

University Without Borders

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University Without Borders



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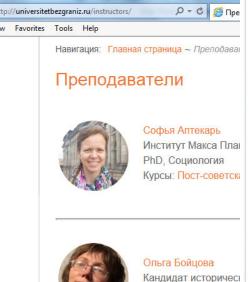
- Date of creation: 2012
- Initial target: academic audiences
- NOT MOOC!
- Cutting-edge approaches and disciplines:
- e.g. Analysis of social networks, Mathematical modeling of biological processes, Introduction into Gender Linguistics
- Courses addressing needs of the Russian academic audiences:

e.g Introduction into Academic Writing in English



What we have achieved?

- 17 courses
- Over 300 students
- A network of partners such as ECANA (Eurasian Communication Association of North America), RASA (Russian-Speaking Academic Scientists Association), International Association of Humanities;
- Partnership with universities (Media Studies Dept. @Higher School of Economics, Sociology Dept. @Moscow School for Economic and Social Research)





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Курсы: Анализ визуа



Александр Першай Центр гендерных исследо Курсы: Введение в генде



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Our instructors integrated into the Western academia



What we learnt?

- Our audiences are wider: highly-motivated leaders seeking to expand their knowledge
- This project may bring together academic knowledge and the development of skills necessary for entrepreneurs and leaders



New mission

 Involving emerging entrepreneurs in the former Soviet region into project-based and multi-disciplinary learning with leading international scholars and expertpractitioners to improve their effectiveness and allow them find community of mentors and partners



What's project-based learning?

- There must be the presence of a driving question or central concept.
- Students must learn through investigation of defined goals and should be constructive and knowledge building.
- Projects are student-centered with teacher facilitation or guidance.
- Projects are real-world and have significance to the student.
- There is a task, a process, a product and a reflection.*

Source: Sam Houston State University, PBL in Higher Education (http://www.shsu.edu/centers/project-based-learning/higher-education.html)



Project-based learning for entrepreneurs

- Energy
- Climate
- Health
- City life
- Happiness



Examples of projects

- How to make my city's air cleaner?
- How to cook a hot-dog using sun energy?
- Who are the migrant populations in my town?
- What jobs do single mothers obtain in our region?



Operation

- Students get "significant content" related to task
- Establish and work in teams
- Discuss and choose their own ways of dealing with the task
- Get mentorship from a scholar on possible ways to address the task
- Share their work publishing it on the site



Why online?

- Online environment becomes very useful in terms of bringing students from different parts of the former Soviet region who share the same values
- In terms of bringing experts and creating multi-disciplinary instruction
- Technological tools for keeping track of project progress, interaction, peer-review and projects presentation



What's cooking?

 A course with Center for New Media/Higher School of Economics that would bring in experts in data analysis and visualisation as mentors



Partners needed!

- Technological side
- Financial side



Resources

- Buck Institute for Education, http://bie.org/
- PBLU projects and classes, http://pblu.org/projects
- PBL STEM Projects, http://www.pblprojects.org/
- Thomas, John D. 2000. A Review of Research on Project-Based Learning
 - http://www.newtechnetwork.org.590elmp01.blackmesh.com/sites/default/files/dr/pblresearch2.pdf
- Lee, Jean, Sue Blackwell, Jennifer Drake. 2014. "Taking a Leap of Faith: Redefining Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Through Project-Based Learning", Interdisciplinary Journal of Problem-Based Learning, 8(2) http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi? article=1426&context=ijpbl
- Ertmer, Peggy. 2015. Essential Readings in Project-Based Learning. Purdue University Press.



Thank you!

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