

Benefits of Authentic Learning Through Industry Engagement: A Case Study

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Outline

- Introduction
- Authentic learning
- Case study
- Benefits
- Risk
- Conclusion





Introduction

- Authentic learning.
- Sharing experience of delivering BSNS8051 Supply Chain Design to ākonga (students).
- Benefits: ākonga, lecturer/facilitator and host organisation.

Authentic Learning

- Real-world learning.
- Synthetic approach (theory and practical).
- Multi-disciplinary.
- Soft skills development.
- Judgement of their own work and peers work through reflection.
- Implementation challenges when the class size is large.
- Workload issues



Case Study – Supply Chain Design

- **BSNS8051 Supply Chain Design**
 - Level 8; 15 credits; 16 weeks delivery
- **Project-based within a complex and sometimes unpredictable context.**
- **Supply chain problem(s)**
 - Presented to ākonga by the host organisation in week 1.
- **Site visit**
 - Ākonga visits the host organisation to understand the current process, identify the reasons behind the problem(s) and meet the stakeholders.
- **Regular meetings**
 - Host organisation, stakeholders and lecturer on the cumulative findings (face-to-face or online).

Benefits – Ākonga

- Theory vs. Real-world applications
- Work readiness
- Employability skills
- New Zealand work environment
- Cultural competency
- Experiencing the "Practical Challenges"
- Building external network
- Stakeholder management
- Data analytics and story telling



Benefits - Lecturer/Facilitator

- Exposure to industry innovations, such as the Warehouse Management System in the retail sector.
- Research opportunities
 - Mirzaei, M., Vellore, S., Mitra, E., David, A., & Nick, K. (2019). Investigating Challenges to SME Deployment of Operational Business Intelligence. Poster presented at UCC '19 Companion: Proceedings of the 12th IEEE/ACM International Conference on Utility and Cloud Computing Companion, Auckland.
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 - Mirzaei, M., Vellore Ranganathan, SK., Kearns, N., & Sreenivas, T. (2021). A qualitative analysis of success factors when adopting new software systems in the retail sector in New Zealand. 21st International Business Horizon-INBUSH ERA, Virtual International Research Conference. Paper presented at the 21st International Business Horizon-INBUSH ERA-2021, Virtual International Research Conference.



Benefits – Host Organisation

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- Fresh ideas from ākonga.
 - Saving project related cost.
 - Access to a pool of talent.
 - Opportunity to provide inputs into future curriculum development work.

Risk

- **Risk considerations**
 - Reputation (lecturer, institution and ākonga).
 - Health and safety of ākonga.
- **Risk mitigation**
 - Policy and Procedures: Health and Safety Induction.
 - Creating a safe environment for cultural sensitivity through development of soft skills.

Unitec Te Noho Kotahitanga Principles



Conclusion



The value of authentic learning.



Increased employability opportunities in the New Zealand job market.



Increased collaboration/partnership between academics and industry.

References

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Questions