies need to be tested, apply a suitable pedagogical setting and devise an appropriate assessment format.

Reflections/Challenges

- Role of tutors/instructors
- E-portfolios as a means of assessment personalisation
- Provision of dependability in e-assessment
- I.A.S. as a means to outline paths of study to learners based on knowledge accredited
- Rate of technology change
- Cost effectiveness!