

COIL@RGU workshop.

CRAWFORD, I.

2022

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COIL@RGU Workshop

Izzy Crawford, 2022

COIL@RGU

COLLABORATIVE ONLINE INTERNATIONAL LEARNING



What is COIL@RGU?

COIL or Collaborative Online International Learning, is part of the growing field of globally networked learning and internationalisation at home.

Participating in COIL@RGU projects will provide students with skills and confidence to enter the global, multicultural, digitally competent workforce.

Using freely available online technology, COIL@RGU projects enable more students to take advantage of international collaborative learning opportunities, regardless of their geographic location.

COIL@RGU was developed as a part of the RGU Emerging Stronger project, aiming to support colleagues and students seeking to enhance the future learning experience at RGU.

WEBPAGE

In the world of global industries, multicultural organisations and digital connectivity, we want our students to develop relevant skills and experience, ready to excel as a part of the international workforce.

On this page: What is COIL@RGU | Student feedback | Partners | Contact

What is COIL@RGU

COIL or **Collaborative Online International Learning** is an educational approach where groups or individual students from one institution collaborate with groups or individual students from another institution, in a different country and/or culture, on sustained and assessed projects or assignments, developed collaboratively by tutors from both partner institutions. The collaborative work takes place online, using freely available and commonly used communication technology.



- External page, aimed at potential collaborators and prospective students
- <https://www.rgu.ac.uk/ccip/coil-rgu>
- 'Contact Us' option to coil@rgu.ac.uk

MOODLE PAGE

COIL@RGU

COLLABORATIVE ONLINE INTERNATIONAL LEARNING




Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL)

This Moodle page provides information, tools, ideas, and examples for RGU staff interested in developing COIL projects, modules, and assignments. The page will be reviewed and updated periodically to include any new information available on the COIL subject.

COIL@RGU was developed as a part of the RGU Emerging Stronger project. The Emerging Stronger Enhancement Award fund aims to support colleagues and students seeking to enhance the future learning experience at RGU.

COIL@RGU is now a part of the Centre for Collaborative and Interprofessional Practice (CCIP) at RGU.

 Emerging Stronger Enhancement Award

 Centre for Collaborative and Interprofessional Practice



To contact COIL@RGU support team with any queries, please email: coil@rgu.ac.uk

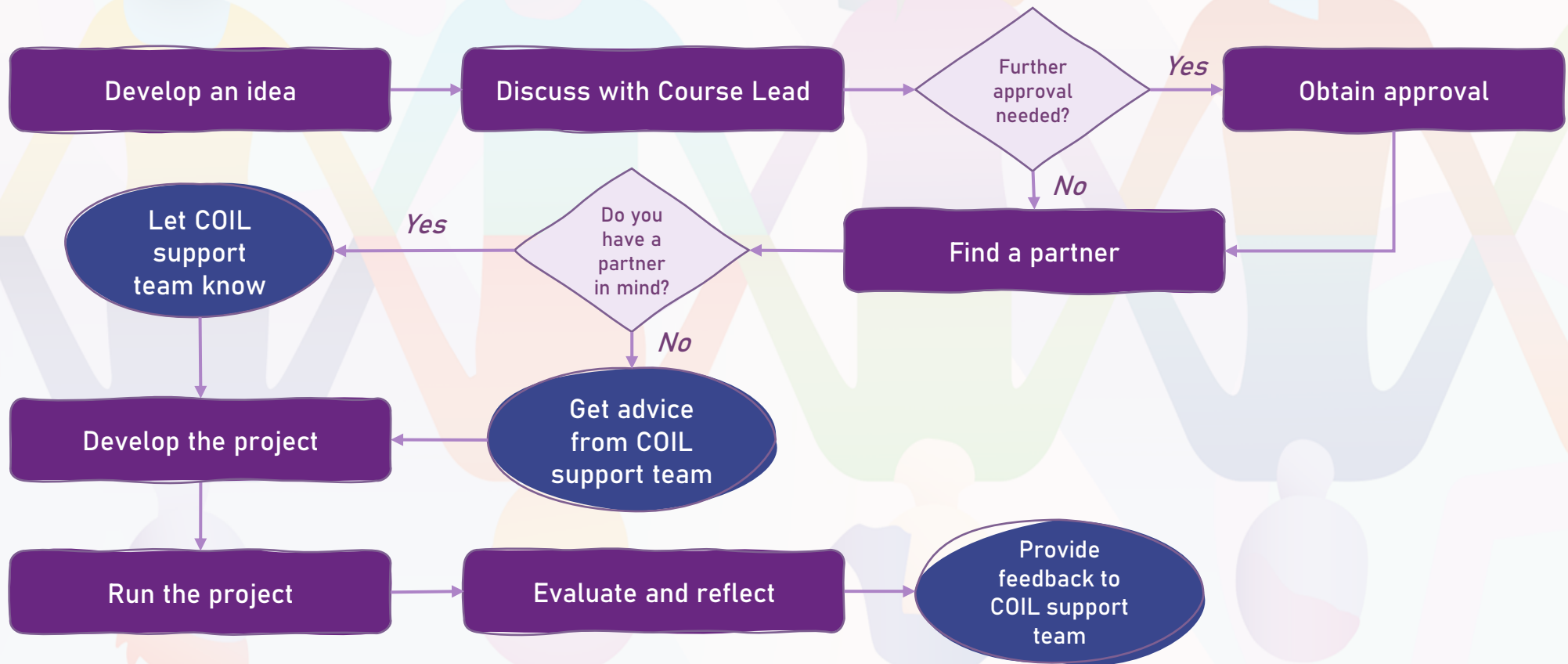
Quick Links

What is COIL?	Why COIL?	How to COIL?	Collaboration opportunities	Examples and case studies	Peer support
Digital skills support	Training opportunities	Academic resources			

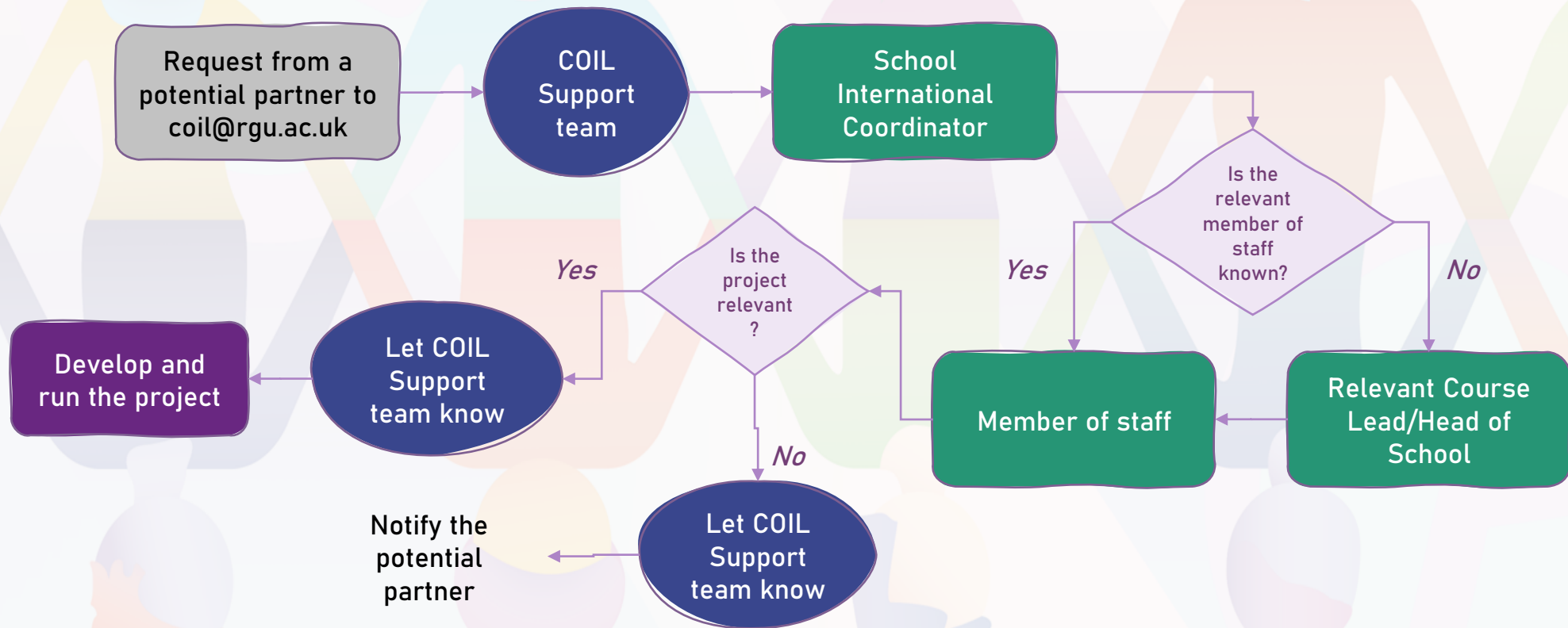
- Comprehensive resource for staff
- Key steps to develop COIL@RGU project
- Examples and peer support opportunities

<https://campusmoodle.rgu.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=101116>

COIL@RGU PROCESS (internal initiative)



COIL@RGU PROCESS (external initiative)



COIL@RGU support team

Internal

- Supporting staff with COIL partner-matching
- Maintaining projects database
- Collating feedback
- Maintaining Moodle
- Organising workshops/events
- Internal PoC for all COIL queries

External

- Owner of coil@rgu.ac.uk mailbox
- First PoC for potential partners
- Communicating incoming COIL requests to relevant schools
- Supporting COIL communication with partner institutions
- Supporting promotion of COIL@RGU to potential partners and networks

Launch Plan

**TLASC
Approval**

**Schedule
DELTA
Training event**

**Bulletin
appeal to
staff**

**Email to
Heads of
Schools**

**External
webpage
launch**

**LinkedIn post
from RGU**

*Workshop for all
staff interested
in COIL@RGU*

*Including
workshop dates
and link to the
released Moodle
page*

*For Heads of
Schools to
communicate to
their staff.
Including
workshop dates*

*Once staff are on
board*

*With link to the
released
external
Webpage. Post to
be shared by
staff members
with potential
COIL LinkedIn
networks*

Workshop Overview

1. Share findings and experience from a recent COIL project
2. Provide a model/key elements required for a COIL project
3. Consider challenges and opportunities in your own subject area

Intercultural competency shortfall?

- **Theory vs competency**
- **Intra-university projects, UK based clients**
- **Mismatched student and employer perceptions**
- **Need for more intercultural, experiential student projects**



Activity 1: Identifying Intercultural Challenges

What are the intercultural challenges in your subject area?

How does this impact on pedagogy?

How does this impact on employability?

Collaborative Online International Learning

- **Globally Networked Learning (GNL)**
- **Experiential Learning**
- **Heterogenous Groups**
- **Problem solving and innovation**
- **Emerging communication and learning technologies**
- **Cost effective and inter-disciplinary**

COIL Project Learning Outcome

**The ability to demonstrate
intercultural communication
knowledge, sensitivity,
understanding and competency.**

COIL Project Aims

- **Improve English language skills**
- **Improve the ability to work with non-native English language speakers**
- **Promote the use of digital channels in cross-border communication**
- **Cultivate team project management skills**
- **Develop an understanding of the communication challenges facing companies operating in a global context**
- **Improve collaborative writing and speaking skills**



Activity 2: Developing Learning Outcomes

Develop three learning outcomes for a COIL project in your subject area.

International, virtual collaboration

- **Four countries: Scotland, Germany, USA, Portugal**
- **Oct to Nov 2017 and 2018 – six-week project**
- **Over 100 students in virtual teams**
- **Global industry clients / brands**

COIL Collaborators

See separate file ("CRAWFORD 2022 COIL at RGU workshop (VIDEO - SLIDE 17).mp4") for this video.



Activity 3: Creating a Collaborative Team

How would you establish your own collaborative team for a COIL project?

What kind of people would you want to have in your team and why?

The Student Brief:

In virtual teams:

- **Research a named company operating in more than one country**
- **Identify corporate communication issues and solutions**
- **Prepare team presentation**
- **Submit individual reflective summary**

The Process

The project involved three main phases:

- **Initial team building and role allocation**
- **Secondary research into the client**
- **Information sharing among the team and creating the combined presentation**



Activity 4: Building a Student Brief

What kind of student activities would be appropriate for a COIL project in your subject area?

How would you use technology to facilitate these activities?

Project Challenges

- **Different university schedules**
- **Varying course requirements**
- **Built-in project vs. add-on activity**
- **Diverse student backgrounds**
- **Various UG/PG and online/offline disciplines**
- **Different evaluation needs**

Activity 5: Project Challenges

What are the main challenges and barriers to implementation for a COIL project in your subject area?

How would you overcome these challenges?

COIL Project Evaluation and Research

Do experiential international classroom projects using virtual team collaborations increase intercultural sensitivity and intercultural communication competence in students?

Mixed Methods Approach

- **Online survey based on IS and ICC scales taken before and after project**
- **Post-project qualitative questions to ascertain feelings towards the project and identify areas for improvement**

Survey Results

- **Increased awareness of verbal, non-verbal and para-verbal communication**
- **Increased appreciation of cultural differences**
- **Reduction of ethnocentric tendencies and stereotypes**
- **Reduction of fears and increase in confidence in dealing with other cultures**
- **Increased awareness of difficulties in dealing with other cultures**

Qualitative Responses - Positives

- **new experience and opportunity to work with people from another culture**
- **friendly and inviting atmosphere**
- **real life scenario, finding solutions and solving problems**
- **'forced' to work outside comfort zone**
- **experiential 'learning through doing'**
- **meeting new people, discussing cultural differences, engaging with another culture and hearing other points of view**
- **meaningful changes in their own approach to other cultures**

Qualitative Responses - Negatives

- **coordinating appointments due to different time zones and schedules**
- **language barriers**
- **coordinating tasks through social media**
- **technological issues (different levels of internet savviness)**
- **differing expectations and deadlines and difficulty agreeing what to do**
- **varying degrees of engagement and reliability between teams**
- **working remotely instead of face-to-face**
- **lack of communication and/or organisation in and between the teams**

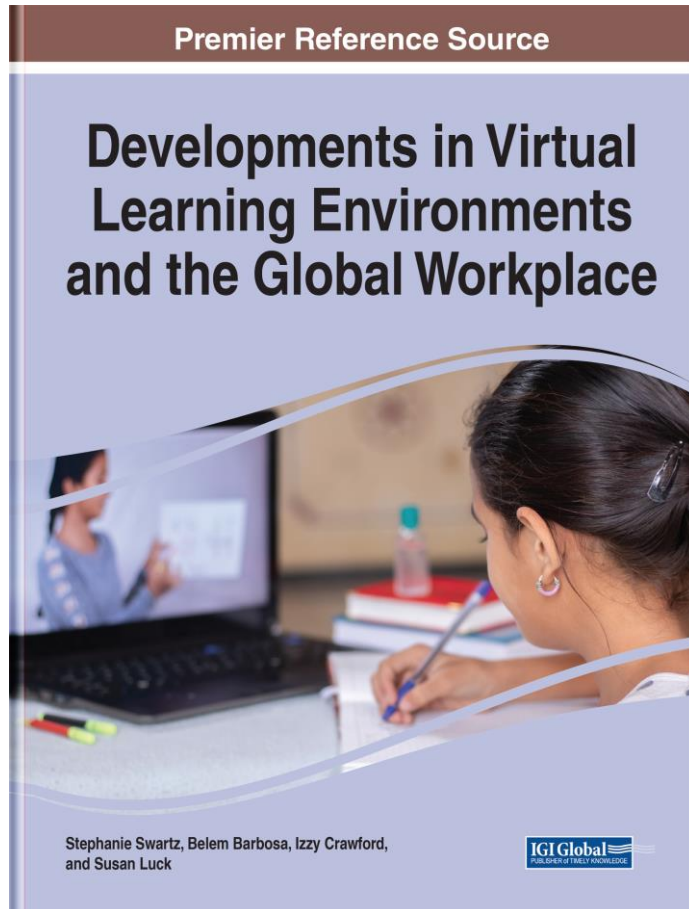
Activity 6: Measuring Success

Identify 3 criteria for measuring the success of your COIL project.

What methods would you use to evaluate these criteria?

Conclusion

- **Virtual team collaboration can develop intercultural sensitivity and intercultural communication competence**
- **Valuable contribution to experiential learning pedagogy**
- **Significant potential for enhanced employability and graduate preparedness for the workplace.**



Developments in Virtual Learning Environments and the Global Workplace

- Latest Research Findings from 30+ Scholars Hailing from 25 Institutions in Over Six (6) Countries
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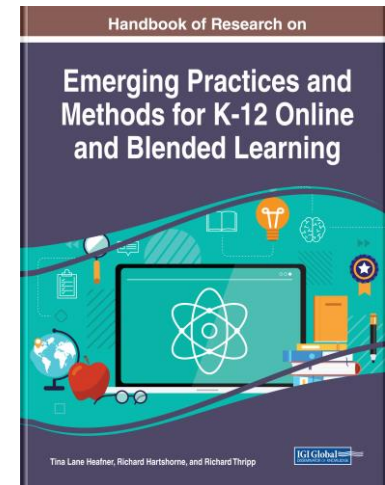
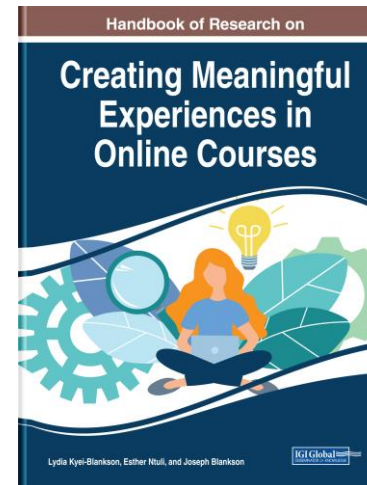
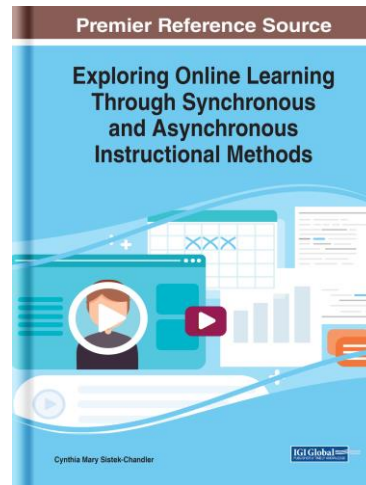
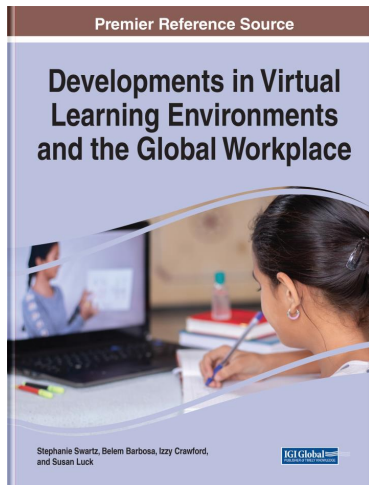


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Additional Reading

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Thank You and Good Luck!
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