Learning Outcomes – the good, the bad and the muggley

Monica Ward, Dean of Teaching and Learning, DCU

Ollscoil Chathair
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City University



Learning
Outcomes (LOs)

– the brief

Rumours

LOs alignment

Challenges and Tensions

LOs – who uses them?

Learning Outcomes – the brief

- Modules
 - 5, 7.5, 10, 25, 30 ETCs
- All modules MUST have a module spec(ification)
- Module info
 - Description
 - Pre- co-requisites
 - Continuous assessment vs exam weighting
 - Indicative content
 - Learning Outcomes
 - Assessment
 - Readings



Learning Outcomes

- Careful thought
- Correct level
- Correct verbs
- Careful alignment

Programme Design

Check alignment

Learning Outcomes

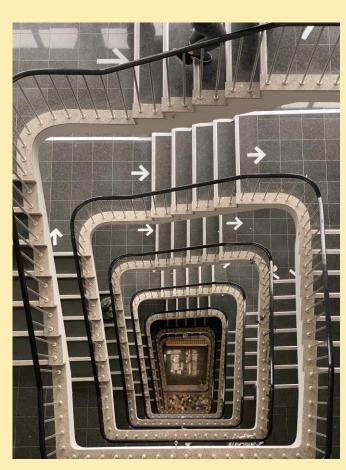
Module Design

Learning Outcomes

Module Description

Learning Outcomes - Alignment

- Programmme
- Teaching and Learning
- Assessment
- Other modules



Discipline differences

Module differences

Skill at writing

Challenges and Tensions Mission drift

Keep up to date

Difference across years

How many?

Case Study

Assessment

LO updates

Identify TS

Transversal Skills (TS)

Embedding

Define

Programme TS



Who





them?



uses

Rumours

Academics
Students
Industry



Alignment

Maintenance

. .

Reflections

- Good
 - Clarity to module
 - Plenty of advice available
 - Increasing scrutiny

Bad

- Oversight
- 'Variations'
- Changes

Muggley

- Humans
- Priorities
- Perfection?

THANK YOU

DCU

Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath Dublin City University

References

Images

Thinking: Photo by Roman Bilik 💙 💟 on Unsplash

Alignment: Photo by **Arno Senoner** on **Unsplash**

College students: Photo by **Dom Fou** on **Unsplash**

Calm academic: Photo by eniko kis on Unsplash

Work: Photo by Alex Kotliarskyi on Unsplash

Rumours: Photo by <u>Jeffrey Hamilton</u> on <u>Unsplash</u>

Exhausted: Photo by Cris Saur on Unsplash