




**Sensing the spirit of social science research:
Doing autoethnography to explore learning spaces within mandatory internships**

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Roadmap

- Sparkling Science project PEARL
- means and methods of a research-based learning approach for opening learning spaces within internships
- results and challenges of a research-based learning approach
- integrative pedagogical connective model

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The project PEARL (2015-2017)

- investigates the mandatory vocational internships of pupils in secondary vocational schools in Austria
- offers "internal perspectives" of internships by means of autoethnographic research conducted by pupils
- seeks to explore the constitution of learning spaces within vocational internships and leads to suggestions for the pedagogical development and assurance of vocational internships

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Learning spaces

- concept of learning spaces (Evans & Kersh 2012; Cairns & Malloch 2011; Fenwick & Edwards 2010)
 - multidimensional, metaphysical concept
 - everything that enables learning
- learning as transformation needs critical reflection (Gray 2007, Schön 1984)

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Research-based learning



Within PEARL we tried to open learning spaces through a research-based learning approach:

- anchored instruction (experiences of former internships)
- individual research design and methods
- PEARL-toolbox
- PEARL-researchbox

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Research in the field



- challenging role taking: as a student, as an intern and as a junior researcher
- 59 autoethnographic narratives: logbooks, photos, interviews, surveys, objects
- communicative validation by material-stimulated interviews



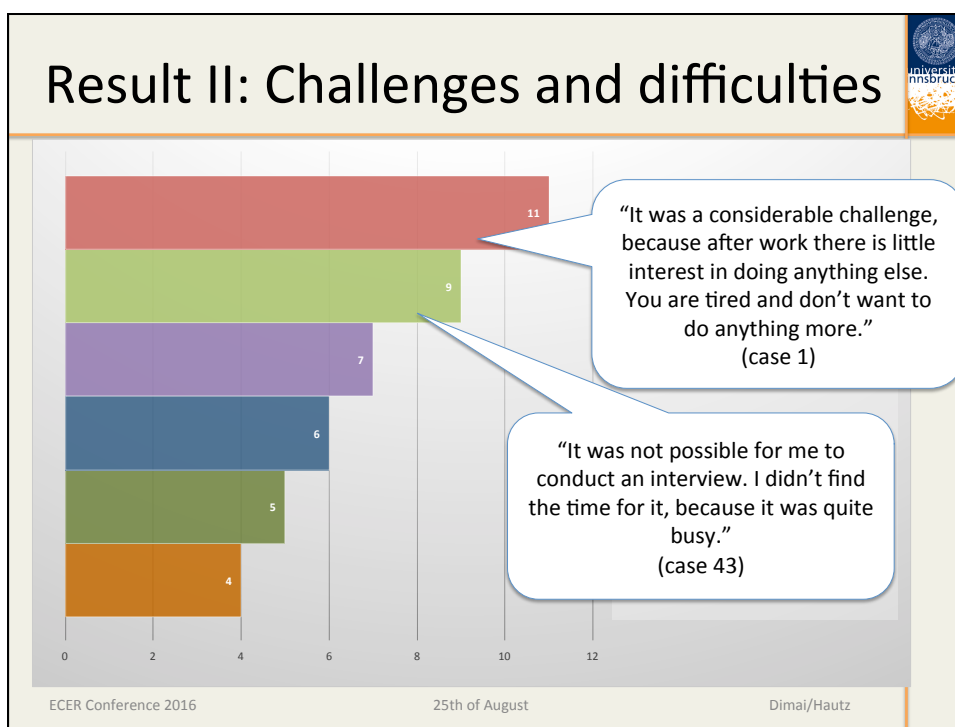
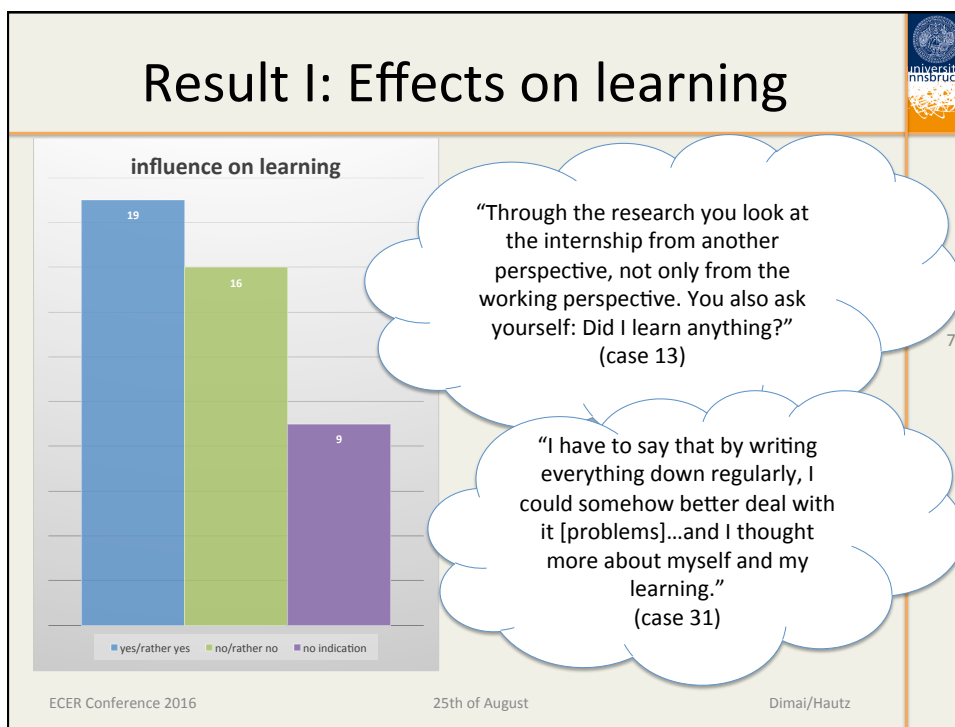
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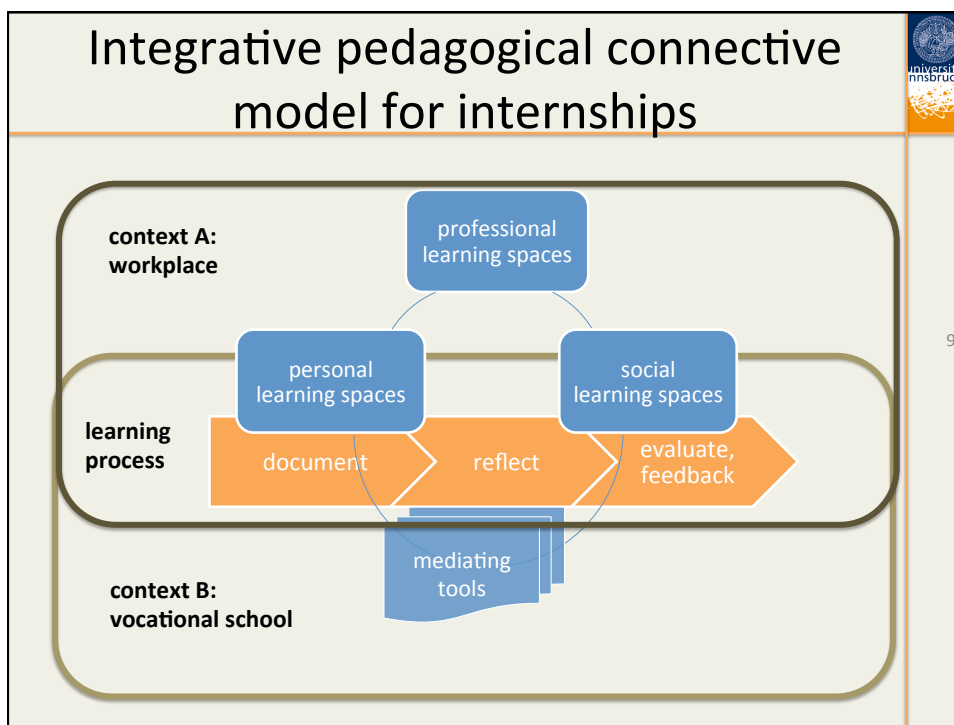


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Thank you

Literature

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Questions

- Is it possible to establish a research-based learning approach in secondary vocational schools?
- Do you have additional ideas how to support a continuous reflection by the pupils on their individual learning process during the internship?

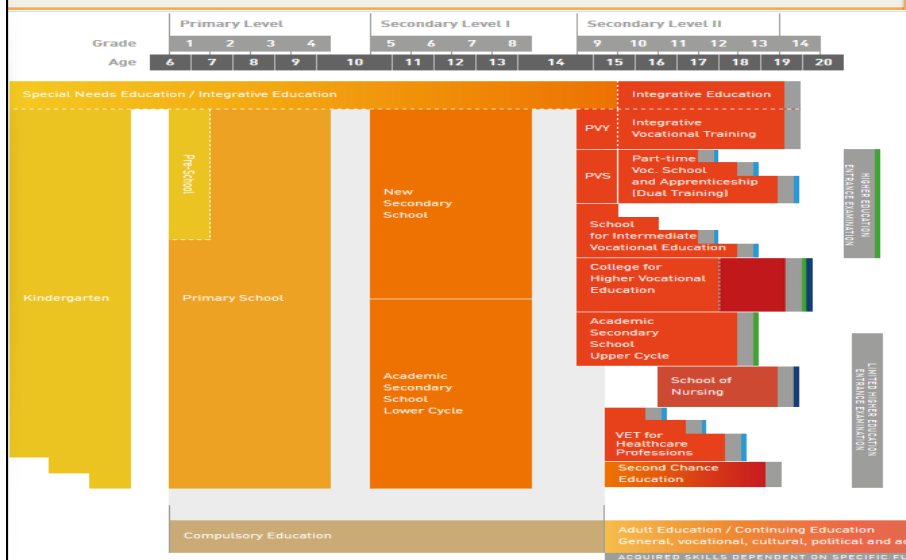
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Example: Prepared logbook



Mindmapping

Was will ich in meinem Praktikum zum Thema „Lernen im Praktikum“ erfassen? Schreib alles nieder, was dir im Zusammenhang mit Lernen im Praktikum einfällt. Welche Methoden helfen dir bei deiner Erforschung des Praktikums?

Leading questions during the research



- Which eye-opener accompanied my internship?
- Which experiences (great, satisfying, terrifying, critical,...) have I made in my internship?
- What are concrete learning situations in my internship?
- What did I learn today? How? With whom? Why?
- Which learning results do I remember? Which learning results are important for me? Why?
- Which knowledge is relevant for my internship?
- What went well and what went badly? Why?
- What will I continue to focus, to work on?

Leading questions at the end of the research



- My most positive experience during my internship:
- My most negative experience during my internship: ...
- My biggest challenge during my internship: ...
- My personal learning process during my internship (learning map, picture, story,...): ...

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