

#### Choosing the right format: Lessons Learned from 3 years of developing and implementing instructional media in a university makerspace

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Media & Learning 25: Educational media that works - Choosing the right format - Alexander Piwowar & Virginia Jagusch



## **1. Micromodules**

Interactive multimedia tutorials, approx. 90 minutes

- OER\*: Texts, Infographics, Videos, Quizzes
- High effort production, slightly over-engineered
- Unsuitable when already operating tools
- Time constraints: Less staff, longer hours = DIY
- Video is a format hard to update
  - Unless you're using ai, e.g. HeyGen





\*OER = Open Educational Resources



## 2. Live Instructions: One on One

Convenient for visitors, but not always practicable

- Instant success, yet volatile long term effects
  - Teaching = Less learning by doing
  - Didactical Paradox: Teaching vs. Making (DIY)
- Self-efficacy
  - Shape digital reality, not *just using tools*
- Demanding format for staff in busy hours
- Can be a lot of fun, too if not too crowded





### 3. Live Instructions: One to many

Can become too many

- More people = less time per person
- Challenging target groups
  - Young audience
  - e.g. Girlsday
  - e.g. Non-academic
- Students can help each other
  - Peer Learning, Sharing



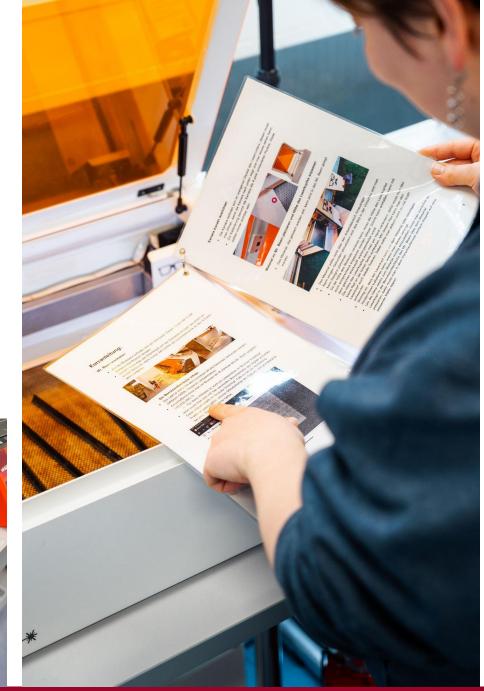


## 4. Quick Guides

True self-regulated learning

- On paper and digitally: Website/QR-Code
- Easy to reference, easy to share
- Throw in at the deep end positively
- Short, limited information
- Updated easily!







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|           | Micromodules   | Instructions<br>One on One   | Instructions<br>One to Many   | Quick Guides  |
|-----------|--|--|---|---|
| Pros      | <ul> <li>Profound preparation<br/>though blended learning</li> <li>Long term available</li> <li>Useful for complex<br/>machines and context</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Instant satisfaction</li> <li>Adaptable to needs and given skills of visitors</li> <li>Full range of practical experience, spontaneous</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Can <i>teach</i> many students at once</li> <li>Students can help each other</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Easily accessible</li> <li>Serving the purpose best: Learning by doing</li> <li>Easy to update ("only" photos and text)</li> </ul> |
| Cons      | <ul> <li>Unsuitable when already operating tools</li> <li>Time constraints (staff)</li> <li>Hard to update (e.g. videos), hard to share</li> </ul>     | <ul> <li>Long Term effects (?!)</li> <li>Didactical Paradox:<br/>Making vs. Teaching</li> <li>Demanding for staff on<br/>sight</li> </ul>                  | <ul> <li>Lack of space and<br/>sufficient number of tools<br/>for everyone</li> <li>Harder to pinpoint<br/>students falling behind</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Limited information</li> <li>Step by step for a single use case, little general info</li> </ul>                                    |
| Take away | High effort for staff<br>(resource conflicts), yet<br>valuable in-depth content,<br>suitable for blended<br>learning.                                  | In-depth individual format:,<br>but <b>unsustainable for</b><br><b>visitors</b> and demanding<br>for staff (at busy hours).                                | The closest to 'classical,<br>i.e. frontal teaching'. All<br>the up- and downsides of<br>group work.  | Learning by doing,<br>enables students to look<br>information up at their own<br>pace (yet not in-depth).<br>Easy to share!                 |



# Thank you for your attention! Feel free to ask questions :)





#### **References: Relevant background information**

Stolzenburg, A., Beste, A., Piwowar, A., Schurz, K., & Thelen, T. (2023). Integration der Maker Education in die Lehramtsausbildung – das Digitallabor der Universität Osnabrück: Aufbau und konzeptionelle Weiterentwicklung eines Makerspaces mit Blick auf die Anbahnung von Digitalkompetenz bei Lehramtsstudierenden. MedienPädagogik: Zeitschrift für Theorie und Praxis der Medienbildung, 56, 364-384. <u>https://doi.org/10.21240/mpaed/56/2024.02.19.X</u>

Schön, Sandra, Martin Ebner, Ziele von Makerspaces - Didaktische Perspektiven in Lernwelt Makerspace (2020): 33-47. https://doi.org/10.1515/9783110665994-004.

Micromodule-Landingpage for students with overview of all online interactive multimedia courses and tutorials <u>https://digitale-lehre.uni-osnabrueck.de/mikromodule-uebersicht/</u>

List of all available Quick Guides for tools and machines on the DigiLab-Website https://digitale-lehre.uni-osnabrueck.de/geraete-digilab/

Andrews, Madison E., Maura Borrego, and Audrey Boklage. "Self-efficacy and belonging: The impact of a university makerspace." *International Journal of STEM Education* 8 (2021): 1-18. <u>https://doi.org/10.1186/s40594-021-00285-0</u>