



UniBus Grading Framework

Intellectual Output 3 (IO3)

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1. INTRODUCTION

The **University Business Collaboration Platform- UniBus-** (No. 2017-1-TR01-KA203-046678) is funded by the European Commission, under Erasmus+ Programme, Strategic Partnerships for higher education. It has duration of three years, from September 2017 until August 2020.

The project aims to create an effective framework to support business-academia collaboration with several tools and services which will allow companies to launch innovation challenges to the Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) so the students can contribute with their ideas. By bringing businesses and HEIs together, European companies can benefit by accessing cutting-edge research, high-tech infrastructure and highly skilled people, while universities will get an opportunity to develop their applied research and demonstrate the impact of their work.

Technological Objectives of the project are listed below:

- Creating a new methodology for enabling systematic business-academia collaboration to support the innovation processes.
- Designing and developing a cloud-based collaboration platform that will implement as services the concepts arisen in UniBus methodology.
- Designing and developing the Grading framework which will provide guidelines on how HEI will assess and give credit for students' work carried out on the platform and how will companies assess the ideas/solutions proposed by students.
- Assessing and validating the methodology and platform with participating HEIs and partner SMEs. The UniBus partner SMEs will present business scenarios, which will deal with different views of innovation within any organization: Innovation for Management Improvement, Innovation for Product

Improvement/Creation etc. During the assessment, different pre-defined indicators will be captured to quantify results.

In order to achieve these aims project consortium works collaboratively and tasks are distributed according to expertise. This document is prepared for intellectual output 3 (IO3) UniBus Grading Framework.

2. UNIBUS GRADING FRAMEWORK (IO3)

Grading Framework will provide guidelines on how the HEI will assess and give credit for students' work carried out on the platform, how will companies assess what a good idea/solution is and how will they communicate this to the HEIs/students. Grading Framework is third output in UniBus project. It is developed based on results of UniBus Concept and Requirements (IO1) and UniBus Methodology (IO2).

This activity is led by Bahcesehir University (BAU), who is active operator in the field of Business-Academia-Collaboration, with support from all academic and Industrial partners to determine what work/evidence is required from the businesses and how it can be assessed by the HEI. All partners in the consortium will also contribute to the Grading Framework.

UniBus Grading Framework has two sections: first section lists and explains the criteria that will be used for the grading, the second section lists and explains the grading scale.

3. GRADING CRITERIA

3.1 STUDENT GRADING CRITERIA

- a. Relevance: The degree, to which the outputs of students' projects are consistent with companies' priorities, needs, and policies.
- b. Quality: The degree, to which the outputs of students' projects achieve the project's aims successfully, complying with all the requirements/standards.
- c. Time management: The degree, to which students' completed their projects on time; their ability to use their time effectively and efficiently.
- d. Feasibility: The degree, to which the outputs of students' projects are realistic and achievable.
- e. Innovativeness & Creativity: The degree, to which the outputs of students' projects have originality and include a new method, ideas, or lead to a product/service/process
- f. Sustainability: The degree, to which outputs of students' projects can be maintained after the completion of the project.
- g. Generalisability: The degree, to which outputs of students' projects can be applicable differently in the same organisation or to other companies or industries.
- h. Practical: The degree, to which outputs of students' projects can be applicable.
- i. Organisational alignment: The degree, to which outputs of students' projects are compliant with the other processes of the company, its goals, values and strategies.
- j. Commercialisation: The degree, to which outputs of students' projects have potential to create an economic value and can be transformed into a service/product/process.
- k. Problem solving: The degree, to which outputs of students' projects address a problem inside the company.

3.2 COMPANY GRADING CRITERIA

The aim of this criteria is to assess contributions of company representatives to the process. These criteria should be applied to all projects.

- I. **Cooperation:** ability to work collaboratively and actively communicate with students and HEIs.
- II. **Competency:** ability to give effective and efficient feedback.
- III. **Commitment:** demonstrate during the process; effective and efficient involvement.

4. GRADING SCALE

The criteria are graded using the Likert Rating Scale from 1 to 5. The scoring system is defined as follows:

1. **Weak:** Significant deficiencies-below expectations
2. **Deficient:** Addresses the criterion but with some weaknesses-needs improvement
3. **Competent:** Addresses the criterion satisfactorily-meets expectations
4. **Good:** Addresses the criterion with some aspects of high quality
5. **Excellent:** Addresses the criterion with all aspects of high quality-role model

5. CONCLUSION AND REMARKS

Criteria that are listed in section 3.1 were chosen to evaluate the works of the students from different perspectives. The grading scale, 5-Likert, was selected because it is easy to apply and understandable for both, students and companies.

Suggestions for grading framework in platform

- It is advised to have continuous feedback system in the platform. It could be in the form of messaging system.
- It is advised to have a mid-term progress feedback system to check whether students are on right track.
- The projects score should be at least 3 (competent) from each selected criterion.
- The selection of the criteria is flexible. Grading criteria can change based on content and scope of the project. However, it is advised to grade the projects at least from five of the above criteria.