

Good to know – Defining the framework for a quality assured recognition of micro degrees and micro credentials

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"A micro-credential is a qualification evidencing learning outcomes acquired through a short, transparently-assessed course or module. Micro-credentials may be completed on-site, online or in a blended format.

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- upskill or reskill to meet labour market needs or to develop professionally after starting work."

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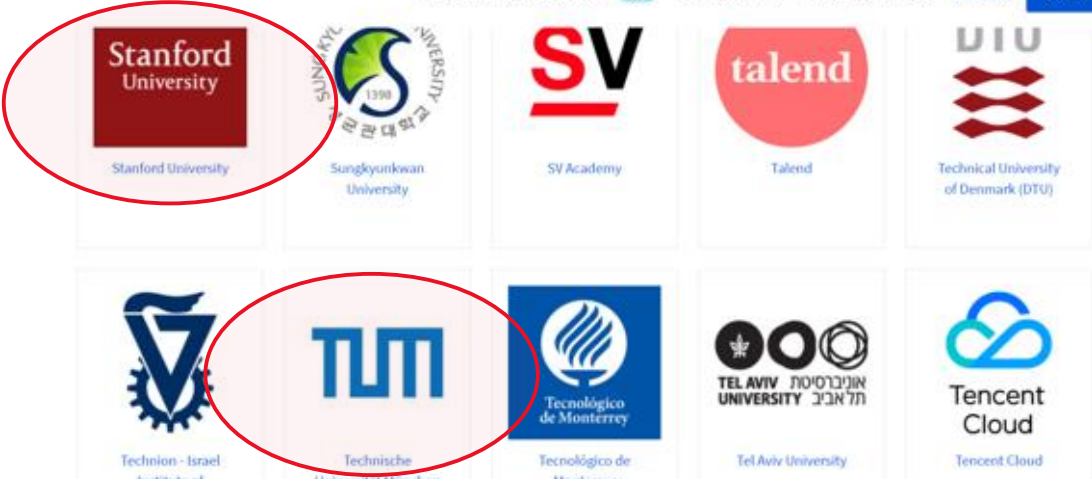


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in the focus of attention

26.04.2021

Bekanntmachung

Richtlinie zur Förderung von Prototypen für eine Bildungssektorübergreifende, transdisziplinäre Meta-Plattform für kollaborativen, kompetenten und digital gestützten Zugang zu innovativen Lehr-/Lernformaten und unterstützenden Lerntechnologien: „Initiative Nationale Bildungsplattform“, Bundesanzeiger vom 26.04.2021

Vom 14.04.2021

1 Förderziel, Verwendungszweck, Rechtsgrundlage



Links

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➤ [BMBF-Formularschrank](#)

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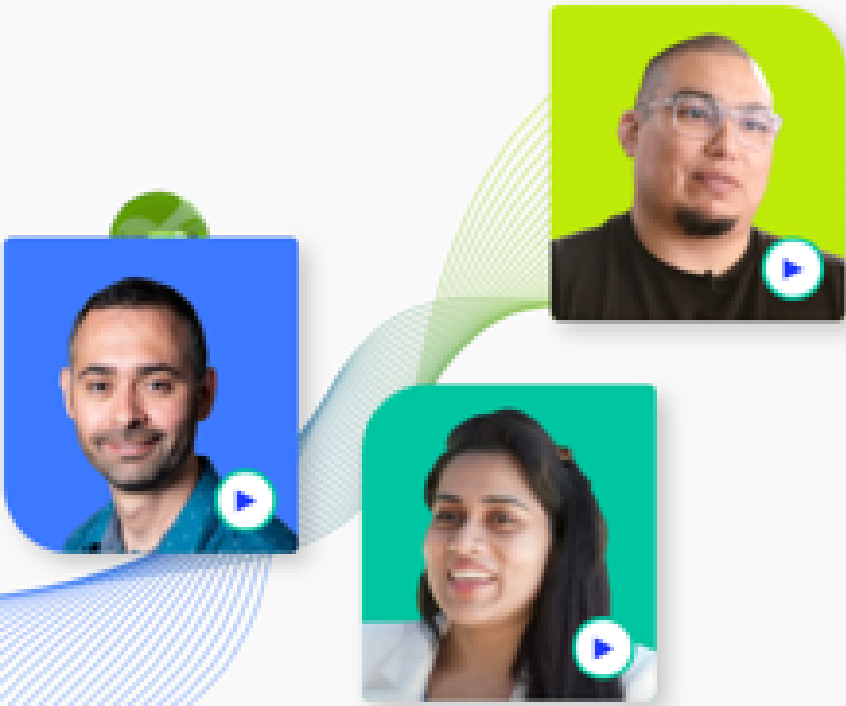
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In the face of these challenges, we need to ask how we, as European higher education representatives, want to play our role as guardians and promoters of an innovative and high-performing education landscape:

One answer among others is we have to define the framework for a quality assured recognition of micro degrees and micro credentials.

However, the overriding demand is that academic continuing education should be a sovereign task of the states, because otherwise the clout for the demanding tasks is lacking.

LEIBNIZ AI ACADEMY

MICRO CREDENTIALS AND MICRO DEGREES



Applications

AI for Production
Engineering

AI for Geodesy

AI for Education

AI for Health

Deepening and
Specialisation

Visual Analytics
Semantic
Technologies

AutoML
Computer Vision

Reinforcement
Learning
Deep Learning

Didactics
Further Education

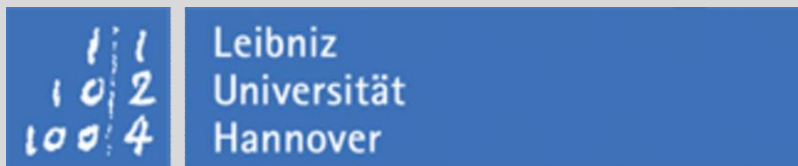
Basics

Artificial
Intelligence

Machine Learning

Data Science

Statistics



Ten Commandments to be discussed:

1. A Micro Degree course on its own can do little. Thus, build a system of micro-degree courses that are as useful and flexible as possible, i.e. some are part of degree programs and credit-bearing, others complement the system by additional competences.
2. Enable the single Micro Degree course to be part of a whole that is greater than the sum of its parts.
3. Never allow micro degree courses to become obsolete through lengthy quality assurance procedures, but design an alternative way of quality assurance, i.e. by an abbreviated formal review within the system accreditation and the naming of the research group in which the micro degree course was developed.

However, make it transparent how the micro degree system is understood at the respective university, whether credits can be awarded and credited, what prior knowledge is required and at what qualification level they are located.

4. Create the possibility for professors to develop micro degrees and have this counted towards their teaching load. Because if you want to be fast and very good for social reasons, you should let the best minds work on it. Also ask the professors which micro degrees from other universities they would recognise in their teaching, and in what scope.

5. Be honest and give those who want to take the course a realistic assessment of what they need to achieve and what previous experience is exactly needed. Prevent educational biographies from being damaged by admitting people to courses who cannot cope with the material and then drop out.
6. Offer course participants tutorials and accompanying courses if they wish – in short: take into account what is considered necessary for learning in educational research and complement new forms of learning such as interactive and collaborative learning.
7. Don't develop micro-degree courses as something that should take place primarily outside the university. Think of micro degree courses much more as something that takes place inside as well as outside universities in the spirit of lifelong learning.
8. Ensure that students have acquired key competences and all the basic knowledge and skills during their Bachelor's degree that will enable them to take Micro Degrees for the megatrends of digitalisation, sustainability and new learning at a high level later on.

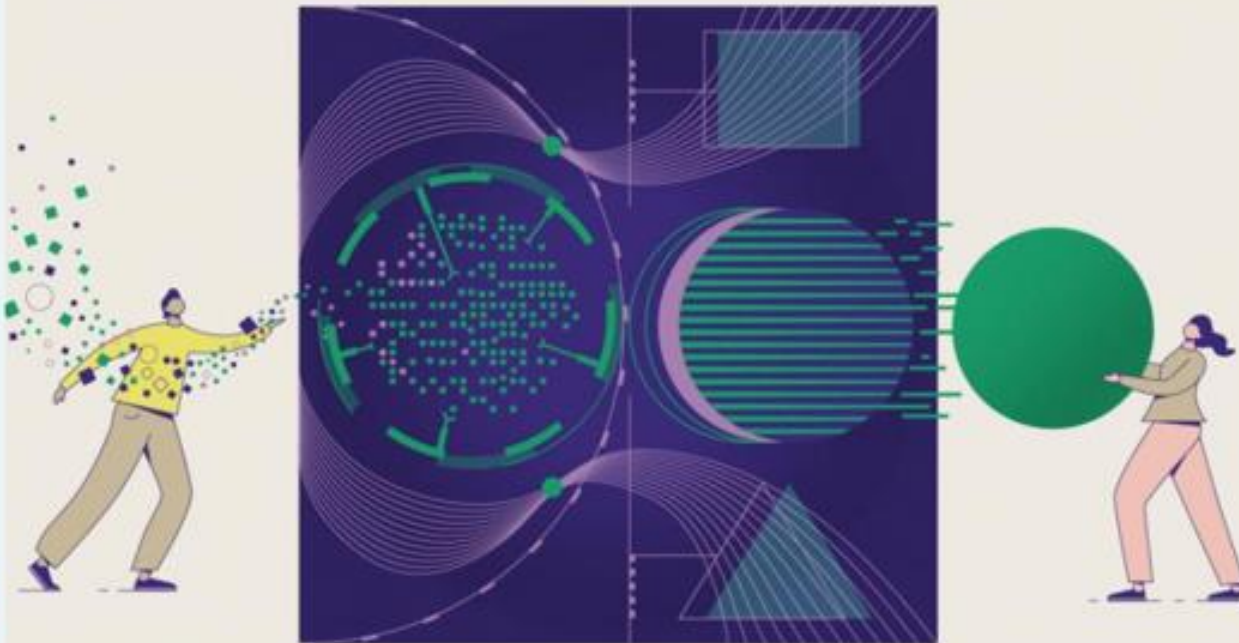
These students will soon enter and shape the labour market as employees for whom further education is a matter of course.

9. Do not built too short Micro Degrees, that does not enable in-depth opportunities and applications.

Do not devalue certificates for micro degrees because they can no longer be meaningfully credited to a degree program. It is much better to show which micro-degree courses can be combined in a meaningful way and cumulatively lead to a certificate that really means something.

10. Make every effort to convince the university management, the relevant ministry and the government that lifelong learning is essential especially for a society in the so-called knowledge expansion. Micro degrees can only really advance this knowledge society if continuing education is taken seriously and the actors are enabled to develop and offer them at a high quality level.

However, the overriding demand is that academic continuing education should be a sovereign task of the states, because otherwise the clout for the demanding tasks is lacking.



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