

Partnering through Open Courses: UDL Badge

A national model for sustaining engagement and community with the PD Framework for all who teach in Irish higher education

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17 January 2023

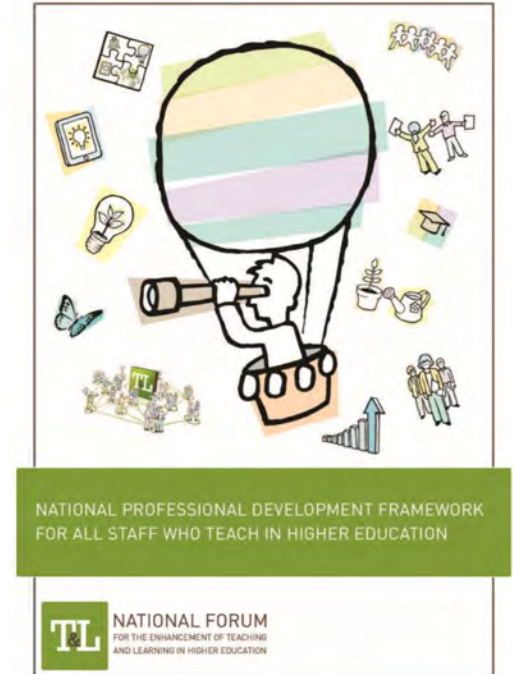


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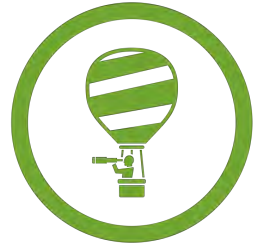


Context

National Professional Development Framework for all who teach in Irish higher education



The Professional Development of all who Teach



Open Courses (Moodle Platform): 3 delivery modes

Featured Courses

- Getting Started With Professional Development – PACT
- Universal Design in Teaching & Learning
- Programme Focused Assessment
- Recognition of Prior Learning

<https://opencourses.ie>



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Open Courses Suite Partnerships with digital badges

**Making a Commitment
to your Professional
Development**

**Getting Started with
Online teaching**

**Education for
Sustainability**

**Programme Focussed
Assessment**

**Recognition of Prior
Learning**

**Reflective
Practice in
Teaching**

**Engaged Research &
Innovation For
Societal Impact**

**Mentoring in
Teaching and
Learning**

**Universal Design
for Learning
MOOC**

Graduate Teaching
Assistants

UDSSL

All-Aboard / TELU

- Engaging Teaching Strategies
- Academic Writing

- OER & OEP
- Student Engagement

- Teaching Council of Ireland
- QQI
- IUA



PD Resources: contextualised bank of resources & activities for the sector



The image shows the top portion of a website. On the left is the logo for the National Forum, featuring the letters 'TL' in a green square. To the right of the logo is the text 'NATIONAL FORUM' and a smaller line of text below it. A horizontal navigation menu follows, with links for 'About', 'Our Priorities', 'Awards', 'Funding', 'News & Events', and 'Resource Hub'. The 'Resource Hub' link is highlighted with a green underline. Below the navigation is a large banner image showing a group of people in a meeting. Overlaid on the banner is the text 'Resource Hub' in a large, white, sans-serif font, with a green underline. Below this, in a smaller white font, is the text: 'Providing an evidence base to inform approaches and support decision making for teaching and learning enhancement in Ireland.'

TL NATIONAL FORUM
FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF TEACHING AND LEARNING IN IRELAND

About ▾ Our Priorities ▾ Awards ▾ Funding ▾ News & Events ▾ Resource Hub ▾

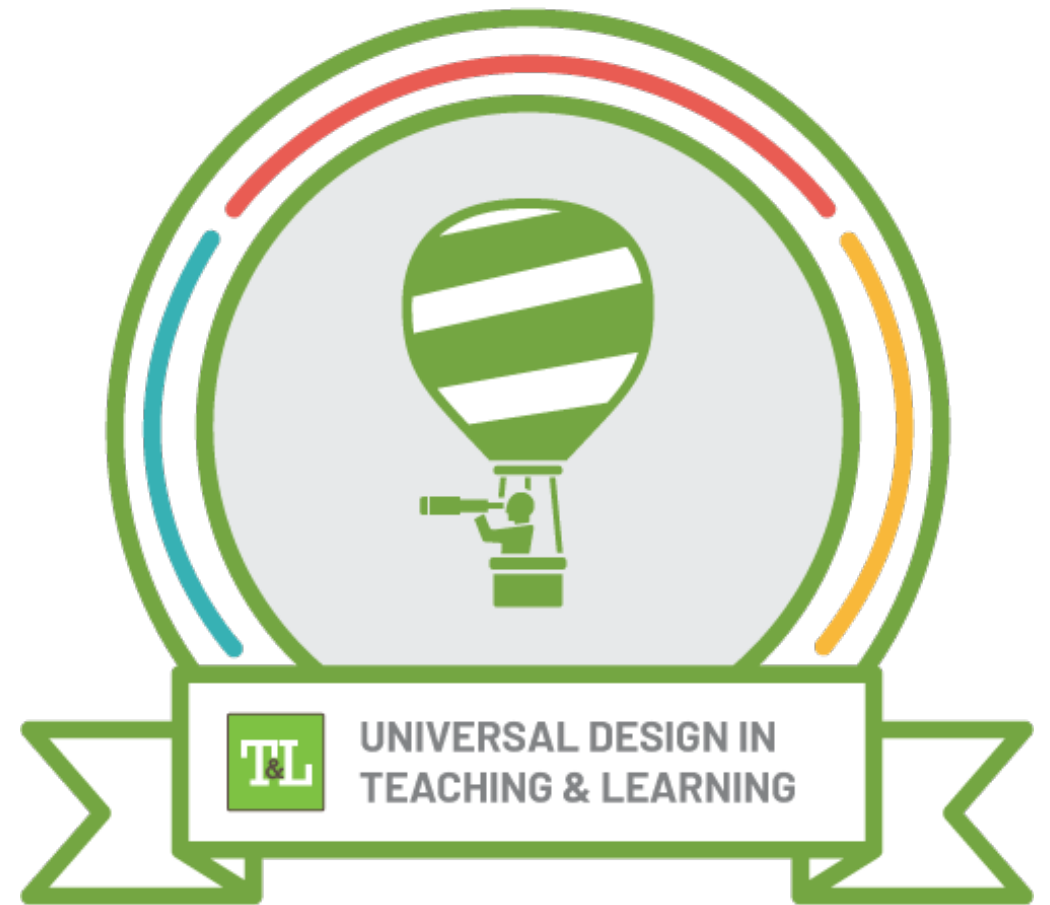
Resource Hub

Providing an evidence base to inform approaches and support decision making for teaching and learning enhancement in Ireland.

<https://www.teachingandlearning.ie/resourcehub/>

The UDL Badge

- Personal and Professional Digital Capacity (Blue)
- Professional Knowledge and Skills (Red)
- Professional Communication and Dialogue (Yellow)



UDL Badge PD in Partnership

Dara Ryder, CEO, AHEAD

www.ahead.ie

@dararyder - @aheadireland



The UDL Badge - PD in Partnership



National Forum

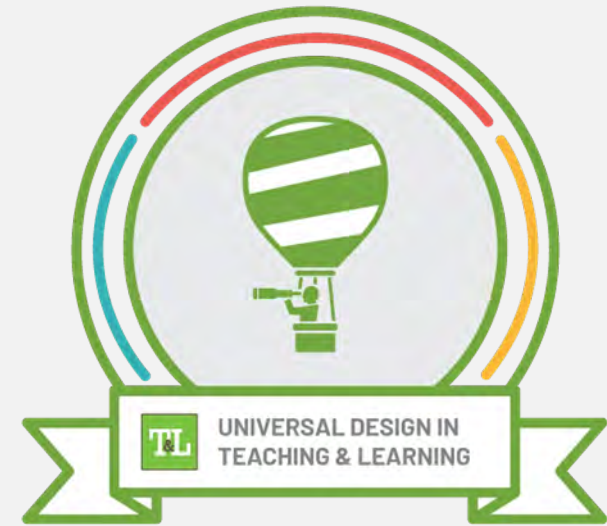
AHEAD

University College Dublin



The UDL Badge Course - What is it?

- ❖ Designed for all those who teach in Irish FET and HE
- ❖ 20-25 hour commitment
- ❖ Local facilitation encouraged - open source facilitator pack provided
- ❖ Structured and recognised programme
- ❖ Peer verified



Course Criteria

Reflect on the Diversity of Students in their Institutions

Gain a good understanding of the Universal Design for Learning framework and how it can support diverse learners

Deepen their understanding of UDL through peer engagement

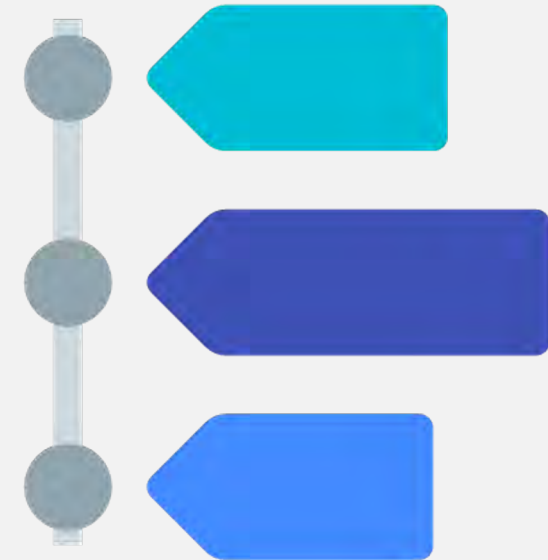
Redesign some elements of their teaching and learning practice based on their knowledge of UDL principles

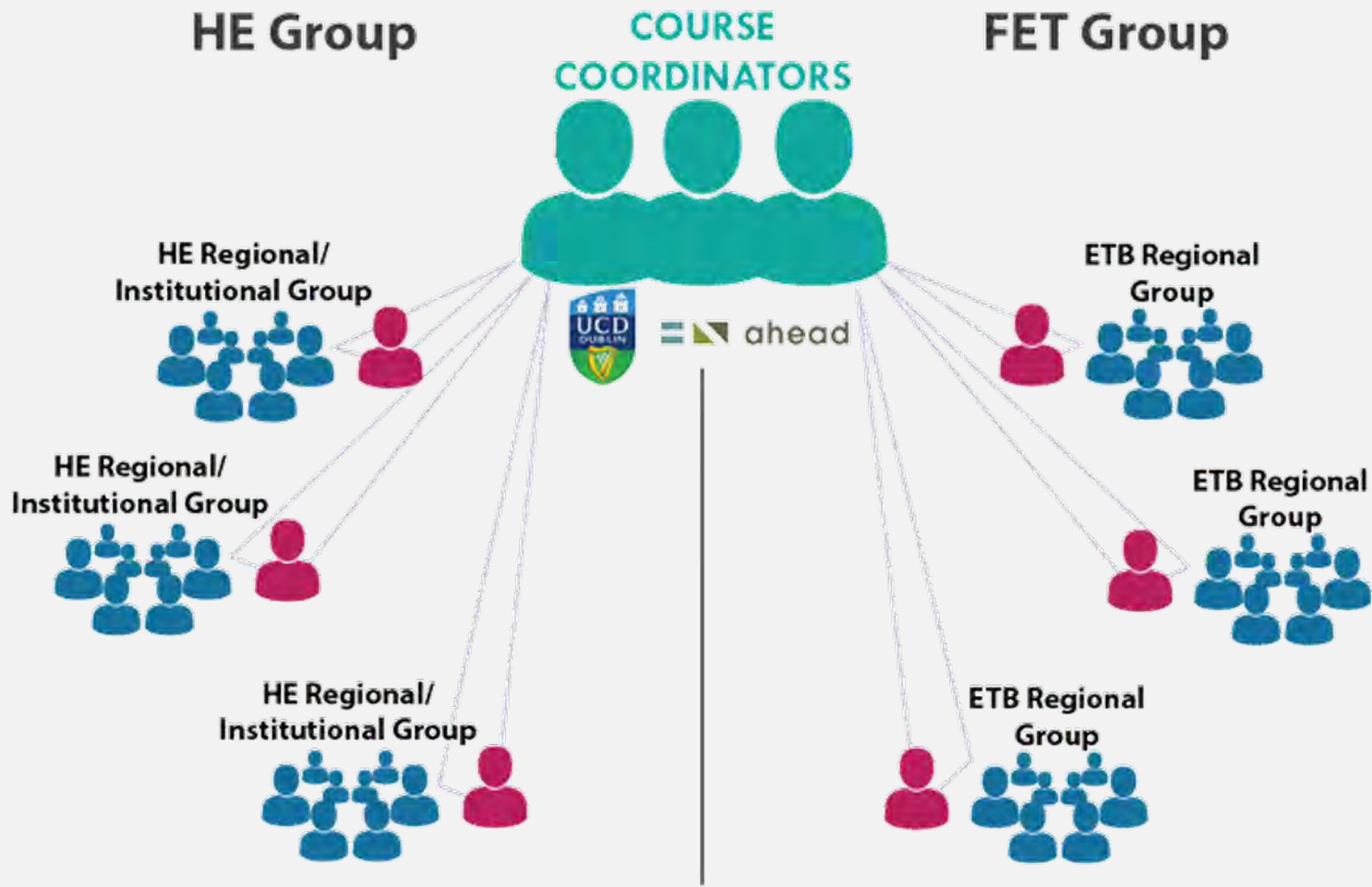
Consider how they will change their practice more broadly in line with a UDL approach

What Do Participants Actually

Do?

- ❖ 3 'Orientation' webinars - what to do and when
- ❖ 5 interactive self-directed modules - learn about UDL
- ❖ 4 Peer Group meetings - working to understand UDL
- ❖ Deep Reflection & UDL Redesign Activity
- ❖ Optional Weekly UDL Drop Ins
- ❖ Optional Facilitator Badge - so they can roll out the badge



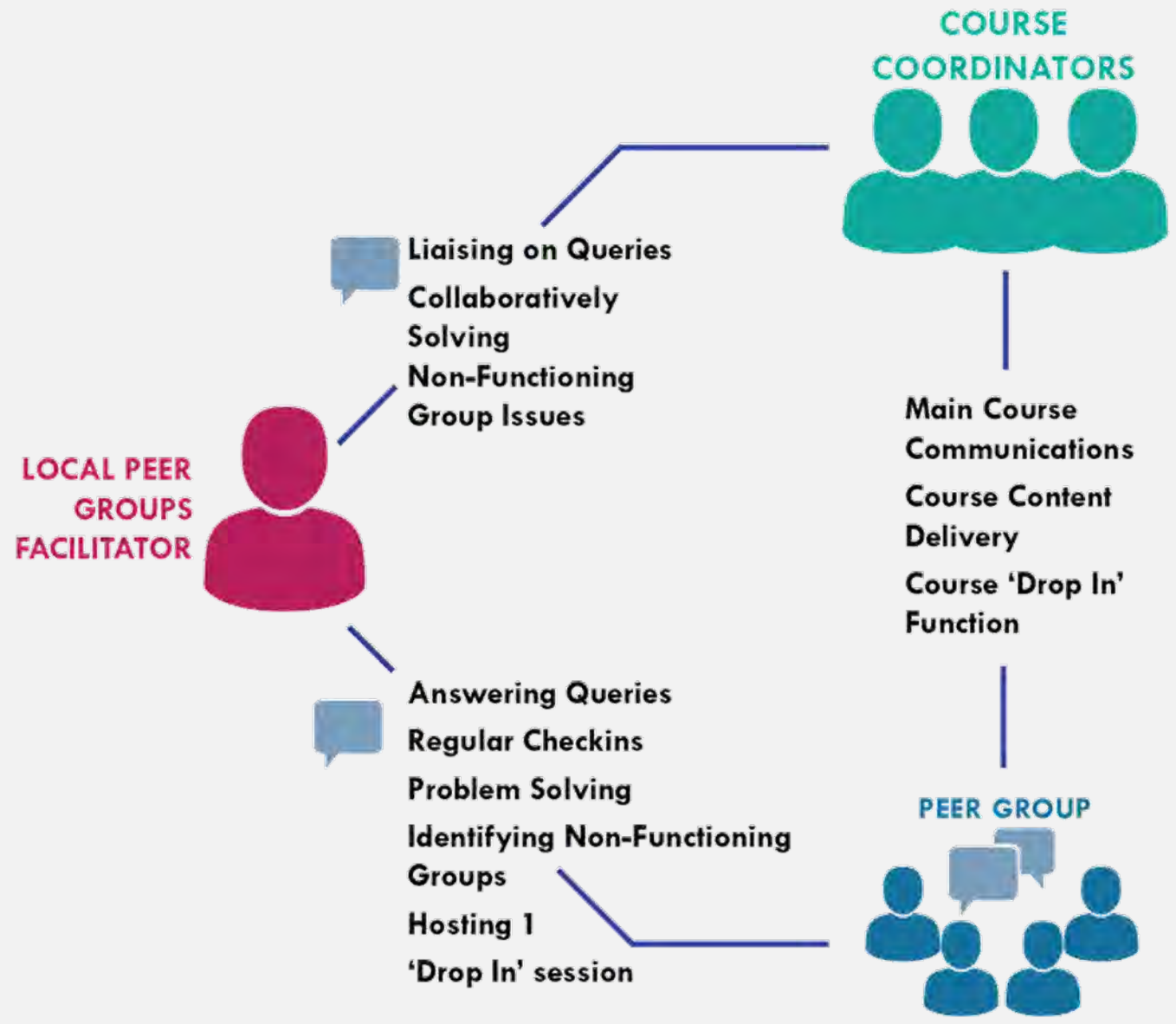


The New Look UDL Badge Model

 Peer Group Facilitator = facilitator's badge owners

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Shared Responsibility



Why the Model Works

- ❖ **Achievable National Recognition**
- ❖ **Train the trainer - exponential potential increase**
- ❖ **Moving UDL out of 'Access' department**
- ❖ **Generates exemplars - local and national**
- ❖ **Generates local/national conversation – affects policy**
- ❖ **Naturally builds UDL communities - local and national**



Key Point: Partnership is core to all of the above!

UDL BADGE TO OUTCOMES DATE

86 (in 2021)

LOCAL
FACILITATORS
SUPPORTED
DELIVERY

2,111

UDL BADGES
ISSUED ACROSS
FET/HE

424

FUTURE
FACILITATORS
TRAINED



UDL BADGE 2021 EVALUATION

95%

Agree or strongly agree their participation had a **significant impact on their teaching and learning practices**

98%

Rated the **quality of the course as Good, Very Good or Excellent**

96%

Said that this digital badge **deepened their understanding of UDL**

UDL BADGE 2021 IMPACT



“The programme has shown me how, with small changes, across my practice, I can support a more inclusive and engaging educational experience, respecting the individuality of each participant.”



“It completely changed my perspective, I’m more critical of my instruction now”



“I will question structures and processes more. Introduce more choice for students. Encourage a more collaborative approach with students”

Resources for Further Exploration

[AHEAD Website](#)

[CAST – UDL Guidelines](#)

[UDL for FET Resource Hub](#)

[University for All Resource Hub](#)

[About the UDL Badge](#)

[10 Min Video Examples of UDL Redesigns](#)

[Download the UDL Badge Facilitator's Pack \(scroll to OER Developer Materials\)](#)

