



VR4GIFTED

Integration of Experiential Learning and Virtual Reality
on Gifted Education

November 2019, 2nd Newsletter

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PERIODICAL NEWSLETTER ON THE PROJECT

Welcome to the second Newsletter of the "Integration of Experiential Learning and Virtual Reality on Gifted Education" project (VR4Gifted). In this newsletter we have included information about the scope of the project, the specific activities for its implementation that have been done so far, and the participating institutions.

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Project Idea

Despite their recognition as students with special educational needs, gifted and talented students often do not receive in daily school practice the specialized support they require. Thus, gifted students themselves fail to develop their full potential, and societies are deprived of the contributions gifted individuals could offer to social life. Hence, it is vital that specialized programs are developed in order to support gifted and talented learners. The syllabus that will be implemented in the four participating countries may serve as a research – based paradigm for putting to practice teacher preparation programs aimed at inclusive gifted education in many other European countries.

1.1. What has been done so far?

3rd Transnational meeting,
Murcia – Spain, 18-19
September 2019



This 3rd transnational meeting was hosted by UCAM in its premises located in Guadalupe-Murcia, Spain. Representative of all the partners' organizations attended the meeting and the main results were:

-finalization of the Intellectual Output 1 by developing the draft lessons plans in relation with the two scenarios partners will have to realize.



- Content and schedule for the implementation of the planned activities of the Intellectual output 2: VR RESOURCES, such as the organisation of workshops by each University partner with at least 15 teaching professionals each, before the development of the scenario and the organization of primary school visits by experts from Universities.

In the 3rd meeting, guest speakers from UCAM and experts from two external institutions working with gifted students were invited to present their activities related to the topics of the project: gifted student and how virtual reality can be an asset to improve the tools for teaching, specifically with gifted students.

- **Murcian Asociacion for Supporting Gifted Children**
(AMUACI- <https://www.amuaci.es/>)

- **Foundation Thales**
(<https://www.fundacionthales.com/>)

- Researchers from UCAM: Pablo Guardiola: **“XR Educational Technologies. Introduction to new reality frontiers 30”** and PhD Sergio Albadalejo: **“Transmedia and VR Learning: connecting literacies through holodeckian environments”**.

Feedback from AMUACI regarding their presentation during the transational meeting of the Project in Murcia:

“This day shared with the VR4GIFTED team has been very enriching for us. Our association is designed to support families, students and any person or team that wants to promote and collaborate in the creation of programs and attention plans for gifted people, in the social field, in general, and in the educational field in particular. In our opinion, the VR4GIFTED project can play an important role for the training of future teachers of early childhood and primary education in terms of high capacities, which it is more than welcome.” AMUACI





Intellectual Output 1- Higher Education curriculum was developed between Nov.2018 and July 2019

Since the beginning of the VR4GIFTED-Integration of Experiential Learning and Virtual Reality on Gifted Education project, the tasks were focused on the first Intellectual Output: A training curriculum – syllabus for familiarizing prospective primary teachers with the details of inclusive gifted education.

Key components of the training curriculum have been developed by the partners:

- National and international literature review was done and National Knowledge Papers were prepared on basic principles of designing and implementing inclusive gifted education in all national contexts.
- Interviews with national experts have been carried out
- International Knowledge Paper was prepared by coordinator. It has prepared by compiling national knowledge papers based on research and interviews with local/national experts
- Higher Education Curriculum was developed on Types of Gifted and Talented Education.
- Partners contacted related stakeholders during the project
- The coordinator (COMU) has presented an international notice in an international Conference in Turkey
- Publication of a scientific article- Gifted Education and Teacher Training: Two presentations were presented under the title of “A Comparison of Turkey, Greece, Spain and Poland”. These two studies will be published as full text in proceeding book.

In September after the results of the third meeting in Murcia (UCAM Headquarters) the Curriculum Lessons Plans have been developed. Since partners will develop a total of 8 curriculum scenarios within the IO2, as a preparation activity, each academic partner has to establish two lessons plans in relation with the two scenarios they will have to realize. These lessons plans were planned according to the objectives of each module, following the 4 stages of the Experiential Learning cycle below:





- a) Concrete experience (Doing/Having an experience) – Use of VR
- b) Reflective observation (Reviewing/Reflecting on the experience)
- c) Abstract conceptualisation (Concluding/Learning from the experiment)
- d) Active experimentation (Planning/Trying out what you've learned) – Use of VR

1.2. Next Steps:

- Elaboration of the second Intellectual Output 2 VR Resources, coordinated by SAN and composed by innovative teaching material based on VR Resources.
- The following tasks will be organized:
 - Organization of two workshops by each University partner with at least 15 teaching professionals
 - Primary school visits will be conducted by experts from Universities
 - Developing VR Scenarios for Gifted Education Curriculum
 - Software development process of VR scenarios
 - Piloting process with primary school undergraduates by each academic partner

Next Events:

- 4th Transnational Meetings @ Thessaloniki, Greece, 13-14 March, 2019
- 5th final Transnational Meeting @Canakkale, Turkey, October 2020
- Multiplier events/Panel discussions (June-Sept 2020) in all partners countries: Turkey, Spain, Greece and Poland
- International Conference in October 2020 in Turkey



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Project Coordinator: CANAKKALE ONSEKIZ MART UNIVERSITY

Project Contact Person: Ilke Evin Gencil

Project Email: vr4gifted@gmail.com

Project Website : vr4gifted.com