HOCHSCHULE
RAVENSBURG-WEINGARTEN
UNIVERSITY
OF APPLIED SCIENCES

SPEND – THE MICROCREDENTIAL PROJECT AT RWU

MICRO-CREDENTIALS IN HIGHER EDUCATION: FROM STRATEGY TO IMPLEMENTATION

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HOCHSCHULE
RAVENSBURG-WEINGARTEN
UNIVERSITY
OF APPLIED SCIENCES

technology | business | social science

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3,600 students

100 lecturers

31 study programs

4 faculties

Jochen Weißenrieder

department of higher education projectmanagement

Interested in:

- MicroCredential
- Learning and teaching spaces
- FutureSkills
- Students' Absenteeism

Micro Credentials @RWU

1 Our MicroCredentials

2 Our Experience

3 Our Outlook

Developing a framework for Microcredentials an a digital MicroCredential program

SPEND

The MicroCredential project @RWU
founded by:

Stiftung Innovation in der Hochschullehre

2021-2024 | 6 wholetime equv.

central service unit

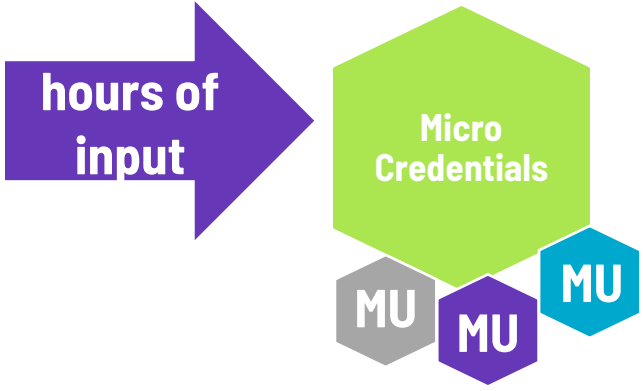
STUDIUM DIGITALE

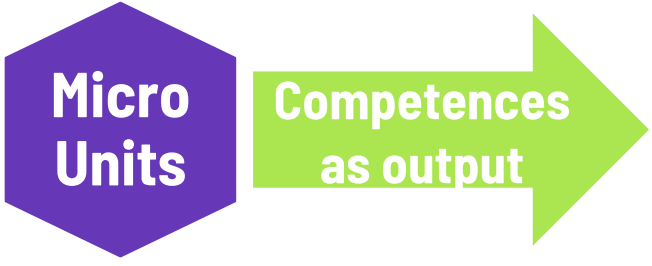
digital MicroCredential program

Main target group: Our students

Only as side-effect: prospectives, professionals and internationals.

Small Units stack up to MicroCredentials





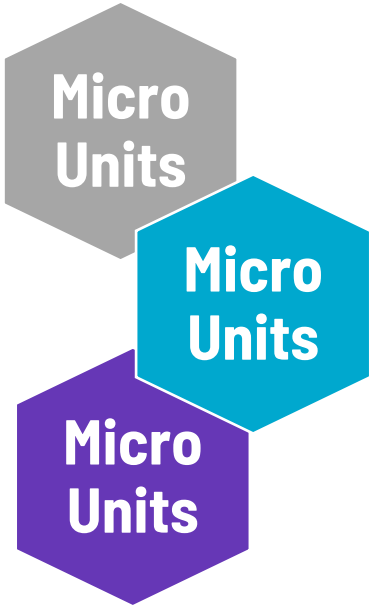
Workload (input orientied)

- MicroCredentials: 1 - 5 ECTS
- MicroUnits: 8, 16 oder 25—30 hours

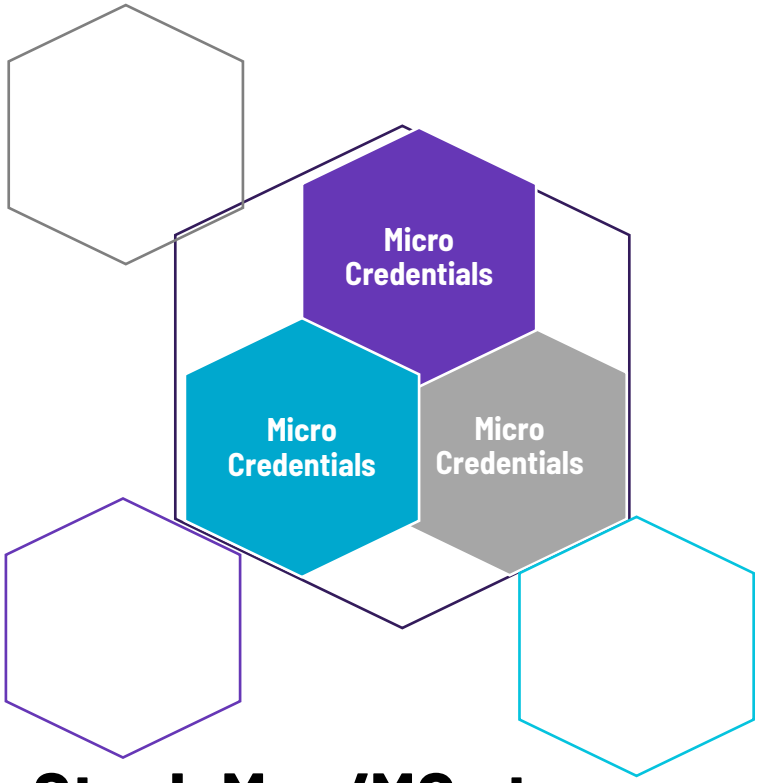
Critique

- ECTS and workload are input oriented
- Competences rather require an output oriented indicator

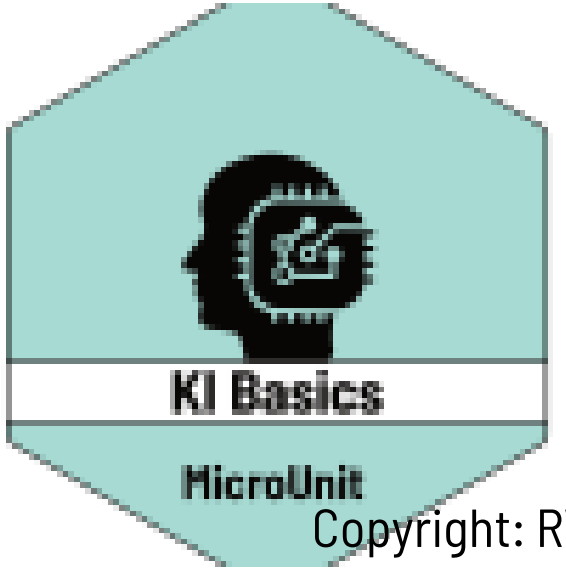
Stackability and Open Badges



Stackability of MicroUnits



Stack Mus/MCs to Combi-Modules



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Open Badges

Badgr integration in moodle

Embedding in course structure

integrated

Integrated as part of a course

- Example: Introduction of Matlab in mathematics course

additive

Additionally as a voluntary supplement to a course

- „Basic Filming“ for the course „project presentation“, where students has to produce a film

independent

Independent

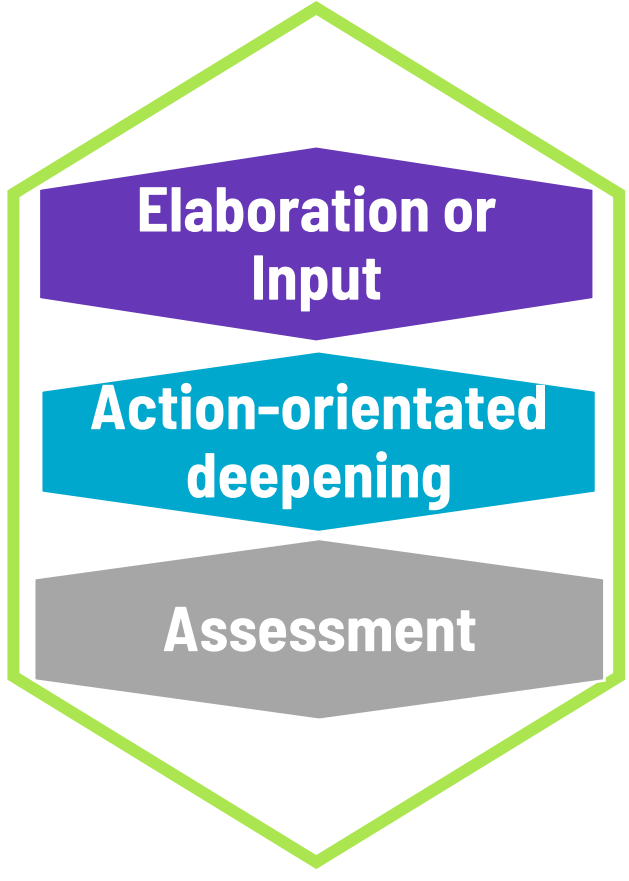
- „Working professional with AI“

Didactical structure
classic approach

Digital self-learning material: Web based training
Videos, H5P, articulate, ...

Hands on excercises
Digital (e.g. coderunner). VR-experiences (e.g. presentation training). Workshops (e.g. LegoScrum) .

Preferable no multiple choice exams
mostly used: multiple choice exams, writen exams
alternatives: presentations, secondary utilisation of any performance in another course, reflection reports



Subjects and content

Basic enabling

Basic tools, technics, learning

Future Skills

presentation, projectmanagement, communication

Subject related/ professional

Specilazed tools and skills, where certification adds value

Subjects and content

Basic enabling

Word
Excel
LaTeX
Etc.

Future Skills

VR**presentation**

lego**Scrum**

Subject related/ professional

Tools

VR**Diagnosis**
Training
VR**Laboratory**
Training

Summary

- MicroCredentials & MicroUnits
- Workload from 1/3 ECTS up to 5 ECTS
- Stackability: MicroUnits -> MicroCredentials -> (combi)modules
- Badges even for MicroUnits
- Input -> Deepening -> Assessment
- Subjects: basic enabling, Future Skills and subject related

next:
Framework

The framework: „Zertifikatsordnung“

Categories, required by

openbadges

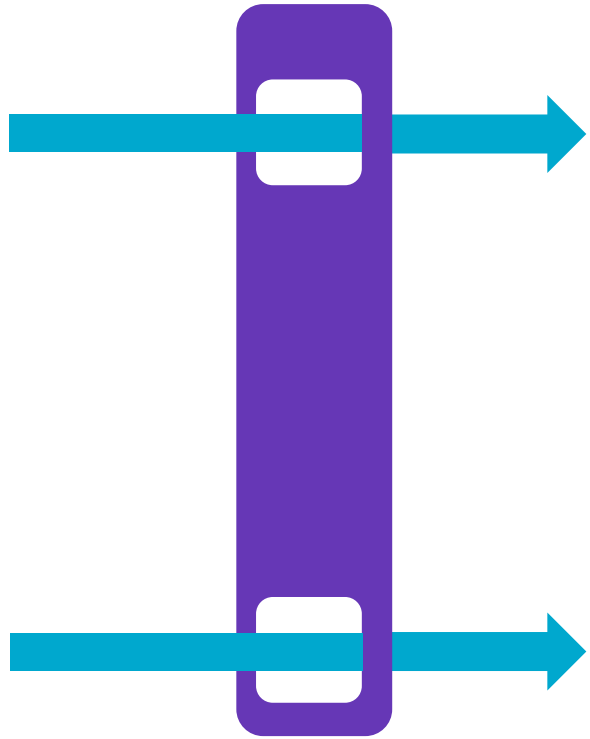
+

quality assurance

+

Further requirements

- Specific didactical structure
- ...



Official RWU-Certificate
MicroCredential of RWU

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STUDIUM DIGITALE

Framework: Zertifikatsordnung

next:
Experience

Goals and experience

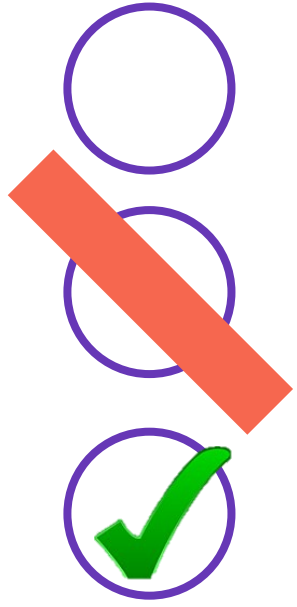
goal

Badges motivate students to additional effort

Small units trigger lecturers to innovative experiments

University gets framework, interdisciplinary program and cooperation

So far



BUT!

BUT!

AND!

Goals and experience

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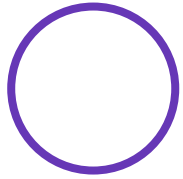
So far



BUT!

Unexpected effects

- Not enough courses, yet
- Less participation than exptected
- Those who do participate, want a certificate
- We hope, or rather feel, that demand will increase.

Goals and experience

goal

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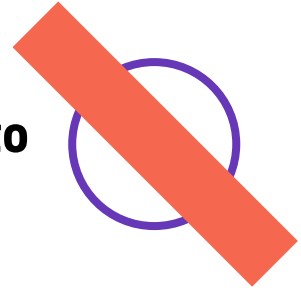
So far



BUT!

Unexpected effects

- Study programs develop their own MicroCredential programs based on our framework
- MicroCredentials are discussed as a solution for new requirements. Example AI or more basics for scientific work

Goals and experience

goal

Badges motivate students to additional effort

Small units trigger lecturers to innovative experiments

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So far

AND!

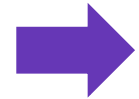
Unexpected effects

- Interdisciplinary cooperation was much more needed and fruitful than expected. But those cooperations need a lot of our „external energy“ to keep going.
- Framework is set and got even extended by thrid parties => it is seen as a useful structure for further development

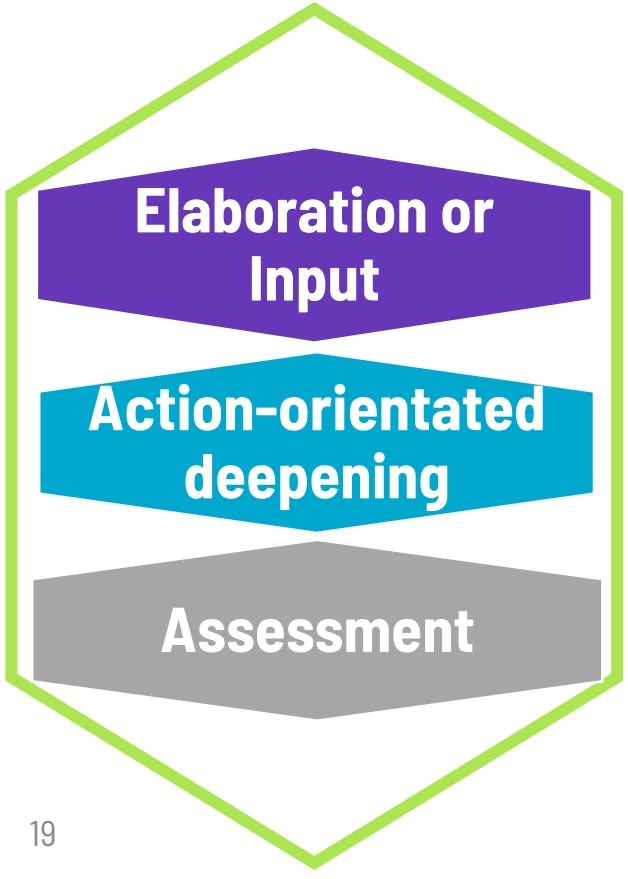
Experience

- Disappointing number of participants yet
- Disappointing number of MicroCredentials
- But a framework, on which further development is built upon. Lecturers needed the three years to adapt to the new concept and now they work with it.

next:
Outlook



Outlook: Our next development steps



We want to focus more OER courses/materials: to use existing one, produce new ones.

Project oriented

Students should agree to a project with the responsible lecturers with which they can demonstrate the competences.

Professors recognize competences

Based on the project reflection report, competences will be recognized and certified.

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THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Jochen.weissenrieder@rwu.de

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Based on a
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