Innovative pedagogy: Activity Based Curriculum Learning Design (ABC LD) online workshop for 4EU+ Alliance

Dimitrios Alchatzidis (SU), Marta Jaworska-Oknińska (UW), Bartłomiej Michałowicz (UW), Vassiliki Michou (SU), Anna Pacholak (UW), Angela Maria Prataviera (UNIMI), Dorota Sidor (UW), Zbynek Tonar (CU)

About 4EU+ Alliance

Since February 2019 brings together 6 European public universities to strengthen the European vision of deepened cooperation and mutual enrichment by developing a new quality of cooperation in teaching, education, research and administration, leading to the creation of a truly integrated European University System.

6 partner universities:

- Sorbonne University
- University of Warsaw
- University of Milan
- Charles University
- University of Heidelberg
- University of Copenhagen

4EU+ in numbers:

- Students: 286,940
- Academic staff: 23,680
- Other staff: 26,350

European University Project (EUP) co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme

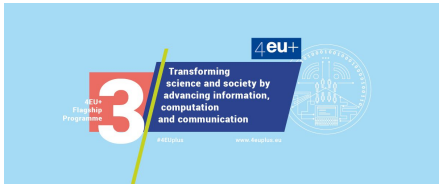
Key actions:

- Make lifelong learning and mobility a reality;
- Improve the quality and efficiency of education and training;
- Promote equity, social cohesion and active citizenship;
- Enhance creativity and innovation, including entrepreneurship at all levels of education and training.

4 flagship programmes

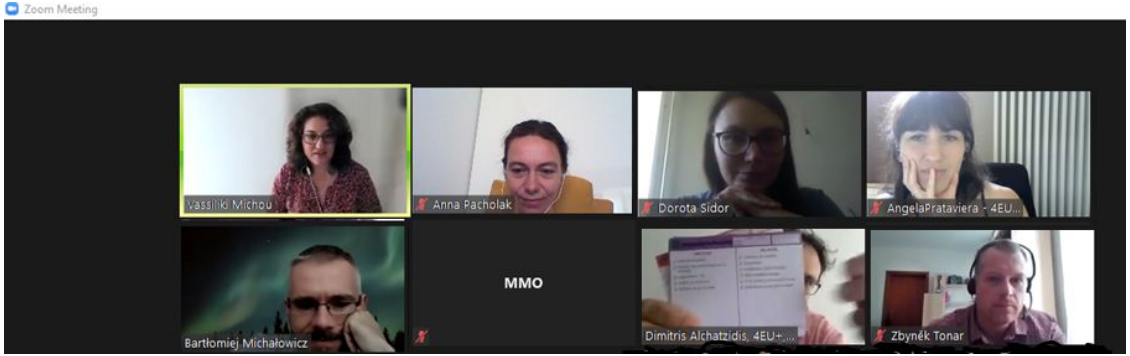
The 4EU+ Graduate Skills, Competencies and Values portfolio:

- Multilingualism
- Data literacy
- Critical thinking
- Entrepreneurship
- Social engagement



5.2 Subgroup: digital teaching and academic support task working group

Main objective: to improve the quality and efficiency of education and training



Gaps & needs analysis

- A survey among 6 universities: data on existing trainings for academic teachers and staff
- A catalogue of innovative activities and tools to support the professional development of academic teachers and staff

approx. 100 training modules:

- „tech" courses
- designing & innovative pedagogy

FOCUS ON

To adapt the Activity Based Curriculum Learning Design (ABC-LD) method and toolkit for 4EU+ needs, recognised as the most effective in its potential, aiming to:
- help academic teachers prepare pedagogically coherent module designs in online and/or in blended formats.
- build pedagogical competencies related to online education.

About Activity Based Curriculum Learning Design (ABC-LD)

- ABC (Arena Blended Connected) designed by UCL (2015 - original version): developed by N. Perovic and C. Young, based on the pedagogic theory of Prof. D. Laurillard's
- ABCD (Activity Based Curriculum Design) by Sorbonne University, issued by ABC
  - licensed under Creative Commons (BY NC SA 4.0.)
  - used worldwide
  - several publications about the method
  - a user-friendly and student-centred tool
  - some of the 4EU+ universities use the original or a localized version of ABC-LD

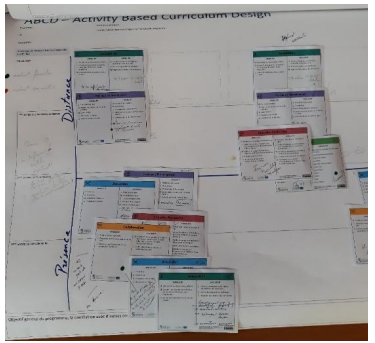
Clive **Young** and Nataša **Perović**
UCL Digital Education

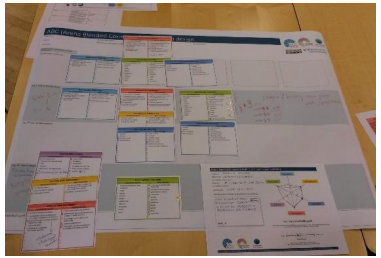
ABC-LD a living framework

- ***Main features***
  - A flexible, adaptable and efficient workshop
  - Creating a narrative - visual storyboard
  - Combination of classical and digital pedagogical activities
  - Willingly designed on analogue format

- ***Characteristics of pedagogy***
  - Activity-based design
  - Student-centered
  - Enhancing academic engagement
  - Easily comprehensible

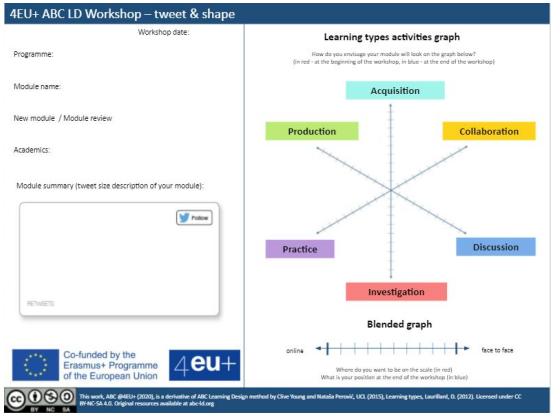
- ***A collaborative and conversational training***
  - Developing creativity
  - Boosting a shared vision
  - Based on research

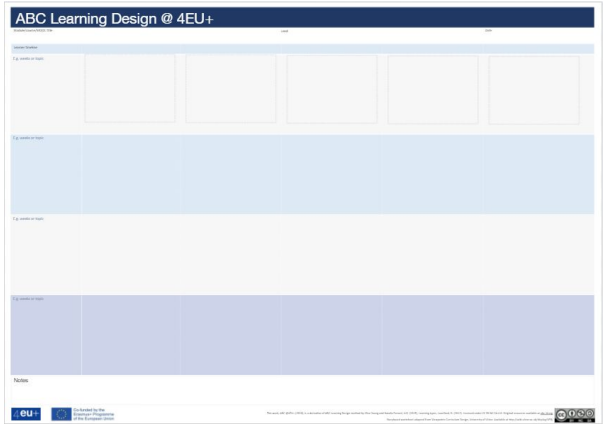


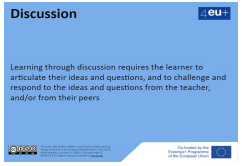


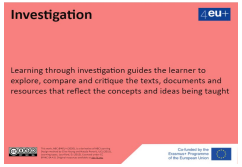
Original workshop's tools

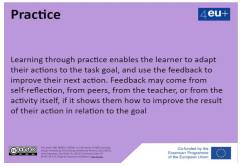
- Design graphs
- Activity cards
- Additional online activities
- Storyboard

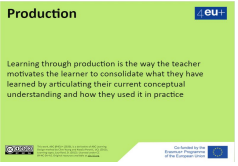








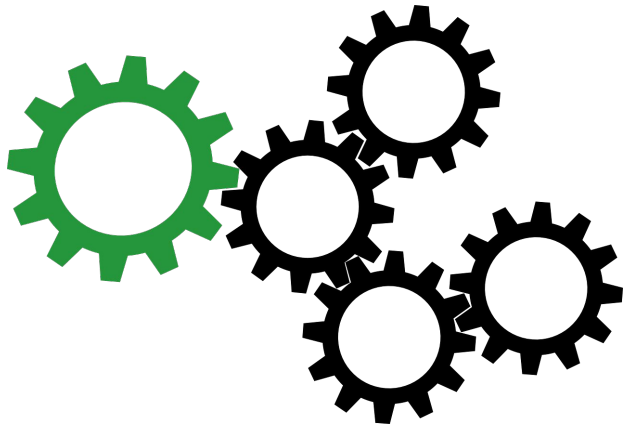




A localized 4EU+ version of ABC-LD

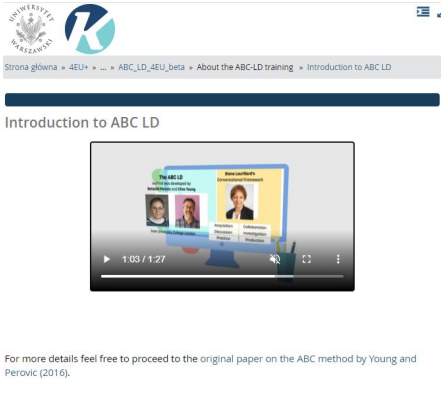
- ***An established experience on running ABC-LD workshops***
  - identification of our needs

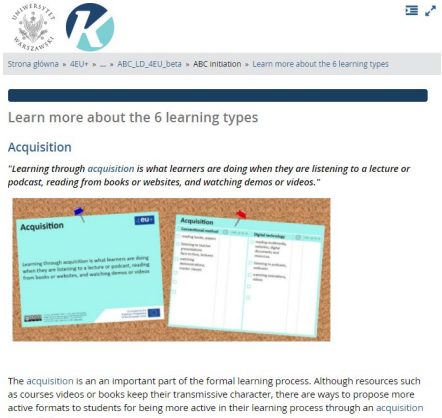
- adapt and complete the workshop's materials and tools
- choose the adequate digital tools for an online training
- integrate the 4EU+ educational strategy
- find the common language for all 4EU+ Alliance universities

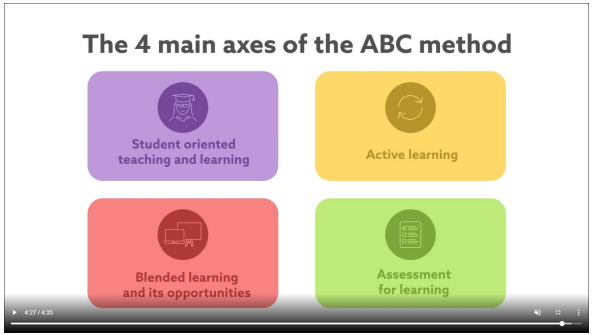


Online solutions: Moodle

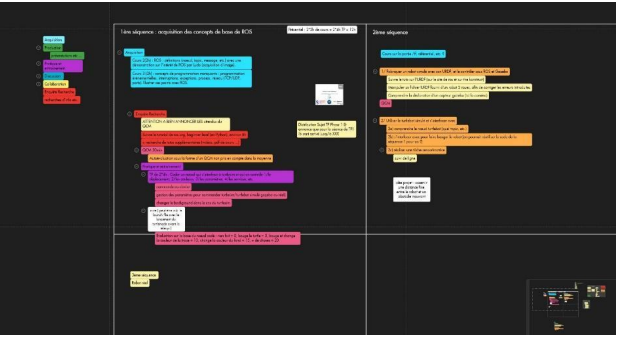
- Most popular e-learning platform among the Alliance
- Various types resources, including video and H5P interactive content



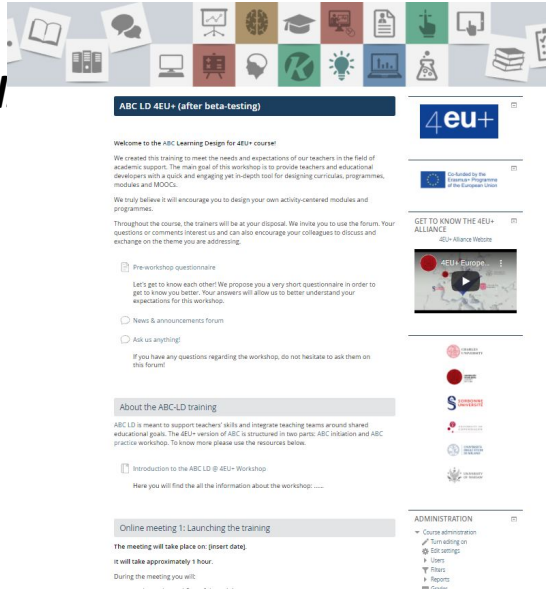


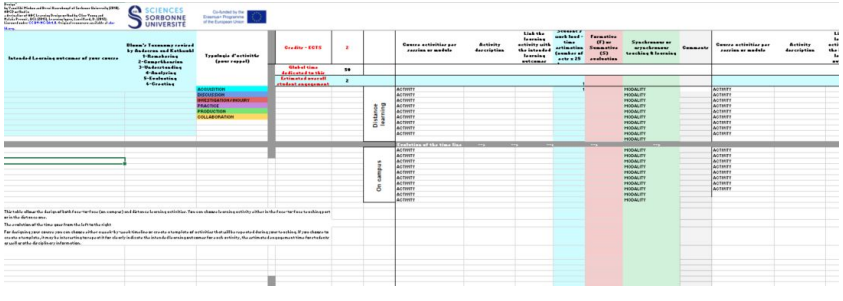


A localized 4EU+ version of ABC-LD



- ***Choose the adequate digital tool for an online training***
  - ✔ Moodle
  - ✔ collaborative black/whiteboard
  - ✔ an excel tool allowing the transcription of the design on a widely known format

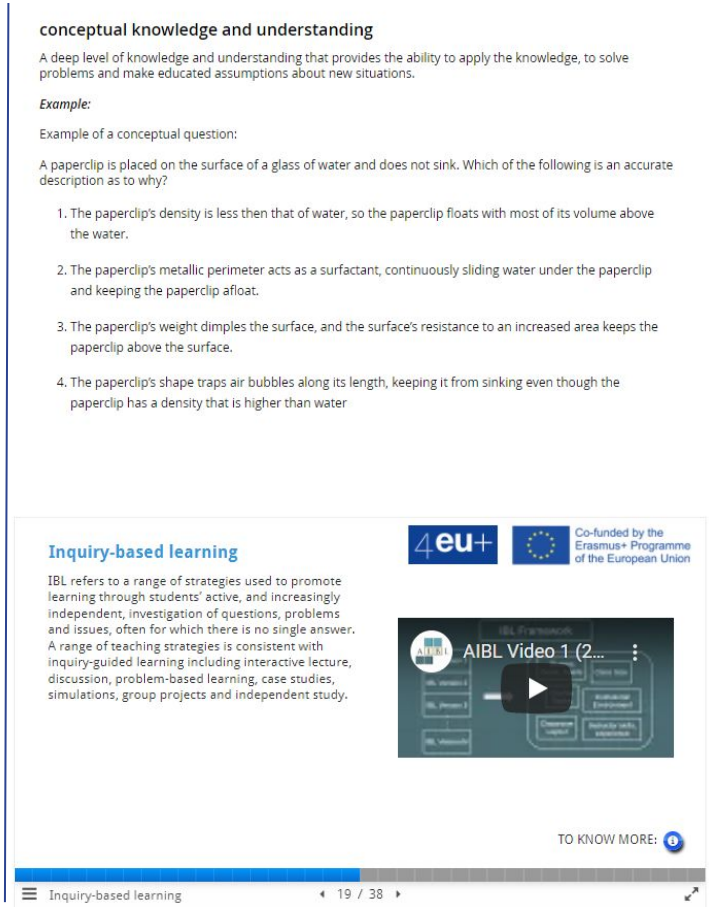




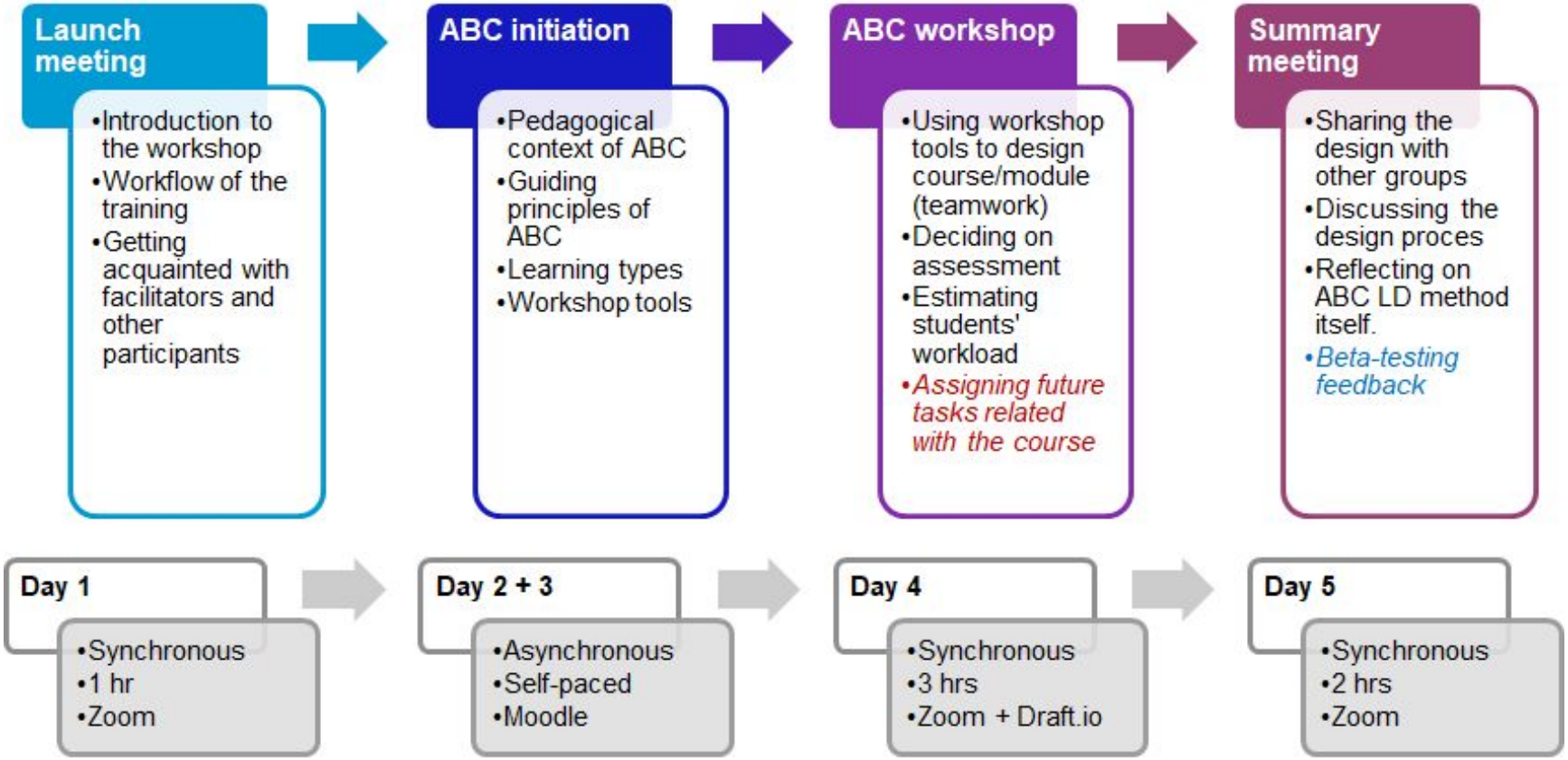
Additions

- Glossary
  - 60+ important terms occurring throughout the course
  - game puzzlet: matching the terms with their definitions and examples
  - general pedagogy, teaching and learning types and strategies, collecting feedback, testing, ABC LD related terms

- 4EU+ cards
  - repository of good practices and examples
  - user-friendly, quick-to-consult cards inspired from ABC's learning activities cards
  - prepared in H5P format that allowed for linking inside the document, embedding videos and adding pop-up information with references



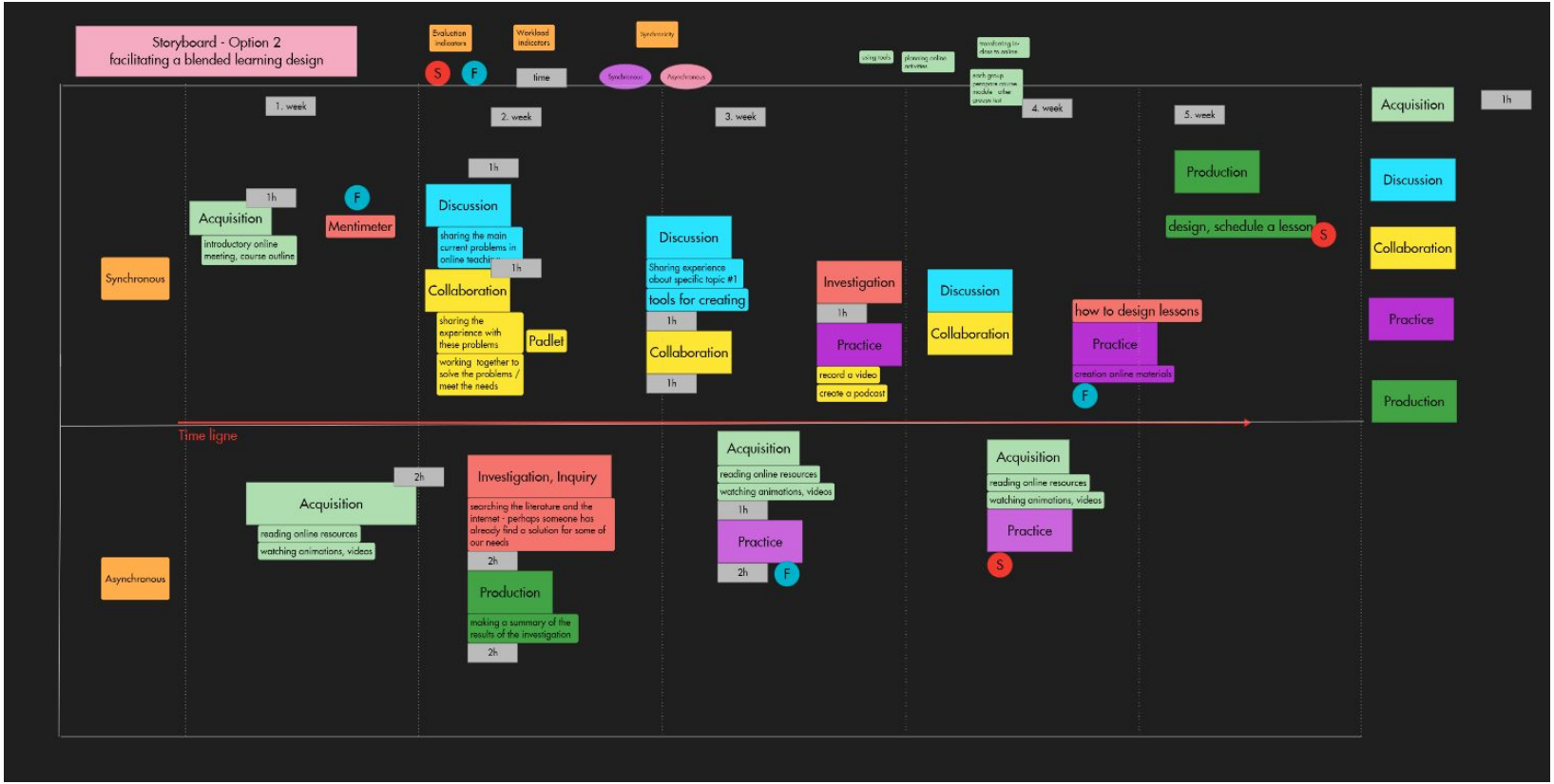
Structure of the beta-tested training



Beta-testing of the workshop

- 11 volunteer participants from all 6 partner universities
- One week during June/July 2021
- Members of 4EU+ educational projects teams - academic teachers, members of all 4 flagships
- Most have had no prior experience with ABC LD method
- All groups were be working on the same course topic: *How to prepare university teachers for delivering online courses*

Example of a storyboard in Draft.io



Beta testing categories

- Duration of the training
- Overall workload
- Workshop content
- Achieving intended goals
- Opinions about the method itself
- IT solutions

Beta testing - SWOT analysis

Online training vs. f2f one

Viewpoint	Face-to face ABC course	Online ABC course
Requirements	Previous formulation of learning outcomes of the course	Preliminary training in online collaborative tools
Social aspect	More fun, spontaneous	More effort to keep engagement (practice workshop) Participants choose their own tempo in (self-paced part)
For the facilitators	One facilitator → more working groups. Groups can discuss when working in the same room.	Each online room requires its own facilitator. Teams work as isolated groups.
Financial aspects	Physical meeting of the participants = travel costs if applicable Printing out the materials (storyboards, cards).	Can occur even when travelling is restricted. Digital working materials can be easily stored, shared and edited among the participants from various Universities. No travelling costs.

FUTURE?

1CORE

7 partner universities:

- Sorbonne University
- University of Warsaw
- University of Milan
- Charles University
- University of Heidelberg
- University of Copenhagen

- University of Geneva

UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE

4eu+

UNIWERSYTET WARSZAWSKI

C K CENTRUM
C KOMPETENCJI
U W CYFROWYCH UW

Thank you!
Dziękuję!
Gracias!

Anna Pacholak
a.pacholak@uw.edu.pl

CHARLES UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITÄT HEIDELBERG
ZUKUNFT SEIT 1386

SORBONNE UNIVERSITÉ

UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO

UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW