



Prediction of e-learners' progress and timely assessment of the achievement of learning outcomes in Lifelong Learning

LLP KA3 Multilateral Project 530945-LLP-1-2012-1-GR-KA3-KA3MP

www.criton.eu

CRITON Project

The CRITON (www.criton.eu) is a KA3 Transversal Multilateral Project with duration of two years (01/01/2013-31/12/2014).

CRITON Partnership

- [CTI & Press 'Diophantus'](#), coordinator - Greece
- [Hellenic Open University](#) - Greece
- [die Berater](#)® - Austria
- [Soros International House](#) - Lithuania
- [Noema-CMI](#) - Finland
- [Swedish TelePedagogic Knowledge Centre AB](#) - Sweden
- [Arbeit und Bildung e.V.](#) - Germany



CRITON Newsletter, December 2014

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the second & final issue of the CRITON Newsletter!

After almost two fruitful years of vigorous activity, CRITON project is now undergoing its last and most exciting period. CRITON was officially launched in January 2013 and will be completed at the end of 2014. In the present Newsletter, we aim to highlight the activities of this period and inform our readers about our latest project's developments.

Thanks for your interest in the CRITON project!



The CRITON team

Project Overview

During the past two years partners from 6 European countries have gathered their efforts together to find solutions for these key questions:

- How to increase the success of learners engaged in distance education and e-learning by predicting their learning performance, using data mining methods?
- What are the predictors of academic achievement and learner satisfaction in distance and e-learning?
- How to help teachers and tutors to make predictions on how each learner will perform?
- How to help teachers and tutors in providing educational support to their learners?

Hoping to find the answers the following steps were taken:

- Implemented a comparative analysis of assessment methods in eLearning environments around Europe (over 1200 questionnaires were collected and analysed),
- Defined key predictive indicators based on real data (collected on over 1000 e-learners),
- Developed the main output of the project - the CRITON platform (www.criton-platform.eu),
- Training courses for pilot users in each partner country held,
- The platform piloted with more than 400 registered users (teachers and learners),
- Dissemination events held in each partner country,
- Final project event – International CRITON conference organized in Patras, Greece.

Final Conference: Successful Completion of the Project

The Final Event of the CRITON project – the International CRITON conference was held on 13th November 2014 at CTI in Patras. The conference was attended by almost 70 participants - teachers, tutors and students of distance education, other representatives of the educational sector from different European countries.

The conference was opened with the welcoming words from prof. John Garofalakis, the project coordinator. Then Teresa Cuartero Lausin, the Project Officer at EACEA presented the new Erasmus+ programme. Afterwards, Prof. Michalis Xenos from HOU presented the topic 'Prediction of learners' progress and assessment from the learners', and at the end of keynote speeches the presentation on 'Assessment and evaluation in distance learning' was made by Ulf Sandström, Chair of Swedish Association for distance education.

During the 1st session of the conference the CRITON project and its results were presented in details by Prof. John Garofalakis and Evangelia Boufardea (CTI). Pilot users from Finland (Markku Nikkanen), Lithuania (Violeta Mirinaviciute), Germany (Anne Büttner) and Greece (Adamantia Spanaka) shared their experiences from the pilot testing of the CRITON platform. The 2nd session addressed issues of assessment and prediction in distance learning/e-learning. The Conference closed with a round table discussion on 'Predicting course success in distance learning/e-learning'.

The conference was a great success and the feedback from the conference was very positive.



Dissemination Events: Spreading Information about the Project

The project partners organized dissemination events to promote and disseminate the project and its outcomes to all potential beneficiaries: teachers and tutors, learners, educational (primary, secondary and/or university level) organizations, VET institutions, other relevant stakeholders.

Events in partner countries attracted about 500 participants.



Dissemination event in Lithuania, December 2014

CRITON Platform: Ready to Use

The project partners have successfully developed the CRITON platform (www.criton-platform.eu) – a unique web-based dropout prediction tool to be used by teachers and tutors to identify students who are at risk of academic failure or dropping out of online courses, and provide effective and appropriate interventions to support them.

The platform is addressed both to teachers and e-learners, but offers different functions to these two groups of users.

All it takes to start using it is to register at:
www.criton-platform.eu

Watch a [video](#) for a quick look at how to get the most from CRITON Platform!



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