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LifeLongLearning project KA3MP

KNORK Promoting Knowledge Work Practices in Education Agreement 2013-4764/001-001

D2.1. Open Online Learning Platform version 3 and 4 (Supportive Document)

Contents

1 Introduction	2
2 Release Notes	3
2.1 Release Dates	3
2.2 Targeted Users	3
2.3 Requirements	3
2.4 The Use of the Open Online Learning Platform	5
2.4.1 Student Perspective	5
2.4.2 Teacher Perspective	6
3 Known Issues and Future Improvements	8

List of Figures

1 Home Page of the Open Online Learning Platform	4
2 Description Page of a Course	5
3 Content Page of a Course	6
4 Home Page of the Open Online Learning Platform from Teacher Perspective	7
5 Course Management Page	8

Glossary

edX	a massive Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) provider https://www.edx.org/ .
Knork	Promoting Knowledge Work Practices in Education http://knork.info/ .
Open edX	the open source platform that powers edX courses https://open.edx.org/ .

Acronyms

MOOC	Massive Open Online Course.
OOLP	Open Online Learning Platform.

1 Introduction

This deliverable provides an Open Online Learning Platform and collaborative knowledge creation tools that support the Flipped Classroom approach. To not invent yet another new learning platform—that was out of scope of this project—it was decided to use an existing Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) platform.

After reviewing of existing MOOC platform, it was decided to use the Open edX platform. Even if it was in its infancy—like many MOOC platforms—it is released under a Free and Open Source license which allowed us to install it on our own servers and have the possibility to adapt and customize it for the project needs. One drawback of this choice was the risk of backward incompatibility with the upcoming stable version of the platform. We

then decided to use the versions 1 and 2 of the Open Online Learning Platform for testing and installed from scratch the firsts stable versions¹ of Open edX for the versions 3 and 4.

In the project, the Open Online Learning Platform will also be used for the open online teacher training package (D3.4.).

2 Release Notes

2.1 Release Dates

Version 1: 30.04.2014²

Version 2: 31.01.2015³

Version 3: 30.06.2015

Version 4: 30.04.2016

2.2 Targeted Users

The versions 3 and 4 of the Open Online Learning Platform is targeting all the teachers of the partners institutions of the project and their students. In practise, the registration to the platform is not restricted, so anyone is free to use it.

2.3 Requirements

The Open Online Learning Platform is a web application. In order to use it, the user will need a computer with the Internet access. The tested system requirements are:

- Operating system: Windows 7 or Debian 8
- Web browser: Firefox 45 (or higher) or Chrome 49 (or higher), JavaScript and cookies enabled.

¹<https://openedx.atlassian.net/wiki/display/D0C/Open+edX+Releases>

²See: D2.1. Open Online Learning Platform version 1 and 2 (Supportive Document)

³See footnote 2

Other operating systems such as MacOS, Android, iOS,... and web browsers like Safari or Internet Explorer should work as well but were not officially tested.

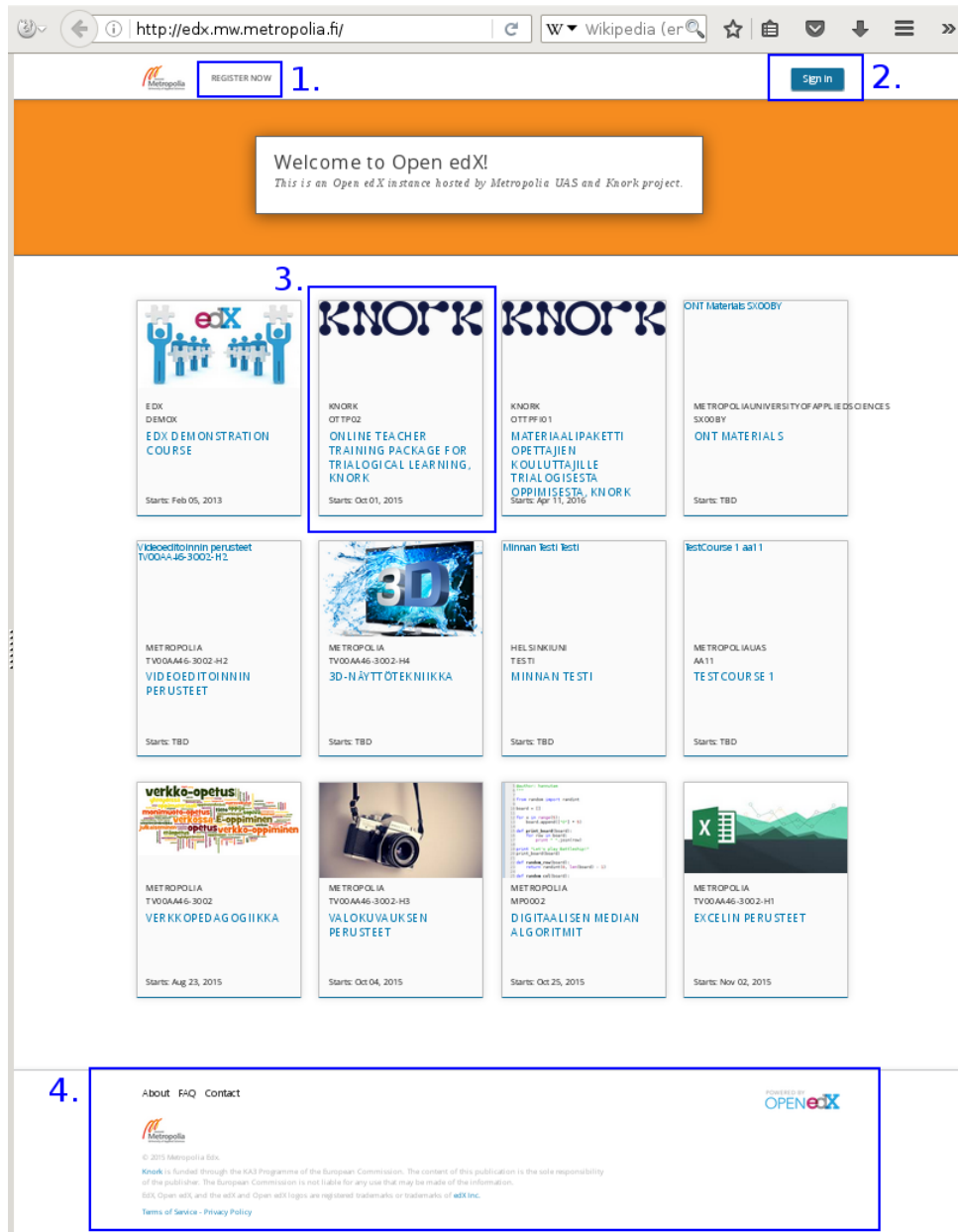


Figure 1: Home Page of the Open Online Learning Platform

2.4 The Use of the Open Online Learning Platform

2.4.1 Student Perspective

To access the Open Online Learning Platform (OOLP), open the following location in your web browser: <http://edx.knork.info/>. You will see the Knork edX site as depicted in the figure 1. The front page contains the login/register buttons (fig. 1, highlight 1. and 2.), the list of courses (fig. 1, highlight 3.) and footer with copyrights and credential (fig. 1, highlight 4.).

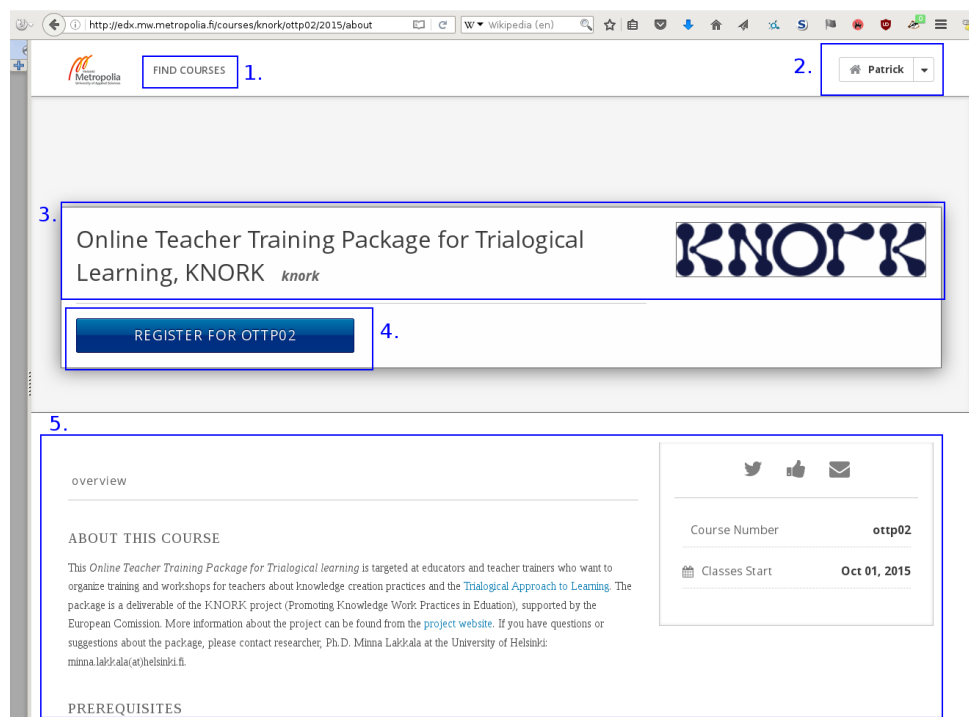


Figure 2: Description Page of a Course

When the student opens a course by clicking on it (fig. 1, highlight 3.), it will get the course description as seen in figure 2. The page contains the course title and institution organizing it (fig. 2, highlight 3.), the option for the student to register to that course (fig. 2, highlight 4.) and the course overview and information (fig. 2, highlight 5.). At any moment, the student can go back to the list of course (fig. 2, highlight 1.) or modify her/his settings (fig. 2, highlight 2.).

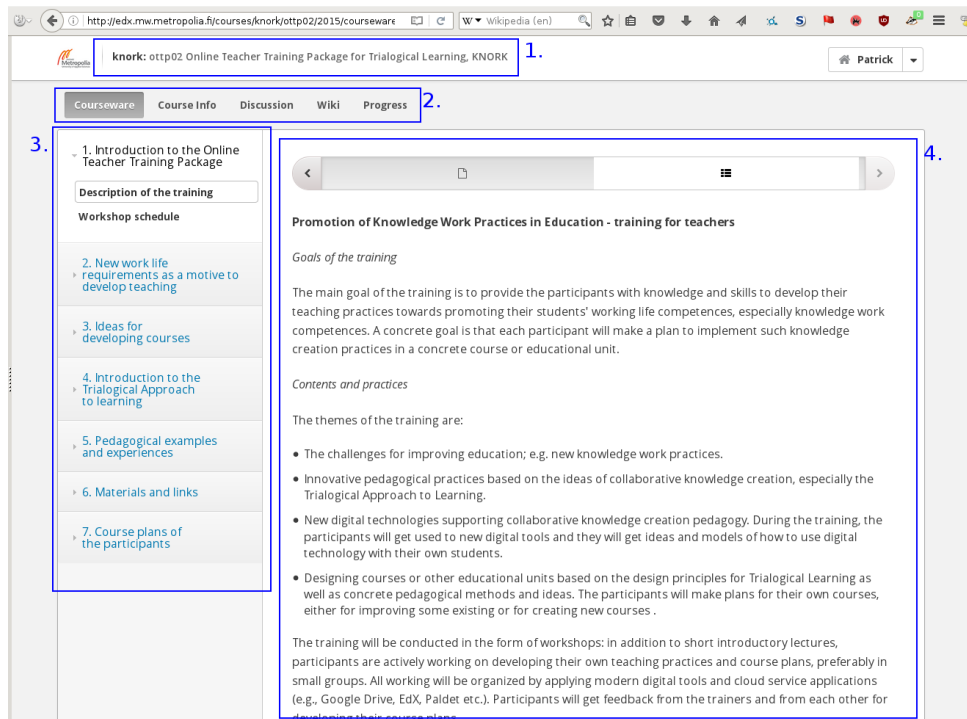


Figure 3: Content Page of a Course

After registration, the student will access the course content as seen in figure 3. As in the front page of the course, the user sees the course name (fig. 3, highlight 1.), can navigate within the course content, discussion, wiki,... through the menu (fig. 2, highlight 2.) and can follow the course step by step (fig. 2, highlight 3. and 4.). Each unit of a course can be of different type, like a lecture video or text (fig. 2, highlight 4.) and can also contain homework assignments, etc.

More instructions on student usage can be found from the Open edX Learner's Guide: <http://edx.readthedocs.io/projects/open-edx-learner-guide/en/dogwood/>

2.4.2 Teacher Perspective

To create a new or manage an existing course in the OOLP, open the following location in your web browser: <http://studio.knork.info/>. You will see the teacher console as seen in figure 4 where you can create (fig. 4, highlight 1.) and manage (fig. 4, highlight 2.)

your courses or courses you are a collaborator of.

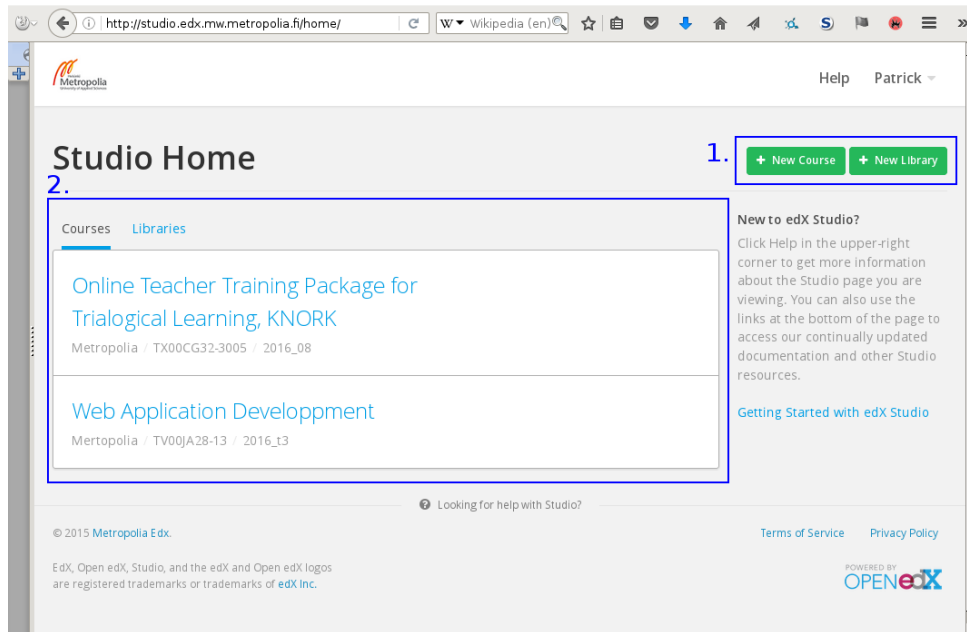


Figure 4: Home Page of the Open Online Learning Platform from Teacher Perspective

Once selecting a course for management by clicking on it (fig. 4, highlight 2.), the teacher will access the different units of the course that can be individually edited as seen in figure 5. From the menu (fig. 5, highlight 1.), the teacher can modify the course settings, access students assignments, grade them,... From the course outline editor, the teacher can add new sections or get a preview of his course (fig. 5, highlight 2.) and can also manage the existing sections (fig. 5, highlight 3.) and edit their units (fig. 5, highlight 4.) that will be visible to the students, for example as seen in figure 3.

When the teacher opens a unit for editing (fig. 5, highlight 4.), he/she will not directly be able to modify it, this is to avoid conflict if student are currently accessing the course. So the teacher will have to edit a draft version of it as seen in figure 6, which will also let him/her experiment and save work in progress before overwriting the existing content. The teacher will be able to see at any moment how the draft would look like (fig. 6, highlight 1. and 4.), edit the content (fig. 6, highlight 2.) add new components to the unit such as discussion, problem or video (fig. 6, highlight 3.). The teacher can then publish or reject the changes by deleting the draft (fig. 6, highlight 5.).

More instructions on teacher usage can be found from the Building and Running an Open edX Course manual:

<http://edx.readthedocs.io/projects/open-edx-ca/en/named-release-dogwood.rc/>

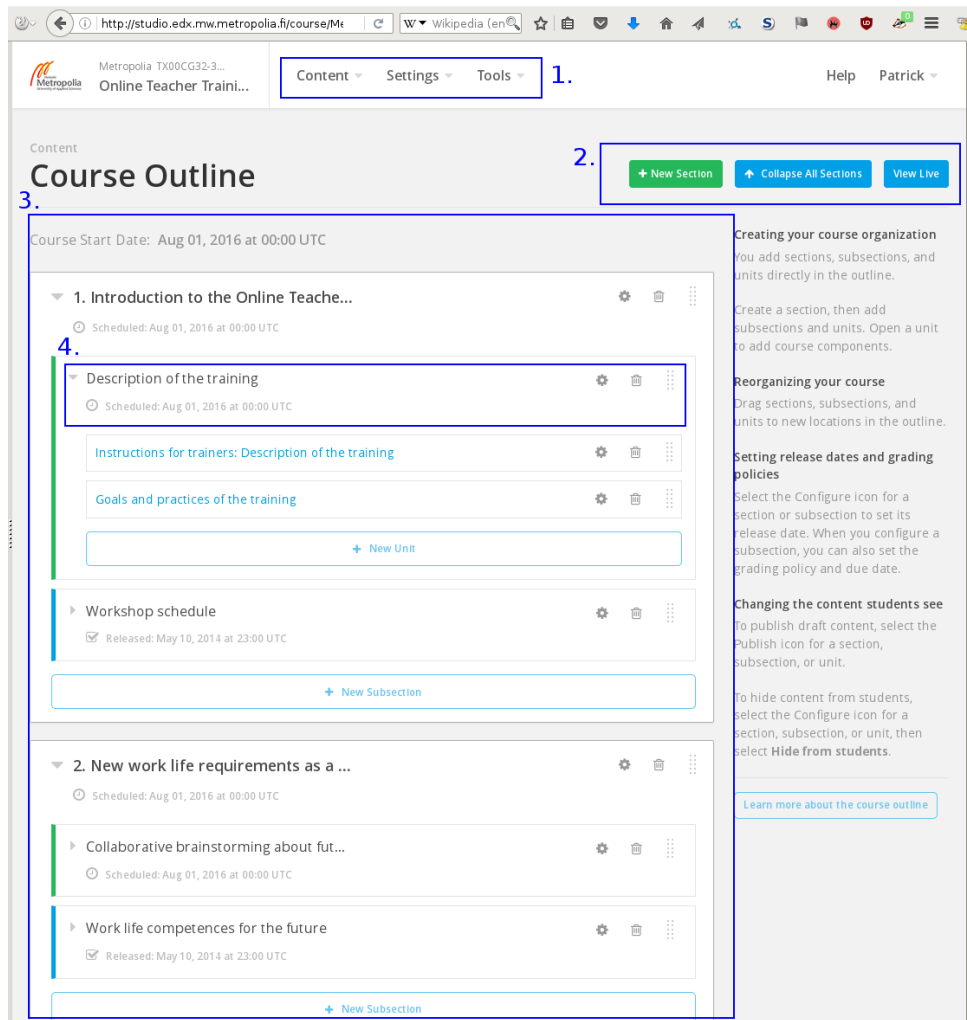


Figure 5: Course Management Page

3 Known Issues and Future Improvements

For the exploitation of the teacher training package (D3.4.), the Open Online Learning Platform will be maintained for minimum of two years after the project has ended. During that time, it will also be available free of charge for the teachers of the partner organisations to use as a learning platform.

The screenshot displays the Metropoli online teacher training platform interface. The browser address bar shows the URL `http://studio.edx.mw.metropoli.fi/container/`. The page title is "Metropoli TX00CG32-3005 Online Teacher Training P...".

The main content area is titled "4. Introduction to the Trialogical App... / Three metaphors of learning and...". The unit title is "Introduction to the three Metaphors of Le...".

The content includes a text block: "The Trialogical approach: Video lecture" with an "EDIT" button. Below it is a video player showing a lecture titled "Three metaphors of learning (Paavola et al. 2004; Hakkarinen et al. 2004; cf. Sford 1998)". The video player shows a slide with three metaphors of learning:

- Learning as knowledge acquisition:** Emphasis on individual, factual and conceptual knowledge; traditional view on school learning.
- Learning as knowledge construction:** Emphasis on cultural practices, communication, social interaction and meaning-making, e.g. apprenticeship.
- Learning as knowledge creation:** Emphasis on sustained on-development of shared object and practices for some relevant practice, knowledge work.

The video player shows a timestamp of 0:00 / 20:47 and a speed of 1.0x.

At the bottom, there is an "Add New Component" section with four buttons: Discussion, HTML, Problem, and Video.

The right-hand sidebar contains the following information:

- Draft (Unpublished changes):** Draft saved on Jun 20, 2016 at 10:43 UTC by Patrick. RELEASE: Aug 01, 2016 at 00:00 UTC with Section "4. Introduction to the Trialogical Approach to learning". WILL BE VISIBLE TO: Staff and Students. Hide from students. **Publish** button. Discard Changes button.
- Unit Location:** LOCATION ID: ae63d48047a1490eabd1bc7f9fbf02de. LOCATION IN COURSE OUTLINE: 4. Introduction to the Trialogical Approach to learning. Three metaphors of learning and the Trialogical approach. Instructions for trainers: Three Metaphors of Learning and the Trialogical Approach. Introduction to the three Metaphors of Learning and the Trialogical Approach. **+ New Unit** button.

Figure 6: Editing a Draft of a Course Unit