Guidelines for students

Learning dashboard

Dear student,

The European VITAL project coordinated by Hasselt University in which UCLan participates has led to the implementation of Learning Analytics in the course "EB4710". **Learning Analytics** is a new research domain that consists in collecting, measuring, analysing and reporting data about online learning in order to better understand and optimise learning and the environment in which it occurs.

Your learning activities in the online learning environment for the course of "EB4710", and those of your fellow students, have been analysed using statistical and process mining techniques and learning dashboards have been developed.

Log in and use the username and personal password you received from your instructor to get an overview of your learning progress and behaviour. Only you and your instructor can see your learning data, not your fellow students. Your password is strictly personal.
When you have logged in, you see **your own results**. Apart from those, you can only see the group averages, not anyone other's individual results.

Select "All students" in the scroll menu at the top of the screen to see the averages of all students in the course or of your own group.

The graphs you see display information about your engagement in the online learning environment and your progress relative to the course schedule. Click on the i-buttons next to each graph for important information.

1. The **top counters** show your progress on a number of learner actions in the learning environment that most successful students score higher on than non-successful students according to cluster analysis performed on former student data.
   The data are generated and updated live following your online activity in the course (as long as the course runs). You can compare with average results if you wish so (see "All students").

2. "**Activity timing**" shows your activity (main activity types in the online learning environment) on a timeline. It indicates whether you work online regularly and which activity types you perform most.

3. "**Course schedule and progress**" visualises your progress on the program of each week in the course schedule (see course schedule on Blackboard). The further the dark blue level, the more contents of a particular week you went through. Light pink shows the amount of learning contents still to use and dark pink the contents used by your peers. The green vertical lines indicate the group average per week.
Know that yet again the number of viewed contents alone does not tell you anything about the quality of learning. It is important to repeat as much as necessary and to have an active learning attitude to succeed on the course.

4. "*Activity by chapter*" shows the way your attention on the course contents during semester was spread over the different course chapters. Larger bubbles mean that more activity was generated on specific chapters; each chapter is represented by a different colour.
Since you are expected to prepare for each work session, the bubbles should roughly follow the course schedule during the course weeks. After the classes and during exam preparation, most students display a mixture of activity reviewing and retaking important course contents.

As indicated in the course information in Blackboard, your data are used only for the purposes of supporting students in their online learning and optimising course design. They will NOT play a role in the final grading. These learning data only reflect your online learning behaviour and do not provide a complete visualisation of your learning process. The data are always interpreted in the context of the entire course. More information about the confidential and ethical treatment of personal data can be found in this document *(cf. Action plan legal & ethical aspects of LA)*.