



Co-creation in higher education in times of COVID-19

Marca Wolfensberger & Marte Vroom

Utrecht University & Hanze University of Applied Sciences



- Context
- Sharing
- Our co-creation in a nutshell

Context: Geosciences Honours College

- Interdisciplinary honours programme
- Approximately 110 honours students
- Interdisciplinary and disciplinary components
- The importance of seminars; interdisciplinary and all cohorts present
- 45 ECTS for the full honours programme from which 15 ECTS in addition to regular education
- February 2020: influx of students

The honours programme

	Component	ECTS	Note
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seminars - Geohouse debate - Talent workshops - English language workshop - Honours conference - Honours committee 	15 ECTS on top of the 180 ECTS of the 'regular' programme	Geo-broad content focused on broadening knowledge, personal development and community building. Honours students can join a committee, such as the Community Activity Committee, Conference Committee, Geohouse Committee and the Introduction Committee.
2.	Trip abroad	Extracurricular	Once required to go along and gain international experience.
3.	Honours courses	15 ECTS of the 'optional course'	Minimum of 2. Choice of: Creative Challenge, Undergraduate Honours Research Project, Tailor Made Course and Descartes College.
4.	Honours options	None	Minimum of 4, including 1 at the course 'Methodology and Research Practice'. Additional or substitute assignment provides more depth.
5.	Honours thesis	15 ECTS, replaces the 'regular' thesis	In the form of a scientific (journal) paper.

16 March 2020

Prime minister Mark Rutte announced measures to be taken in order to combat the spread of the coronavirus. One of the measures was the closing of higher education.



Higher education changed overnight

- A digital revolution
- From face-to-face to digital platforms
- Priorities



But... what about community?

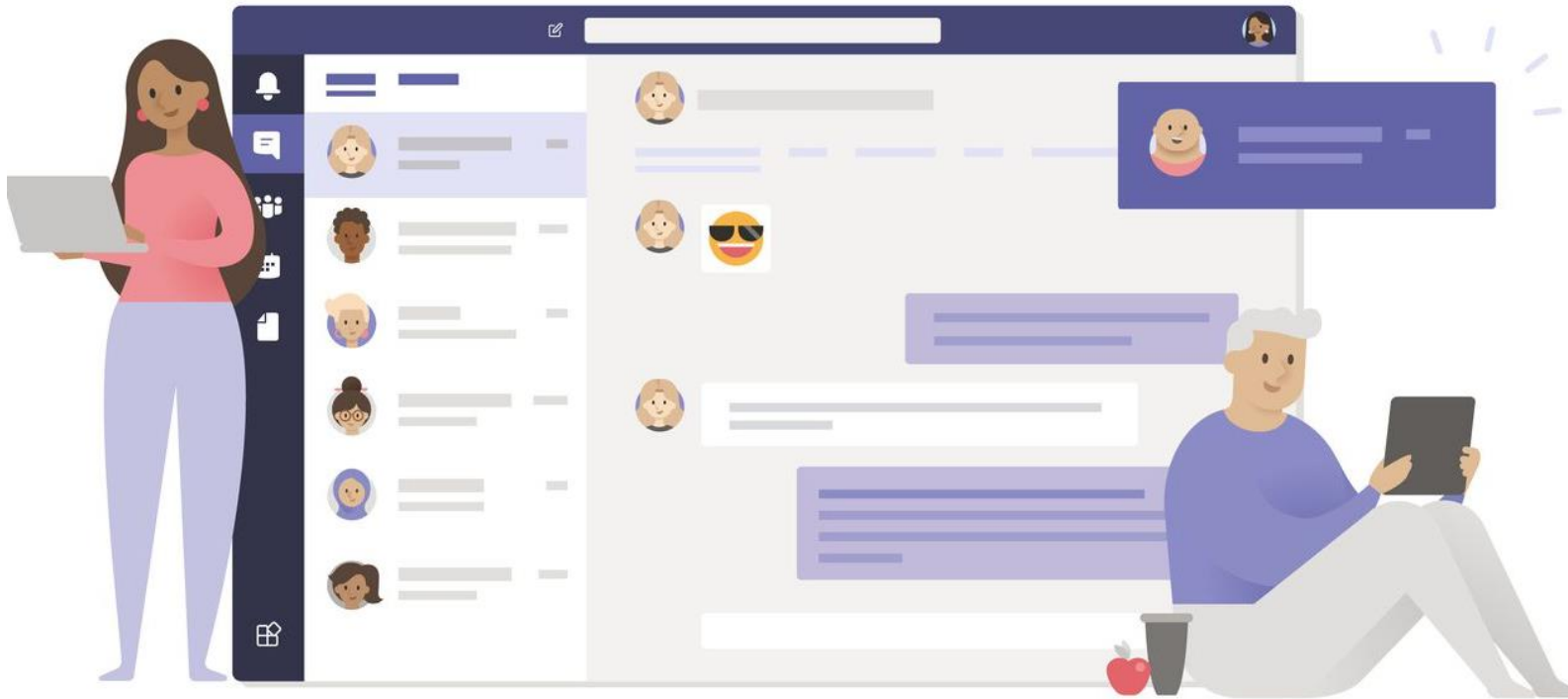
Go to Mentimeter!

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Honours makes a case: creating community during the COVID-19 pandemic through co-creation



Online honours education,
made in co-creation with the
teacher and student

Meetings with a combination
of building knowledge and
sharing, with an emphasis on
wellbeing

Discussing movies, books,
documentaries and ethical
issues

Co-creation: the key to community

- A new kind of seminars
- Shared responsibility
- Meetings of reflection and connection
- Focus on community instead of requirements
- Empowerment through co-creation
- Participation rate: high!
- Publication and further research



Read our articles

Wolfensberger, M. V. C. & Vroom, M. M. (2020). [Creating community during the COVID-19 pandemic: Honors makes a case online](#). *Journal of the European Honors Council*, 4(1), 1-8.

DOI: 10.31378/jehc.133

Vroom, M. M. & Wolfensberger, M. V. C. (2021, 27 January). ['Keep in touch during the pandemic!'](#) [Analysis]. Retrieved from <https://www.dub.uu.nl/nl/node/221184>



Or read other interesting articles

Bell, A., Barahona, S., Beg, G., Coulson, S., Eymont, R., Hartman, J. ... Uptin, J. (2020). [Students and academics working in partnership to embed cultural competence as a graduate quality](#). In J. Frawley et al. (Eds.), *Cultural Competence and the Higher Education Sector* (pp. 233-254). Singapore: Springer.

Watermeyer, R., Crick, T., Knight, C., & Goodall, J. (2020). [COVID-19 and digital disruption in UK universities: Afflictions and affordances of emergency online migration](#). *Higher Education*, 81, 623-641.

DOI: 10.1007/s10734-020-00561-y



Any questions?



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