





- LTG Case Study
- England
- 2010
- How an online chatroom on the VLE
  (WebLearn) could help stimulate
  discussion and participation in tutorials.

WebLearn: Supporting Peer & Self-directed Learning

### The initiative

In every tutorial group, there will be those who are happy to say their piece... and others who are decidedly less vocal.

Dr Kate McClune, Research Fellow in Old and Middle English at Merton College, wanted to see how an online chatroom on the VLE (WebLearn) could help stimulate discussion and participation in her tutorials. She posted pre- and post-tutorial activities to prime her students for face-to-face debate and provide a space to continue discussions after the formal scheduled session was over. She moderated the online discussions, and followed up on unresolved matters, as well as posting additional resources for self-directed learning.

## Time frame

Since 2010

## **Areas of Focus**

To facilitate discussions before and in-between tutorials

To strengthen students' self-directed learning

To encourage peer-scaffolding

# People Behind the Case Study

Dr. Kate McClune, Research Fellow in Old & Middle English, Merton College, Oxford University

LTG Case Study

## THE JOURNEY

#### Finance

Oxford University

#### Outcomes to date

Following her success with using WebLearn for supporting tutorials, Kate has decided to make WebLearn her default means of communicating with students from Michaelmas 2010 onwards. While having received no formal feedback on WebLearn use from students, she is certain that students are satisfied with the integration of the virtual learning environment into their teaching. She has seen a change in the nature and level of interaction and debate in discussion and the statistics available for site administrators on WebLearn make it evident that all students have consulted each discussion item and link more than once, indicating that they do find it valuable and useful.

"Students seem more confident in disagreeing with one another in the WebLearn chatroom than in tutorials. They feel freer there."

- Dr. Kate McClune

### Origins

University of Oxford, England

## Why it's relevant to AGILITe

Dr. Kate McClune's case study shows why it can beneficial to use digital resources, and that it helps the students be more confident and contribute more in the classroom.

## **REFLECTION & DISCUSSION POINTS**

- How could you use digital resources in your lectures?
- Name three digital resources you know of

#### MORE INFORMATION

Website

https://www.ctl.ox.ac.uk/extending-tutorials-online-students-find-their-voice-in-chatrooms

Contacts: contact@ctl.ox.ac.uk



Developing the digital and entrepreneurial competences of VET trainers to support agile entrepreneurship training



















