

## Wednesday, November 22 Ballroom 14:50 – 15:30

# COIL as an Approach to Internationalization of Universities in the Digital Age

Zdeněk Janík, Masaryk University Hana Delalande, Masaryk University



# COIL as Approach to Internationalization of Universities in the Digital Age

Hana Delalande & Zdeněk Janík Masaryk University



#### CONTENT



- What is COIL?
- COIL as strategy of internationalization at Masaryk University and the Faculty of Education, MUNI
- COIL challenges (timetable issues, digital fatigue, ...) and how to deal with them
- Intercultural Competence Building in International Online Collaboration
- Career project preparation for French-speaking students and intercultural differences linked to Labour market in different European countries





# What is COIL: theory and praxis

- Collaborative Online International Leaning, 2006
- 'virtual mobility', 'virtual exchange' (the EU)
- 'online course' (some teachers/instructors)
- > 'online teaching' (response to COVID pandemics)
- Inot a technology, or a technology platform, but a new approach to teaching and learning which provides faculty and students the ability to communicate directly and immediately with their peers far away' (Rubin 2016, p. 134, cited in Nixon et al. 2021, p. 31)

#### Four principles of COIL (O'Brien 2018)



- cross-border collaboration and interaction with students and staff
- 2. interdisciplinary perspectives
- 3. asynchronous and synchronous collaborative online interaction
- 4. learning outcomes aims at developing global perspectives and /or foster students' intercultural competences



# COIL as strategy of internationalization at Masaryk University

- ✓ Internationalization at home (IaH) strategy (cf. Beelen and Jonse, 2015)
- ✓ Internationalization of curriculum
- ✓ Blended Intensive Program (BIP Erasmus+) virtual component
- ✓ Pre-arrival preparation for incoming students

#### **COIL** at the Faculty of Education, MUNI



- Pedagogical and theory-driven intervention in students' internationalization experience
- First COIL in 2018 (!) with students and professors at University of Minnesota
- > 7 departments, 15 academics, over 400 students (Faculty of Education\* and abroad)

\*40 FoE students in spring 23, 45 FoE students in autumn 23



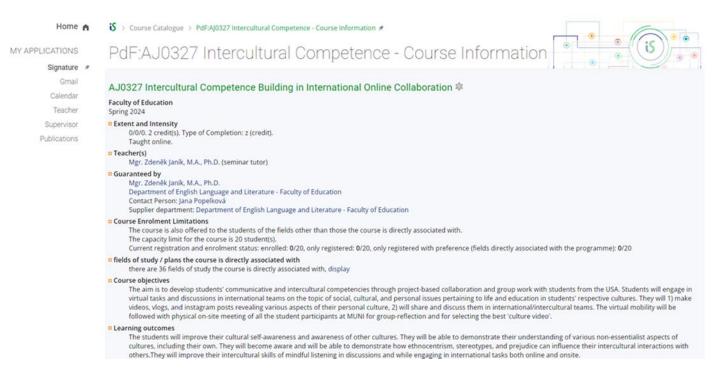
# COIL challenges and how to deal with them

CHALLENGES	TIPS TO COUNTER
TOO MUCH WORK	<ul> <li>no need for extensive rewriting/redoing of curriculum content, clear division of work</li> <li>credit or bonus award towards students' evaluation, certificate</li> </ul>
UNCLEAR PURPOSE AND WHO DOES WHAT	<ul> <li>jointly formulate the purpose, relevance, and learning outcomes</li> <li>each side sees how the others contribute and how they need each other to reach the common goal</li> </ul>
TIMETABLE COLLISIONS	<ul> <li>negotiate the schedule (holidays), consider students' availability, and stick to the schedule</li> <li>Activities for up to 4 weeks vs. whole semester (14 weeks)</li> </ul>
DIGITAL FATIGUE	<ul> <li>use one tool for synchronous and one for asynchronous activities (MS Teams x Zoom x Moodle x Google)</li> <li>let students decide what to use (WhatsApp,Discord)</li> </ul>
STUDENTS UNEVEN PARTICIPATION	<ul> <li>group work factors: cultural, language, and other differences, # of students in group</li> <li>COIL expects students to work independently</li> <li>jointly agree on a balanced approach (instructors' intervention same on both sides)</li> <li>offer guidance and support, monitor students' progress (meeting minutes) and end products (posters)</li> </ul>



### COIL Intercultural Competence Building in International Online Collaboration

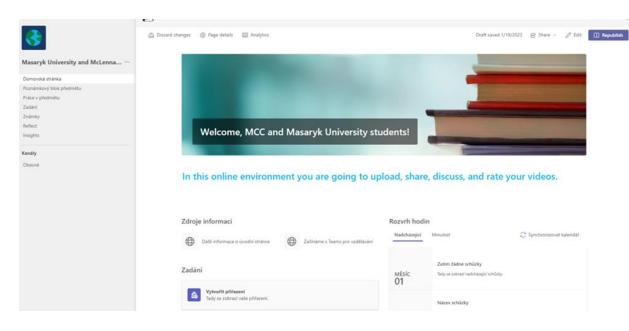


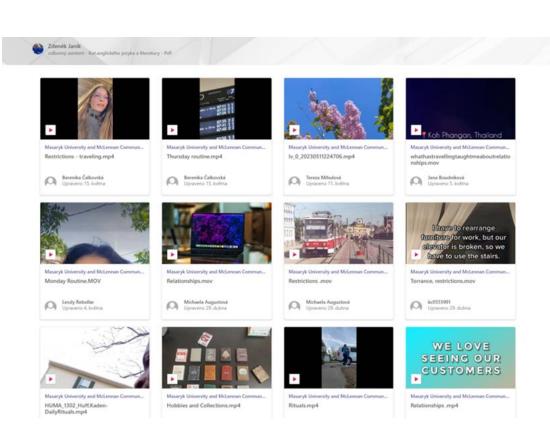


- Internationalization of curriculum: course enrolled by Masaryk University (MUNI) students (n=15) and students from McLennan Community College (MCC) in Texas (n=16), 2 ECTS
- Internationalization at home for MUNI students
- Pre-arrival preparation/blended mobility for students from Texas

#### **COIL: Students' tasks and activities**







### **COIL: Pedagogical** intervention



- Scaffolding students' experience with internationalization
- Students' intercultural competence building (Byram 1997, Deardorff 2008, Hammer 2012)
- Moving away from 'culture as nation' (a list of dos and don'ts to guide behavior)
- Students task: Shoot and post in Teams three videos about your rituals, relationships, and restrictions.
- 'The picture of your life in a local context'.

#### Taiye Selasi's TED talk 'Don't ask me where I am from. Ask me where I am local.'



IF YOU'RE A PERQUENT TRAYEER, you know that "where are you from" is a question second only to "what's your name?" and answering it is peeling an onlon—it's long, arduous and usually pointess. But Author Tayle Selesi offers us an incredibly simple new way of creating meaningful connections in her TED Talk: "Don't ask me where im from. Ask where I'm a local."

Selasi is a writer and photographer of Ghanaian and Nigerian descent, born in London and raised in Boston, who now lives in Rome and Berlin.

her TED Talk-she evaluates who "where are you from?" hoves us into a stereotyped aroun and prevents us from aeting to know each other.

#### **COIL:** Complex picture of cultural realities and arenas











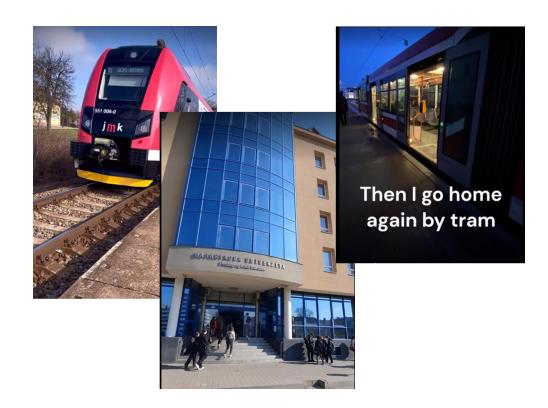




### **COIL: Pre-arrival preparation** for the US students



- Two-weeks summer school 'Immersion to the Czech culture and intercultural experience' for the MCC students
- MUNI students' involvement as buddies









### 4 universities of EDUC alliance since 2021

Masaryk University (Hana Delalande)

University of Pécs (Márta Kóbór)

University of Rennes (Hélène Muscat)

University of Paris Nanterre (Marie Beillet)

+ French HR specialist (Delphine Guillot)

Autumn 2021: 40 students (14 CZ, 15 FR, 11 HU)

Autumn 2022: 16 students (9 CZ, 3 FR, 4 HU)

Autumn 2023: 18 students (6 CZ, 4 FR, 8 HU)







#### **Goals:**

Intercultural competence development

International teamwork / cooperation

Gain confidence when speaking about career projects and one's experience

Motivate students to study or/and work abroad

#### **Timetable:**

7 online workshops (synchronous) Mondays 8:00 - 10:30

Asynchronous projet work: mixed groups of students from all universities (CZ, HU and FR)

#### Topics/tasks:

Intercultural communication (French and English)

Teamwork management

CV + cover letter preparation

Job interview simulation

Team project management and final presentation



#### **Students' projects**

- Independent work, creativity, cooperatio task management
- Examples of project topics 2021-2023:

'Girl power - gender equality'

'Covid 19 - sanitary pass'

'Impact of Covid 19 in society (psychological consequences, at university, at work)'

'Health system'

'Working online'

'Culture and students' life'

'Effects of energetic crisis on educational systems'

'Attitudes towards EU'

#### La vie étudiante



#### ÉGALITÉ HOMME/ FEMME

Group 2 - Girl power

HU Tekla CSAPÓ

CZ Beáta BIELKOVÁ

CZ Johana KOŠKOVÁ

FR Perrine BERTIN
FR Victorine CHARPENTIER









#### Reflection

Interviews and questionnaires (students' feedback survey since 2021)

Research topic identification

#### Our challenges

Timetable collisions

Motivation of students from French universities

Language barriers and uneven participation

#### Students' feedback and course development

Intercultural communication in English (as a second language for everyone)

Curriculum content adjustment

#### Future projects and goals - Erasmus+BIP

One-week mobility and final projects presentations at one of the universities





"The EDUC course allowed me to broaden my horizons by working closely with students from different European countries thanks to our mutual tool: French language. I was able to go beyond stereotypes and learn more about cultures that were new to me."

"The workshop on the job interview really allows you to understand this important stage of entering the labour market. In a much more relaxed manner thanks to the preparation."

"Conducting a project and group work online enables students to develop new collaborative strategies (working tools, respecting deadlines, tasks management within the group, new meeting methods, etc.)."

"This EDUC virtual mobility encourages me to consider physical mobility in the near future."





#### **EDUC CERTIFICATES**







#### **Eve Corvaisier - University of Rennes**

September – November 2022: EDUC course May – June 2023: Internship at Masaryk University August 2023: Summer School at University of Pécs









#### References



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#### Thank you.

Hana Delalande: delalande@ped.muni.cz, Department of French language and literature, Faculty of Education, Masaryk University

Zdeněk Janík: janikz@mail.muni.cz, Department of English language and literature, Faculty of Education, Masaryk University