



cooperation



promoting science



creativity in a distinctive campus



growing international character



a wide network



excellence in research



located in Portugal's central region





the university in numbers



13600

5150
postgraduate



910
teaching staff



90
researchers



300
postdocs



630
non-teaching
staff



76
nationalities
(on campus)



488000
(11500 online)



1100
student beds



6
canteens



PBL @ UA

- Implemented in 2006 in the Biomedical Sciences Degree (BCD)
- Teachers were introduced to the method by an external expert and had extensive training
- The implementation occurred together with the beginning of the BCD
- No previous experience at all
- First 6 years 40 students/year; now 70 students/year



Course curricula and PBL

Year	1st semester	ECTS	2nd semester	ECTS
1	From molecules to the organism 1	10	From molecules to the organism 2	10
	Functional organic systems 1	8	Functional organic systems 2	8
	Health Sciences	6	Communication in health	6
	Medical Statistics	6	Medical genetics	6
2	Functional organic systems 3	10	Functional organic systems 4	10
	Biopatology	8	Clinical pharmacology and therapeutics	6
	Clinical Biotechnology 1	6	Clinical Biotechnology 2	6
	Farmacology	6	Lab techniques in Biomedicine	8
3	Clinical Training	30	Health information	6
			Free Option	6
			Option 1, 2 and 3	6,6,6



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Course curricula and PBL

Year	1st semester	ECTS	2nd semester	ECTS		
1	From molecules to the organism 1	10	From molecules to the organism 2	10		
	60 ECTS in PBL				8	
6						
2	60 ECTS in PBL				6	
					0	
3	60 ECTS in PBL				8	
					Health information	6
					Clinical Training	30
			Option 1, 2 and 3	6,6,6		



OUR PBL

Day	Monday						Tuesday						Wednesday						Thursday						Friday			
	A	B	C	D	E	F	A	B	C	D	E	F	A	B	C	D	E	F	A	B	C	D	E	F	G1	G2	G3	G4
Hour																												
8H-9H																												
9H-10H																												
10H-11H																												
11H-12H																												
12H-13H																												
13H-14H	Lunch Break																											
14H-15H																												
15H-16H																												
16H-17H																												
17H-18H																												
18H-19H																												
19H-20H																												

- Functional Organic Systems 1
- From the molecule to the organism
- Tutorial Grups
- Medical Statistics
- Health Sciences



OUR PBL

Day	Monday						Tuesday						Wednesday						Thursday						Friday			
	A	B	C	D	E	F	A	B	C	D	E	F	A	B	C	D	E	F	A	B	C	D	E	F	G1	G2	G3	G4
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14H-15H																												
15H-16H																												
16H-17H																												
17H-18H																												
18H-19H																												
19H-20H																												

1st year students
 18 hours contact
 17 hours self study

Functional Organic Systems 1

From the molecule to the organism

Tutorial Grups

Medical Statistics

Health Sciences



ASSESSMENT

	The Student			NI
1	Worked and fulfilled the tasks proposed	R	Y	P
2	Communicate his/her ideas	R	Y	P
3	Used adequate references	R	Y	P
4	Accepted criticisms and was a good group element	R	Y	P
5	Came to the session		Y	P
6	Arrived on time		Y	P
7	Listen to the others		Y	A
8	Shared relevant information to the course objectives		Y	A
9	Made a pertinent evaluation of him/herself		Y	A
10	Made a pertinent evaluation of the others participation		G	A
11	Made good learning questions and specific objectives		G	A
12	Raised hypothesis		G	P
13	Critically analysed the information		B	N
14	Sinthesized and integrated the information		B	N

P, positive; N, negative; A, acceptable

Insufficient

- If N in any red

Acceptable

- If there are no N in any red

Sufficient

- If at least A to 7 yellows

Good

- If no N in any yellow
- And if at least P in 7 yellows

Very Good

- If P to all yellows
- And if no N in greens and P in at least 2 greens
- And if no N in blues

Excellent

- If P to all yellows
- And if P to all greens
- And if no N in blues and at least 1 P in blues



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ASSESSMENT

	The Student	NI
1		
13	Critically analysed the information	P N
14	Sinthesized and integrated the information	B N

Insuficient

- If N in any red

This Student will have a
SUFICIENT

- And if no N in blues and at least 1 P in blues

P, positive; N, negative; A, acceptable



OUR EXPERIENCE

- At first students are not used to be responsible for their own learning
- Huge gap between previous learning method (teacher centered) and PBL
- Students get anxious and need lots of support from teachers and older students
- We have an excelente learning environment
- It is very difficult to engage new teachers and older teachers in the process



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OUR EXPERIENCE

- At first students are not used to be responsible for

PBL is very hard to implement and is even harder to maintain with high quality standards

It requires a lot of support from teachers in the process