

## Appendix A

### Overview of the Three Assignments for This Course in 2011

Students are encouraged and supported to apply their learning to their professional context(s). Course participants are encouraged to negotiate access to a group of learners to practice their own online teaching for around three weeks, including approval from relevant managers. This may include work to improve an existing online course. Alternative arrangements may be negotiated with support from the tutor.

#### **1. Literature Review (20%)**

- Select a topic or area related to learning and teaching online
- Summarise and analyse one research article in this area
- Present this to the course members and facilitate an online discussion related to the research topic. (1a)
- Identify and review in the group wiki four articles in your selected area (includes the one above).
- Complete, present, submit and self-assess this mini literature review. (1b)

#### **2. Course Pilot Study 1 project (30%)**

- Conduct an audit of ICT in your school/ institution/ organization readiness for online learning. (2a)
- Design an effective online teaching space, then design and facilitate a unit of learning with a group of learners (approx 10-15) over a period of two weeks.
- Critically appraise the effectiveness of the teaching site (e.g. design and navigation features), evaluate the course facilitation, course content and participant learning, and make recommendations for future developments. (2b)
- Include links back to readings/ literature/ research explored in semester 1 throughout this assignment.
- Identify a focal area for your second pilot study

#### **3. Course Pilot Study 2 project (50%)**

- Maintain a researcher journal throughout the semester and provide comments/ suggestions to other course members within their journals.
- Extend your literature review in the selected focal area and share this in your journal for the benefit of the group
- Building upon your findings from pilot study 1, (re) design an effective online teaching space, then design and facilitate a unit of learning with a group of learners (approx 10-15) over a period of four weeks. (3a)
- Critically appraise the focal area of the course and make recommendations for future developments. Also include a general evaluation of the course.(3b)
- Include links back to relevant literature explored in both semesters