

"Learning Spaces and the Future of Social Science Teaching" with Tony Bates

20th-24th January 2020

Host: Department of Social Sciences, Aalborg University.

Developing learning processes that offer the best possible spaces for students to analyze, discuss and develop solutions to real-time and concrete societal challenges have always been the core of teaching at Aalborg University (AAU).

Anchored in a strong belief that problem-based learning (PBL) is a constructive and ambitious way to facilitate student centered learning, AAU have for many years set the standard for developing progressive ways of teaching and learning.

Luckily, we live in a changing world and context. Students become more diverse. Technologies are constantly burgeoning. New and more digital ways of teaching are presenting themselves. And the workforce is asking for new skills. Movements and tendencies that offer us the possibility to reflect upon how we can and will develop new learning spaces for our students. To maintain and strengthen our role as frontrunners within PBL this seminar facilitated by Tony Bates will focus on how we at the Faculty of Social Sciences can integrate the new digital era in the variety of PBL anchored learning spaces, we can offer our students.

Tony Bates

Tony Bates is President and CEO of Tony Bates Associates Ltd, a private company specializing in consultancy and training in the planning and management of e-learning and distance education. He has for 20 years worked at the U.K. Open University, Distinguished Visiting Professor in the G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education, Ryerson University, Toronto and a Research Associate at Contact North, Ontario. Tony Bates has authored 12 books and several articles and cooperated with multiple universities, UNESCO and the World Bank advising on their online learning strategies.



Program and sign-up

The program will be a mixture of lectures, seminars and workshops all with the purpose of inviting you to a hands-on experience with developing learning spaces to the concrete modules you teach. Sign up for the seminar activities to Dorte: db@business.aau.dk (remember to indicate the activity and if you want to have lunch)

If you and colleagues want to have a private dialogue with Tony Bates regarding a specific module, please contact Mette Vinther Larsen: mvl@business.aau.dk

"Learning Spaces and the Future of Social Sciences" with Tony Bates

Date	Time	
20th January 2020	11.30 - 1pm	Guest lecture: "Learning Spaces and the Future of Social Science Teaching" Open to all – students and faculty
	1pm - 2pm	Lunch
	2pm - 5pm	Workshop 1 "Design your own learning spaces" Open to teaching communitites
22 nd January 2020	10.00 – 1pm	Workshop 2 "Design your own learning spaces"
		Open to teaching communitites
	1pm - 2pm	Lunch
	2pm - 3pm	Informal meeting with Tony regarding specific modules
		Pre-booked by teaching communities
	4pm	Visit at "Kunsten"
23 rd January 2020	10.00 - 1pm	Workshop 3 "Design your own learning spaces"
		Open to teaching communitites
	1pm - 2pm	Lunch
	2pm - 3pm	Informal meeting with Tony regarding specific modules
		Pre-booked by teaching communities
24 th January 2020	9.00 - 12.00	Workshop 4 "Design your own learning spaces"
		Open to teaching communitites
	12.00 - 1pm	Lunch

Description of keynote, seminars and workshops:

Keynote: Learning Spaces and the Future of Teaching in Social Sciences.

The world is currently changing much faster than universities or colleges. The digital age requires major changes to what and how students will learn, while technology provides increasingly interesting alternatives to conventional classroom-based teaching.

The keynote will look at the main drivers of change, the need for teaching methods that will help students develop the knowledge and skills they will need to succeed in a digital age, and how the intelligent use of technology can provide rich environments that enable and support such learning.

Seminar: The Administrative and Technological Support enabling Digital Learning Spaces.

The biggest impact to date of technology on higher education has been to increase student access and flexibility, mainly through online learning. However, as technology increasingly impacts the classroom teaching through blended learning and emerging technologies, there are better opportunities for increasing skill development, better learning outcomes, and some economies of scale.

For this to happen though major changes are needed in institutional management and the culture of higher education. This seminar will suggest some possible strategies for institutional leaders to support the move to more skills-based and technology supported learning.

Workshops: Course design for a digital age - what methods work best?

In these interactive workshops, participants will work in groups to examine and choose a particular approach to teaching a module or class and to discuss how best to implement such teaching, the goal being higher order skills development in students within a blended learning context.

The workshop will build on the keynote, but it is also suggested that prior to the workshop, participants should read Chapters 1-4, 6, and 12, of <u>Teaching in a Digital Age.</u> (Free, online). I will be including the design of PBL within the sessions, but I will also be emphasising other methods as well.

Questions and clarifications

For any questions or clarifications about the seminar, please contact Dorte Baymler: db@business.aau.dk