

**‘Blue, White and Green Nation: Britain and the Sea since 1558’: Online and Collaborative Learning
Progress Report, February 2009**

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This project involves the development of a more critical pedagogy be based around goals set by the student as well as the teacher, and drawing on a mix of new technology and guided reflection.

This is a progress report on this project, effective as of February 2009. Aims given in the original bid for resources are given in bold; work conducted towards those aims are given beneath each original aim.

Work completed

The provision of a Wikis within which students can develop their own spaces and pages, uploading images, sound, text and video to talk amongst themselves about the themes of the course.

This is underway: working with colleagues in Computer Services and the Media Lab, and with the students themselves in both formal and informal learning settings, they are busy uploading original research sources on their group Wikis. They have been asked to conduct such work towards their final course grade on U67562, ‘Britain and the Sea since 1588’.

The applicant will put up, within WebCT [now Brookes Virtual], a collection of primary sources for each week of the ‘Britain and the Sea’ course

This has also been done, along with selected secondary readings that would be hard for the students otherwise to access. Initial feedback about this has been good. A long list of weblinks is also provided, for the students to conduct their own online, as well as offline, research.

Allow time to organise meetings of colleagues to disseminate knowledge over how to use online WIKIs for teaching

Informal meetings have been held with a number of colleagues to spread best practice as to the use of the online Brookes wiki for different modules.

Work still to be completed

To investigate how collaborative online teaching methods can be used for students.

This will draw on evidence from the exercises below; a full evaluation will hopefully be given in the final assessment of this project in the summer, after the end of Brookes’ semester II, 2009/2010.

[Use will be made of] the traditional feedback form that Oxford Brookes University uses for all Undergraduate courses.

This will be undertaken in May, during the final seminar on the course.

A student forum, which the course leader will chair, asking students to talk with the applicant, and each other, about what they learnt from the new methods employed in 'Britain and the Sea'

This will also be conducted in May, after the end of the final seminar on the course.