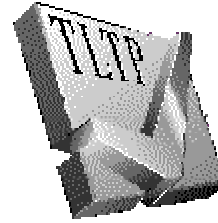




*Technology Enhanced Learning  
in Research-led Institutions*



October 1998 saw the start of **TELRI**, a three year phase three TLTP project (no 92) looking at enhancing the development of research capabilities in undergraduate students through the appropriate use of technology-assisted methods and materials. The TELRI project aims to meet the needs of research-led institutions for an enriched and research-orientated curriculum by increasing the uptake and effective use of learning technologies in teaching programmes.

This nationally-funded project will benefit several departments and universities in implementing technology into teaching and learning. The University of Warwick is the lead site working collaboratively with Oxford University and later in the project also with the universities of Birmingham, Durham and Southampton.

The project brings together two ideas. The first is that universities like Warwick and Oxford believe that academics' research can and should enrich their teaching. Not only are undergraduates brought into contact with the fruits of current research, they are also developing a research-like approach to learning that helps them in their current studies and that lays a foundation for future research activity and employment. Since teaching approaches in research-led institutions are strongly informed by staff research interests, teaching processes concentrate on developing students' capabilities to:

- Be innovative
- Work independently
- Set and solve problems
- Analyse critically, and
- Handle large quantities of information in a wide range of media.

The project seeks to develop ways of using technology-based materials and teaching methods to enhance students' capabilities as researchers. Since these are generally the broad capabilities of graduates that higher education has sought to develop, that employers value and that are of immense benefit in lifelong learning, the outcomes of the project are of relevance to the whole HE sector.

The project will:

- Develop academic staff capabilities in the use of learning technologies and associated curriculum design and delivery
- Identify research capability components of study programmes across a range of disciplines
- Embed the use of TLTP and other materials in the delivery of a range of curricula in a number of research-led environments
- Develop and test methods of developing capability through technology-enhanced learning
- Develop frameworks for implementation and evaluation
- Disseminate effective practice to the whole sector.

The project will deliver valuable educational outcomes that are applicable across the curriculum. Specific deliverables include:

- Principles and frameworks for good practice in implementation and approaches to evaluation of technology-assisted teaching methodologies in curricula
- Clarification of research capabilities that may be developed through technology-enhanced learning

- Methodology for cost-benefit analysis
- Case studies and related teaching materials derived from activity
- Consultancy sessions
- Web site for dissemination and publicity

### **Criteria for Choosing Disciplines**

A range of disciplines have been chosen which can meet the broad criteria that:

- The range of subjects includes departments from science, social studies and humanities faculties and thus represents a wide application and interest to other related disciplines across the HE sector.
- The disciplines chosen provide appropriate cross-reference to equivalent teaching programmes in departments at partner institutions.
- A department can recognise research capability components within a number of teaching programmes.
- A department representing that discipline is strongly committed to the project in terms of both the departmental gains and the overall project aims and educational outcomes.
- A department can provide some preliminary cost-benefit ratios akin to the project's proposed outcomes
- There are appropriate courseware materials for that discipline available to support the project objectives. The availability of suitable TLTP or other third party materials in the discipline is desirable.

Departments interested in participating in the TELRI project were asked to consider the research capabilities that they wish to develop in undergraduate students. These might include specific skills, broad capabilities and disciplinary knowledge and understanding. The second stage of the project will be to identify and implement appropriate learning technology methods and materials that can help students' achievements in these areas.

The project team includes two educational developers (learning technologists) with expertise in the implementation and evaluation of IT-based teaching and learning methods. These specialists are working with the departments throughout the duration of the project.

### **Project Outcomes**

The project will:

- Identify research capability components of programmes of study
- Develop academic staff capabilities in the use of learning technologies and associated curriculum design and delivery
- Embed the use of TLTP and other products in the delivery of a range of curricula in a number of research-led environments
- Develop and test methods of developing capability through technology-enhanced learning
- Develop a framework for implementation, including measurable educational cost and efficiency gains
- Disseminate best practice of use to the whole sector and in all curricula

Within the first phase the project will be working with the Faculty of Social Studies at Oxford University.

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