

Selection of blended learning tools

The rationale for selecting tools for the delivery and organisation of blended learning activities

Level 1 Tool-based	Level 2 Design-based	Level 3 Course cycle
The selection of particular tools is based on their availability at the institution.	The selection of particular tools is based on learning activities, informed by evidence or experience.	The selection of particular tools is based on learning activities, informed by evidence or experience. This process is monitored, evaluated and changed based on quantitative and qualitative data.

Implementation Guidelines

As to reach maturity level 2 (Design-based), the selection of learning tools during the course design process should be based on evidence or experience. Some relevant evidence is available. Glover and colleagues (2016), for example, developed a menu for selecting appropriate learning tools. Some institutions also developed supporting materials and guidelines, among others: the Tool Wheel based on the conversational framework of Laurillard (Last, Jongen & Hardy, 2020), the Wheel of Pedagogy (Radboud Teaching and Learning Centre, 2020) or the Tool Guide (Educate-it, 2020)

The third maturity level of this dimension is labeled as ‘Course cycle’ because the outcomes of the selection of tools are systematically monitored, evaluated and changed, based on quantitative and qualitative data. These data consist of learning analytics (how (often) are tools used?), surveys and interviews with students and instructors (what are their user experiences?) and/or feedback from tool administrators (is the selected range of tools proven to be useful, easy-to-use and efficient?).

References

- Educate-it. (2020). *Tool guide*. Retrieved from <https://educate-it.uu.nl/en/tool-guide/>
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- Last, B., Jongen, S., & Hardy, P. (2020). *Tool wheel*. Maastricht University Library. Retrieved from https://tutorials.library.maastrichtuniversity.nl/Tool_Wheel/
- Radboud Teaching and Learning Centre. (2018). *The Educational ICT Toolbox*. Retrieved from <https://www.ru.nl/lecturers/education-ict/lecture-halls-pc-rooms/pc-rooms-study-halls/what-types-educational-tools-available/>