

DECODING



Multiplier event at VMU

Student conference “Decoding the disciplines – intercultural and interdisciplinary approach to teaching and learning”

Giedre Tamoliune
Project researcher at VMU

Project meeting
Galway university, Galway
30th June, 2017

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AGENDA

Thursday, 18th May, 2017

Time

14.15-14.30	Registration, welcome coffee	
14.30-14.35	<i>Introduction and welcome</i>	Virginija Bortkevičienė, VMU, project researcher Prof. habil. dr. Margarita Teresevičienė VMU Council member
14.35-14.45	<i>Intercultural Learning Challenges</i>	Vaida Jurgilė, VMU, project researcher
14.45-15.05	<i>Decoding the Disciplines - way to develop the ability to teach and train in intercultural environments</i>	Aistė Ptakauskė VšĮ „Pasaulio virtuvė“
15.05-15.35	<i>“The Decoding the Disciplines” methodology, its aims and application in various disciplines</i>	Assoc. prof., PhD Jolanta Mickutė VMU, Yale University
15.35-15.45	<i>Search for learning and teaching bottlenecks and alternative decisions for improvement of students’ analytic skills</i>	Giedrė Tamoliūnė VMU, project researcher
15.45-15.55	<i>Students’ approach to appliance of “Decoding the disciplines” methodology and its’ challenges in learning process</i>	Neringa Lenčiauskaitė VMU, student of BA study program “Career and professional counselling”
15.55-16.25	<i>Group work</i>	Virginija Bortkevičienė, VMU, project researcher
16.25-16.40	<i>Discussion and feedback</i>	

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The aim of this local student conference

- introduce *the Decoding the Disciplines* (further – DD) methodology to teachers, lecturers and students by presenting them conceptual framework of this methodology, practical examples, and to encourage students and academics to research the DD methodology and ways in which they can apply it in their own studies and teaching/learning practicum.

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Conference format

Conference consisted of two parts:

- Theoretical
- Practical

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Participants

- Participants of the conference represented **academics** from different educational sectors: teachers from gymnasium, vocational school, college as well as lecturers from University. Some of participants were bachelor and master **students**, working in educational institutions.
- They represented very intercultural and interdisciplinary group: teachers of orthopaedics, English philology, religion, psychology; school deputy, social worker, career counsellor, etc.

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Theoretical part

- Presentations of the experts and a student

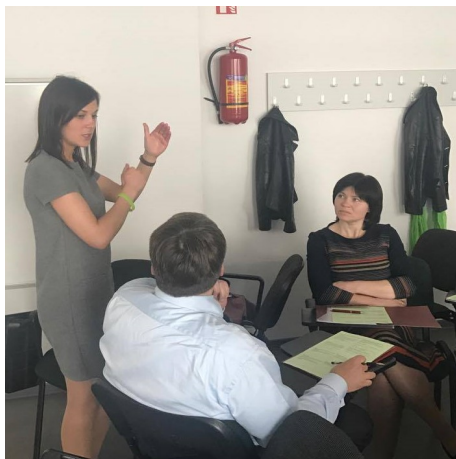


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Practical part

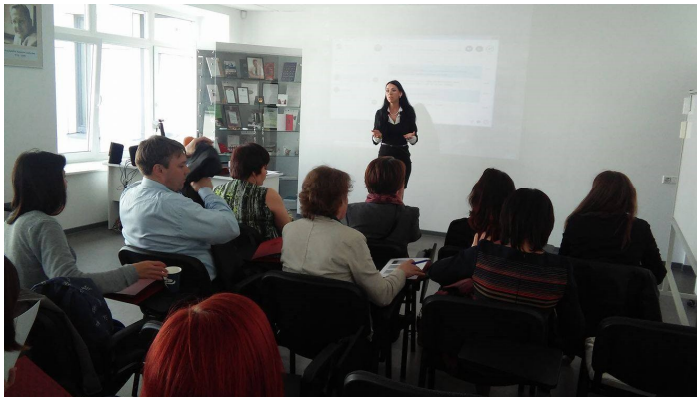
- Group work (participants were asked to split into groups of experts (teachers and lecturers) and students and discuss bottlenecks they face in their practicum.



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Discussion and feedback



- Participants accentuated the importance of **institutional support** in regards to seeing DD methodology not just as a part of project but, instead, as a holistic part of study process.

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- Students were happy to see how this methodology encourages teachers to reflect on their practises and acknowledge that it's not students' problem only if students are stuck while learning;
- Participants were thankful that DD methodology goes into *depth* of learning and teaching process and searches for core problems.
- It can be an **emotional** bottleneck!

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Our success factors 😊

- Arrangement of coffee break at the same room and offering participants to have coffee and snacks during the practical/discussion part of the conference.
- Division of groups into experts and students, it allowed students to share their experiences more openly. Later they had possibility to discuss it with experts.
- Giving time for discussion.
- Giving participants some time to reflect on their own experiences.
- Allowing students to be 'creative' to present their own understanding of DD method 😊

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Best of luck!

