



Course description¹

January 2024

Course title: Open Networked Learning

Abbreviation: ONL241/242 (2024, iteration 1/2)

General information about ONL

The course is aimed at teachers, course designers, educational developers and educational technologists in higher education. It offers opportunities to explore the potential of open networked learning with colleagues from around the world in a multidisciplinary and cross-cultural context.

ONL is offered as a freely available open course as well as professional development course in higher education pedagogy for teachers at the collaborating institutions. The course is equivalent to two weeks of full time studies, i.e. 80 hours, and runs for a period of 12 weeks.

ONL is an open online course organized by (currently) Jörg Pareigis (Karlstad University, Sweden), Lars Uhlin (Linköping, Sweden), Lotta Åbjörnsson (Lund University, Sweden), Alexandra Wirth (Careum Foundation, Switzerland) and Filip Levälähti (Arcada University of Applied Sciences, Finland) in collaboration with colleagues at other universities in Sweden and abroad.

The course site is: <https://www.opennetworkedlearning.se>

¹ This course description applies in general to all learners, but institutions may also have a specific course description adapted for the particular institution with additional information.

Course aim

The aims of the course are to offer participants opportunities to explore and gain experience

from collaborative, open online learning in order to understand the value, potential and challenges of using digital learning spaces to support teaching and learning.

Intended learning outcomes

The objective of the course is for the participant to acquire knowledge, understanding, skills and abilities in order to be able to:

- explain, discuss and reflect on different aspects of online learning such as digital literacy, collaborative learning and openness.
- critically reflect on questions concerning open networked learning related to own teaching practice.

Content

The course is structured as follows:

- Week 1: Getting started (1 week)
- Week 2: Connecting (1 week)
- Topic 1: Online participation and digital literacies (2 weeks)
- Topic 2: Open learning - sharing and openness (2 weeks)
- Reflective week
- Topic 3: Learning in communities – networked collaborative learning (2 weeks) ●
- Topic 4: Design for online and blended learning (2 weeks)
- Topic 5: Lessons learnt - future practice (1 week)

Course delivery and working methods

The course runs online over a period of twelve weeks using open, collaborative learning practices, a problem-based learning (PBL) format and with the aim of building personal learning networks. The studies consist of online work in PBL groups, reading (or otherwise taking part of) learning materials, writing (or otherwise documenting) individual reflections and giving peer feedback in an open international context. Each course topic includes optional common activities such as webinars as a support to the learning process.

Course requirements and certification

The following activities must be completed:

- active participation in the PBL group (participation in group work both synchronously and asynchronously, taking responsibility for tasks, creating presentations, giving feedback to colleagues etc.).
- Writing (or otherwise documenting) one reflective piece for each topic (equivalent to at least 400 words per piece), in your own words and supported by references to

literature/resources. Suggested themes for reflection are provided in each topic description.

- commenting on reflective pieces by peers, at least one for each topic.

Participants who complete the course are awarded a certificate, either from the ONL course team (for open learners) or their institution.

Plagiarism

The organisers of ONL take a serious view of plagiarism, i.e. copying other persons' texts (or other material) without clearly indicating that it is a quotation and/or stating the source. This includes the following:

- Verbatim (copy-pasted) material from academic sources without proper citations
- Material copy-pasted from the Internet
- Large blocks of texts from a single source without properly block quoting and acknowledging that it is from one source.
- Uncertainty about what actually was the author's own text and what was borrowed from elsewhere.

Entry requirements

Knowledge and experience of higher education pedagogy is recommended.

Course literature and resources

The course builds on open educational resources, all of which are available through the course website <https://www.opennetworkedlearning.se>. Additional resources are collected and shared by course participants in the course community.

Open licensing

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