

Creative Climate Learning: common resources on environmental change

Joe Smith (Social Sciences)

Susan Fawssett (AL) & Christine Pearson (ST)



Research question:

'How to model and test effective networking and project management for the production of shared assets for the OU environment curriculum, and do so in ways that generate lessons of value to the wider OU teaching community?'

Aim: To develop the teaching and learning aspects of the Creative Climate project and in so doing achieve the project's internal goals of:

- Developing a sense of community across the OU's environment teachers and learners and alumni and hence improve progression and student return
- Testing approaches to using the CC diary website within assessed and non-assessed exercises (both using content that appears there and students uploading diary content)
- Sketching proposals for software and web design developments for geographic and timeline visualisations for the diary content
- Connecting OU BBC broadcast investments into OU course needs and develop ideas for the use of BBC archive in courses

Evaluation: if our work has been effective it will:

1. Create a network of OU teaching professionals in the environment area (throughout the system, from student contact ALs to material-drafting and presentation-chairing academics, and including production/editorial professionals in LTS, Open Media Unit etc)
2. Pilot and evaluate project management software and online tools to support the development of this network
3. Design a process to allow MTs and other academics to: share the job of generating environment related learning assets (blogs; vlogs; discussion audios/podcasts etc); coordinate the input of ideas to media producers
4. Directly inform the way in which the CC project media content is embedded in at least four modules
5. Directly inform the way in which the CC project diary creation is applied as a form of activity or assessment in at least two modules
6. Generate a directory of common AV assets and a means of tracking comments on their use and value
7. Brainstorm potential functions and design for a common VLE site for EDIS courses for student &/or module team use
8. Raise the profile of CC and its internally relevant lessons in the OU