

## LEARNING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OVERVIEW FORM

Project title	ePDP and study skills support		Project ID No	CLAD – HIST068
Strategy area/theme	Psychology			
Start date	January 2007	Completion date	August 2010	
Project type	Learner independence project			
Level		Programme of study		
Aims	The school has an ongoing aim to embed Communication and Information Technology and computer-based and assisted learning in all modules and programmes. This will enable students to take more responsibility for their learning process and to make them more aware of the skills that they have obtained during their course of study. Our objectives for this project relate to the increase of learner independence in both our undergraduate and taught postgraduate populations.			
Objectives	<p>1. To facilitate access to relevant information in order to encourage our students to take control of their own learning experience and to take advantage of the available opportunities for skills development both within the School and at University level. In particular we aim to integrate new PDP tools with our current pre-arrival induction process. We would like our incoming students to have early access to PDP tools. This would enable them to be able to perform a skills self-evaluation and to investigate development opportunities prior to their arrival on Campus.</p> <p>2. To develop student awareness of their progress throughout their degree and to provide them with PDP tools designed to encourage them to take responsibility for their personal development. We will develop our current use of the Progress software for undergraduates and extend it to our PGT populations. The person to be appointed will be involved in liaising with the relevant course organisers and implementing program specific information.</p> <p>3. Develop on-line study skills materials designed to help students develop their writing, research and critical thinking skills and to train them in making use of university level feedback. We intend to consult with other Schools on Campus via the LDU and with the HE Academy and their Psychology network in order to obtain existing generic skills materials that we could tailor to our needs.</p> <p>4. We are also interested in developing some Problem Based Learning materials (PBL) to support independent learning and revision in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching. This is already underway for our Clinical Trainees. We wish to see if the approach could also be extended to other modules by developing some PBL revision tools as an adjunct to our existing teaching methods.</p>			

Overview	<p>The project aims to develop Web based systems and teaching materials designed to enhance learner independence. Initially we will build on a LDU project (awarded June 2006 – see CLAD – HIST067) to develop Electronic Personal Development Plan (EPDP) software for our undergraduates. The new project would extend this system to meet the particular needs of our postgraduates. In addition we will develop our existing Web based study skills materials to support the development of writing, critical thinking, research skills and use of feedback. Finally we will investigate Problem Based Learning materials to support learning in undergraduate modules as well as postgraduate taught populations.</p>
Further Information	<p>For further information on this project please contact CLAD at University of Birmingham</p> <p><a href="mailto:cladprojects@contacts.bham.ac.uk">cladprojects@contacts.bham.ac.uk</a> quoting CLAD projects HIST068 (links to HIST067)</p>