

## LEARNING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OVERVIEW FORM

Project title	Online learning support for students on fieldwork placement		Project ID No	CLAD – HIST018
Strategy area/theme	Education - Online learning, WebCT			
Start date	June 2001	Completion date	July 2002	
Project type	Learner enhancement project			
Level	undergraduate	Programme of study	B.Phil Community, Play and Youth Studies	
Aims	To support learning derived from placements by introducing online support for students that are gaining experience of professional practice within the community, play and youth studies programme.			
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– To produce new on-line learning materials to support the professional and academic development of students on placements</li> <li>– To identify student/tutor/supervisor training needs in the use of new technology in the context of support for students on placements</li> <li>– To design assessment strategies that make good use of ICT</li> </ul>			
Overview	<p>A WebCT course was introduced into a programme that had no previous experience of managed or virtual learning environments. The course was piloted with 55 students and their tutors and was developed to take evaluation of the pilot into account. Staff and students were inducted into its use, including staff development about e-tutoring. Since the pilot the name of the course has been changed so that students who are not on placement can be registered and tutored on-line for example, research students and the students of the Masters in Applied Community Studies. 350 placement agencies were consulted about this transformation of the way that the fieldwork modules are delivered. An action-research based conference paper was written and delivered at Sheffield Networked Learning conference. Similar programmes elsewhere in the country have been contacted and have provided helpful information. Enquiries have been responded to within Birmingham University from several different Schools including the Medical School and the English department. Findings have also been shared within the School of Education. Interest in the project increased significantly once it was a tangible WebCT course that could be demonstrated. It was demonstrated at the Learning Development Unit Open day, which was well attended.</p>			
Further Information	<p>For further information on this project please contact CLAD at University of Birmingham</p> <p><a href="mailto:cladprojects@contacts.bham.ac.uk">cladprojects@contacts.bham.ac.uk</a> quoting CLAD projects HIST018</p>			