

**Student-centered learning with MOODLE**  
**Aprendizagem centrada nos estudantes com o MOODLE**  
**Friday 14 at 7.00 a.m**  
**Monday 17 at 19.00 p.m**

**An online presentation in an E-conference room**  
**Especially Portuguese speaking participants are invited**

**Experiences from the Faculty of Education**  
**Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo, Mozambique**

**Xavier Muianga and Kitty den Boogert**

[Xavier.muianga@uem.mz](mailto:Xavier.muianga@uem.mz); [kitty.boogert@uem.mz](mailto:kitty.boogert@uem.mz)

With the assistance of Cristina Costa (Portugal, Lisbon) and Geoff Kaye (Australia, Perth)

**When and for whom?**

There are two sessions: Friday 14 at 7.00 o'clock in the morning and Monday 17 at 19.00 in the evening (South Africa time). We especially invite our Portuguese-speaking colleagues to participate. If they are there, we will do our presentation (mainly) in Portuguese. If not, we change to English or to a combination of the two languages! To participate, login at [www.compued.com.au/demo](http://www.compued.com.au/demo) (see instruction below).

**Abstract**

We are both teaching subjects related to 'the use of ICT in Education', in a Master's program at the Faculty of Education of the University Eduardo Mondlane (Maputo, Mozambique).

This year we gave two modules in the mode of blended learning: a combination of teaching in the classroom and teaching online, using the open source software MOODLE (free download).

One module took place right at the beginning of the first year (common course) about 'Teaching and learning with ICT'. The second module was for students in their specialization phase about 'School administration and information management with ICT'.

Not only the Faculty of Education started this year with blended learning, but also in other faculties we introduced the use of a Learning Management System as a powerful facilitator of student-centred learning. This means that the focus of our modules is on active and deep learning. Students explore the topic by themselves, they search for information on the Internet, they discuss their findings and thoughts with others and they present their conclusions to the teachers and the group. Understanding, insight, constructing new ideas and application of knowledge become more important qualities than reproducing the right answers and memorizing texts from experts.

In our sessions we will share with you some of our experiences at the UEM, although we ourselves are 'starters' with online learning. Neither in the Faculty nor in the University,

there is a clear policy for the promotion of learning with ICT. There are still lots of technical problems to solve. We lack the financial means for intensive staff training etc. But we know we are on the right track. We hear from our students and from our colleagues (in- and outside the faculty), that they appreciate this new way of learning and teaching. Students like the group work and the practical tasks they have to make. By 'doing', they become more competent in using the computer. They make presentations in Power Point, they search for information on the Internet, they analyse and compare data and they use e-mail to communicate with each other and their teachers. No longer we give separate lessons in computer skills.

For the majority of teachers the change appears to be a bit more complex. However, the pioneers like to experiment with a more flexible planning. They are not afraid that students, who are not physically present, do not learn. By doing, they learn how to control the students' progress and how to organize a module with activities online and in the classroom.

The biggest challenge for teachers is not the computer itself, but the shift in philosophy and didactical approach. Teaching online implies the adoption of a new role. Teachers have to make a change from 'transferring knowledge' to 'facilitating a learning process'. From being an expert and the most important source of information, they now become mediators of students' thinking. Teaching becomes more and more structuring the information, students have gathered from different resources (books, Internet, practice, interviews).

Join the workshop and share with us how to make this shift from a teacher-centred to a student-oriented strategy.

### **Instructions for accessing the conference room**

In our presentation, there is synchronous communication possible. We use 'Discovere', a conference room, administered by Geoff Kaye in Australia.

This means that we can talk with each other, we can write short messages at the same time (msn) and you can login to our courses in MOODLE. You only need to download the software for and have a headset (microphone) and speakers ready.

1. Go to the website [www.compued.com.au/demo](http://www.compued.com.au/demo)
2. Allow voice chat software to automatically download. Run the application. DO NOT SAVE;
3. Click on <install> and allow automatic installation; ( it might takes some minutes)
4. When login screen appears, enter a screen name [preferably your first name] and leave <password> blank;
5. Have your speakers and microphone plugged in.

If there are problems send an email to Geoff Kaye [gkaye@compued.com.au](mailto:gkaye@compued.com.au)

If you prefer Portuguese speaking assistance, contact Cristina Costa [cristinacosta\\_pt@yahoo.com](mailto:cristinacosta_pt@yahoo.com)