The Role of the UOC’s Librarians in the University’s New Learning Model

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About the UOC (1/2): Some figures

70,274 students

71,598 graduates
134 countries with UOC students

27 bachelor’s degrees
46 university master’s degrees
275 postgraduate diplomas and specializations

About the UOC (2/2): Educational model

Rethinking the UOC’s educational model (1/2)

2017: **evolution of the UOC's educational model**: our own unique student-centred model.

Driven by the Office of the Vice President for Teaching and Learning: **institutional support**

Led by the eLearn Center, the Library, and the Technology department: **teamwork**

The project is called the NIU PLAN and is based on a **new course design**.

- **Digital**: virtual campus
- **Competencies**: focused on the student and the learning activity + assessment
- **Students needs**: student support
- **Working time**: dynamic and flexible
## Rethinking the UOC’s educational model (2/2): How are UOC courses designed under the NIU PLAN?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Competencies Defined for each course</td>
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<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Learning outcomes Established</td>
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<td>03</td>
<td>Learning activities Based on or inspired by real-life experiences that let students acquire the competencies</td>
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<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Learning resources Students need these to carry out the activities and reach the learning outcomes</td>
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</table>
04 Learning resources

Learning resources (Niu)
- Find out what makes authoritarian regimes so resilient
- Evaluate whether opposition movements, including Islamist ones, can be a force for democracy
- Assess the impact of the Arab-Israeli conflict on democracy and vice versa
- Who cares about democracy?

Learning resources formats
- HTML: Format of learning resources.
- HTML 5: New format of web learning resources (HTML5).
- AUIDOBOOK: MP3 and .zip files by SMRY.
- VEOIDBOOK: Text and audio in mp4 format.
- EPOCKET: Text format for handheld devices, e-books, and PCs.
- EPUB: E-book format for e-readers (e.g., Kindle).
- PDF: PDF size A4.

Complementary resources
- Materials
- The Middle East and Democracy
- Information sources
- Resources
The roles of the Library staff

**Coach-librarian**  
*Reference librarian & subject librarian (formerly)*

&

**Managers of UOC-produced learning resources**

- Close contact with teachers
- Subject design from the beginning
- Continued advice
- Working with a multidisciplinary team

Educational model
The counselling cycle

Initial search
- **Bespoke searches** for teaching activities

Support and advice
- **Individual working sessions**
- Focusing on the **resources needed**

Monitoring
- **UOC-produced learning resources**
- **New acquisitions**
- **Budget control**

Closing
- **Validation and quality control**
- Plan B (if necessary)
Results

+ 146% external learning resources

Teacher satisfaction

Student satisfaction

Resources available from the Library
Other external sources

Bespoke searches
Support and advice
Conclusions

The evolution of the role of the UOC’s librarians means:

- **New horizons** (coach-librarian)
- **New information skills and pedagogical approach**
- **Key role** in UOC's educational model
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