

THE SENSE OR NONSENSE OF PROVIDING DIGITAL STUDY GUIDES INSTEAD OF PAPER STUDY GUIDES

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Since digital learning environments were introduced into higher education, teachers have provided their students with lots of documents posted on the Internet. For some purposes, this is very appropriate, such as last minute announcements; the right answers after the examination took place and the materials shown during lecture.

However, another discussion may arise on the topic of study guides. At Leiden Medical School, there is a study guide provided for each 3-week period containing logistic information, rosters, self-study assignments, some literature and additional medical content. Recently discussions focused on whether these printed study guides should be replaced with digital versions on the Internet. One of the considerations for this proposal is the fact that in this way, a lot of publishing costs and logistic problems can be avoided. However, is it useful and desirable to make this information only available through the Internet, introducing issues as connectivity dependency and printing policies?

In this break out session people with experience on deliberately providing or not providing digital study guides are invited to contribute to the discussion on advantages and disadvantages of digitalizing this kind of information.