

student as producer

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Session 1.1b

Oral History Student Research and OER Production: Political and Educational Considerations around the OpenLIVES Pedagogy

Antonio Martínez-Arboleda, University of Leeds

Abstract

Between 2011 and 2013, a team of academic educators from the Universities of Leeds, Portsmouth and Southampton have been working in the creation of learning and teaching designs for Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. They have used the JISC-funded OpenLIVES Oral History collection of interviews as a stepping stone. The Student as Producer pedagogy, which was discovered by the members of the OpenLIVES Team as they engaged with their work, has played an important role in supporting and shaping the principles of the methodologies they have developed. In this session, the main distinctive features of what could be now called the OpenLIVES Pedagogy will be explored. The paper will discuss the use of the Oral History methodologies and ethos in the reengineering of important areas of knowledge production in HE beyond “History”; it will also emphasise and justify the need to construct the role of students, not only as producers of critical knowledge, but as authors and disseminators of socially relevant knowledge outputs in an ethical manner. Finally, there will be a reflection on the necessity to support an agenda of “HE transferable skills” within the academic curriculum, but with a view to repurposing those skills into essential competences for “graduate empowerability”, a concept that spans well beyond the world of paid work and extends its focus onto the personal, civic, political and economic spheres of human self-determination.

Presenter details

Antonio Martínez-Arboleda

Antonio Martínez-Arboleda (Licenciado en Derecho, MA Business Law, FHEA and SCORE Fellow), teaches in undergraduate modules in Spanish Language, Society and Politics at the School of Modern Languages and Cultures of the University of Leeds. Antonio has designed learning materials in Autonomous Learning, Professional Simulations using e-learning and group activities and materials in Literature and Politics. Antonio is a member of the JORUM UK Steering Group and has worked in three Open Educational Projects: The HumBox Repository, a SCORE Fellowship on employer engagement and OER and OpenLIVES, the JISC project on Oral History and Migration that has inspired his latest work. sllama@leeds.ac.uk