

Course description¹

February 2019



Course title

Open Networked Learning

Abbreviation: ONL191 (2019, iteration 1)

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 Alastair Creelman (Linnaeus University), Maria Kvarnström (Karolinska Institutet), Jörg Pareigis (Karlstad University), Lars Uhlin (Karolinska Institutet and Linköping University) and Lotta Åbjörnsson (Lund University) in collaboration with colleagues at other universities in Sweden and abroad.

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

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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 aims

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 make her/him 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 content of the course includes the following weeks/topics

- Week 1: Getting started
- Week 2: Connecting
- Topics:
 - 1: Online participation and digital literacies
 - 2: Open learning - sharing & openness
 - 3: Learning in communities – networked collaborative learning
 - 4: Design for online and blended learning
 - 5: Lessons learnt - future practice

Course delivery and working methods

The course runs online over a period of twelve weeks and utilizes open, collaborative learning practices, a problem-based learning (PBL) format and aims at building personal learning networks. The studies consist of online work in PBL groups, writing of individual reflective blogs and giving peer feedback in an open international context.

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 one reflective blog post for each topic (at least 400 words each), in your own words and supported by references to literature/resources. Suggested themes for blog posts are provided in each topic description.
- commenting on blog posts 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., the copying of other persons' texts without clearly indicating that it is a quotation and 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's 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 on the website.