



TUNING and its new focus on achieved learning outcomes

Robert Wagenaar

Director International Tuning Academy



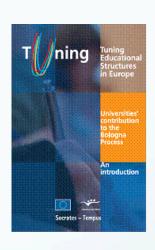


Outline



Content

- Social-Economic Reality: Financial and Economic crisis, 2008 – present
- 2. Role of Higher Education
- 3. Role of TUNING: A global initiative
- 4. Frameworks and Quality Assurance
- 5. CALOHEE: Measuring and Comparing Achievements of Learning Outcomes in Higher Education in Europe





1. Social economic reality



High level of unemployment

Vacancies /
job openings:
work
experience
required

Highly flexible labour market: jobs for life exceptional

Individual tolerance and self-confidence under pressure

Social cohesion of societies challenged

Mismatch capacities and needs

Implications for Higher Education Programmes?

2. Role of Higher Education



Are we preparing our graduates sufficiently well for these challenges?

- Are degree programmes sufficiently aligned with the needs of society? How do we know?
- Are degree programmes already studentcentred and learning outcomes based? Research shows us otherwise!
- ◆ Is the present system of quality assurance and accreditation sufficiently dynamic and not mainly process driven? Becoming to bureaucratic?



3. Role of Tuning



Mission of Tuning since 2000:

Contributing significantly to the Modernization agenda in Higher Education

Main drivers:

- Realizing a paradigm shift: from expert-driven teaching and learning to student-centered learning (input to output)
- Basing curricula on programme and module/unit learning outcomes
- Making curricula relevant for the needs of society by educating disciplinary experts, who are employable and can contribute to the social welfare of society

Main Tuning contributions:

- Sophisticated methodology to reform Higher Education degree programmes
- Frameworks or benchmarks of internationally agreed reference points for sectors and subject areas
- Reform the European credit system ECTS from a transfer system into a transfer and accumulation system: conditional for programme design and quality assurance

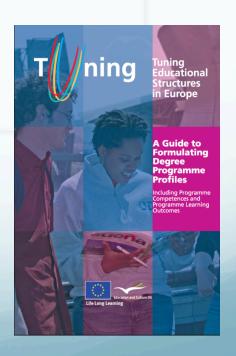


Tuning: A global initiative



Tuning Golden standard for enhancing / designing degree programmes: 10 steps approach + Guide to Formulating Degree Profiles

- 1. Determine need and potential
- 2. Define the profile and the key competences
- 3. Formulate the Programme Learning Outcomes
- 4. Decide whether to 'modularise' or not
- Identify competences and formulate learning outcomes for each module
- Determine the approaches to teaching, learning and assessment
- 7. Check whether the key generic and subject specific competences are covered
- 8. Describe the programme and the course units
- 9. Check balance and feasibility
- 10. Implement, monitor and improve





Tuning: A global initiative



Which general competences / skills are **most** important for *Society* according to the Tuning consultation process?

Analyzing and Synthesizing

Applying knowledge in practice

Entrepreneurial spirit

Leadership

Working in a team

Creativity

Learning abilities

Communication skills

Problem solving

Debating

+ Social / civic skills/competences ?

Critical thinking



Tuning: A global initiative



Application of the Tuning Approaches in Georgian Higher Education System

Tuning Europa

Canada-EU Tuning Feasibility Study

Tuning USA

Cooperation in Higher education between the United States and the European Union to produce a robust methodology to evaluate the application of the Tuning approach

Tuning America Latina

Tuning-AHELO project

Tuning Educational Structures for Internationalisation (Thailand-EU Cooperation Facility) Creating National Information Centers about the Bologna Process in the Kyrgyz Republic

> Emerging Modes of Cooperation between Private Sector Organisations and Universities

Sectoral Qualifications Framework for Humanities & Arts

CALOHEE

Tuning Middle East and North Africa

Tuning Africa

TuCAHEA: Towards a Central Asian Higher Education Area

Tuning Lithuania

Tuning Japan

EU - China Tuning study

Tuning Sectoral Framework for Social Sciences

EU-Tuning India

Study

Tuning Russia

Competences in Education and Cross-Border Recognition

Tuning Australia Pilot Project



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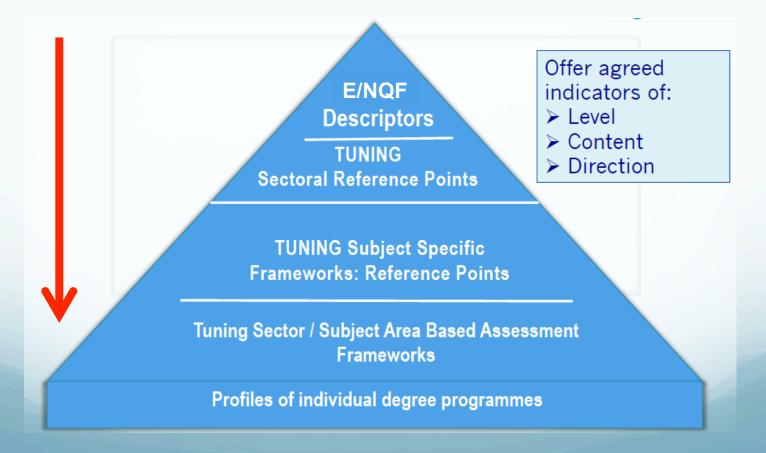


4. Frameworks and QA



Conditional for guaranteeing (minimum) quality of HE programmes:

- Universal QA Standards and Guidelines
- Qualifications frameworks at overarching, national, sectoral and subject area level





Frameworks and QA (2)



From 2000 Tuning has been the global champion in:

- Introducing Learning Outcomes as the bases of programme design and delivery
- Promoting the inclusion of generic skills and competences in study programmes
- Developing benchmarks / sets of reference points for subject areas

Although Tuning has done a great service to QA it thinks there is room for further improvement!

- We are still struggling with measurable outcomes
- Quality judgments are still arbitrary (diploma and grade inflation)
- External peer reviewing is challenged (often perceived as biased)
- Qualifications frameworks prove still to be too general to act as reliable indicators

The real indicators of QA should be the learning environment, programme plus (aggregated) individual student performances!



5. CALOHEE



Measuring and Comparing Achievements of Learning Outcomes in HE in Europe

Do students enrolled in higher education around Europe develop the competences they need? Are study programmes delivering their promises? Can we learn to compare students' achievements in different countries in a meaningful way?

If academic experts can agree on the set of learning outcomes, they should also be able to measure performance in comparative perspective in (inter)national contexts!

THE PROOF IS IN THE EATING OF THE PUDDING!

COMPARABLE ASSESSMENTS ARE REQUIRED:

- To obtain / provide reliable information about achievements of learning in (transnational) comparative perspective at
 - ✓ Individual level
 - ✓ Programme level
 - Institutional level
 - ✓ National level
 - ✓ International level

to allow for degree programme enhancement focusing on the domain of knowledge taking into account preparation for employment and active citizenship.

Offering main stakeholders reliable information for making informed choices!



CALOHEE Project aims



- Develop a multi-dimensional instrument to measure and compare levels of learning doing justice to the different missions and profiles of HE institutions
- Develop transnational conceptual frameworks and assessment frameworks for five academic domains and five related disciplines (Civil Engineering, Nursing, History, Education and Physics)
- Develop test blue prints, work plans for creation and implementation of assessments plus white paper explaining costs/benefits of various designs for transnational comparative assessment



CALOHEE Partnership



Feasibility study is supported and co-financed by the European Commission in the framework of ERASMUS+ Key Action 3 Forward Looking Cooperation Projects

Success requires a well-defined partnership:

- ✓ 75 universities; 15 per domain / subject area covering 15 countries each
- ✓ European Student Union (ESU) / BEST
- ✓ European Association of Institutions in Higher Education (EURASHE)
- ✓ European Consortium for Accreditation in Higher Education (ECA)
- ✓ European Network for Accreditation of Engineering Education (ENAEE)
- ✓ University networks: Coimbra, Santander, UNICA, Utrecht, Compostela

Other members in the advisory board: European University Association (EUA), the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA), European Association for International Education (EAIE), U-Multirank and Academic Cooperation Association (ACA)

The project is run by a Management Board and a Coordinating Team, supported by **Educational Testing Service (ETS)**, Princeton (USA)



CALOHEE Structure: three phases



Phases 1+2 clearly to be distinguished from phase 3

<u>First phase – Update the frameworks of reference points</u>

Sectoral frameworks

Subject Area Frameworks

Input: Previous Tuning surveys + CALOHEE Questionnaire

Second phase - Produce the assessment frameworks

5 Assessment Frameworks

White Paper: Costs / Benefits

Assessment criteria
Test blue print + Work plans

Third phase – Actual assessment of student performance

- ✓ Development of multi-dimensional tests based on agreed dimensions and parameters
- ✓ Assessment of students of 5 subject areas in 5 x 75 higher education institutions

CALOHEE Design



Building on work established and lessons learned

Regional Approach: EUROPE

Foundation: Sectoral and Subject Area Frameworks

Integrated approach: subject specific + generic

Multi-dimensional approach: missions and profiles

Applying 4 parameters

Assessments at final stage BA

Framing sectors in dimensions

Progression routing: Sectoral conceptual framework – Subject area based conceptual framework – Detailed Assessment framework – Actual multidimensional test – Testing of students

CALOHEE Design (2)



MULTI-DIMENSIAL APPROACH

Assessment frameworks based on parameters/dimensions

PARAMETERS / CATEGORIES

EQF: Knowledge		Skills	Competences			
	Knowledge: theory and methodology	Application knowledge and skills	Employability	Civic and social engagement		
					1	
					2	Z M
	Common body of knowledge, skills and wider competences					SNOISNE

Assessment framework

CALOHEE Design (3)

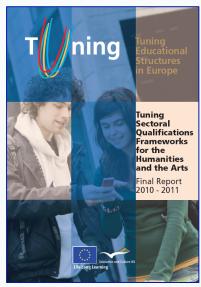


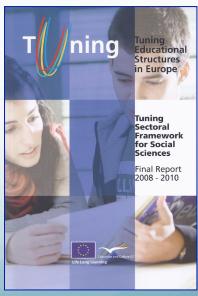
WHY applying Domain specific dimensions?

- Does justice to the character of specific academic domain
- Structures sets of learning outcomes in a logical way
- Allows for combining QF for LLL and QF for the EHEA

Humanities Dimensions	Creative and Performing Disciplines dimensions	Engineering dimensions
The Human Being	Making, Performing, Designing, Conceptualising	Knowledge and Understanding
Cultures and Societies	Re-thinking, Considering and interpreting the Human	Engineering Analysis
Texts and Contexts	Experimenting, innovating & Researching	Engineering Design
Theories and Concepts	Theories, Histories and Cultures	Investigations
Interdisciplinarity	Technical, environmental and Contextual issues	Engineering Practice
Communication	Communication, Collaboration & Interdisciplinarity	Communication and Teamwork
Initiative and Creativity	Initiative & Enterprise	Making Judgements
Professional Development		Lifelong Learning

taken from EUR-ACE





CALOHEE Design (3)



Learning outcomes of a degree programme in Humanities

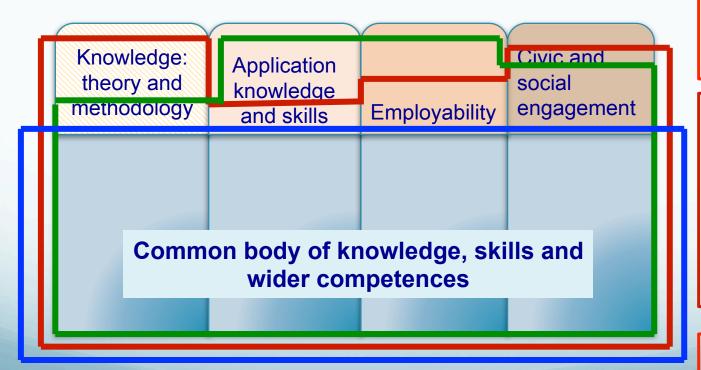
QF EHEA 2 nd cycle descriptors I, III-V	SQF Humanities dimensions Level 7 (MASTER)	EQF descriptor Knowledge Level 7 highly specialised knowledge, some of which is at the forefront of knowledge in a field of work or study, as the basis for original thinking and/or research - critical awareness of knowledge issues in a field and at the interface between different fields	EQF descriptor Skills Level 7 Specialised problem-solving skills required in research and/or innovation in order to develop new knowledge and procedures and to integrate knowledge from different fields QF EHEA 2nd cycle descriptor: II.can apply their knowledge and understanding	EQF descriptor Wider Competences Level 7 - Manage and transform work or study contexts that are complex, unpredictable and require new strategic approaches - Take responsibility for contributing to professional knowledge and practice and/or for reviewing the strategic performance of teams
Special feature degree programme	a. The Human Being			
I.have demonstrated knowledge	b. Cultures and Societies			
and understanding	c.Texts and Contexts			
III.have the ability to integrate	d. Theories and Concepts			
knowledge and handle complexity,	e. Initiative and Creativity			
and formulate judgements	f. Interdisciplinarity			
IV. can communicate 	g. Communication			
V.have the learning skills 	h. Professional Development			

CALOHEE Design (4)



MULTI-DIMENSIONAL APPROACH

Assessment frameworks based on four parameters + subject specific dimensions:



Example of a research university (based on profile and mission)

Example of a university of applied sciences (based on profile and mission)

Shared body

Assessment framework

CALOHEE intended outcomes phases 1+2



3 main expected achievements:

- Complementing European Qualifications Frameworks at domain and disciplinary level by conceptual and assessment frameworks
- Rekindle the fire of the student-centred/competences/ learning outcomes approach (by focussing on quality and relevance of learning according to the four parameters and dimensions identified)
- Frameworks which are a reliable basis/condition for setting-up fair transnational assessments

