

# What All Teachers Should Know About Informatics

**ISSEP 2022** 

Prof. Dr. Torsten Brinda





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## Informatics has changed and is still changing our everyday lives



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## Where do schoolteachers find Informatics in their everyday lives?



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## **Agenda**



Which digitalizationrelated competencies do all schoolteachers need?



Which Informatics competencies do all schoolteachers need?



How can Informatics competencies be included in teacher education?



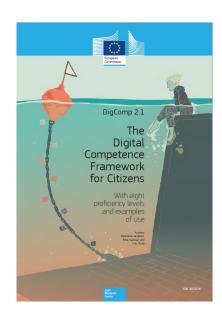


# Which digitalization-related competencies do all schoolteachers need?



## Models (I): Learning and teaching with digital media









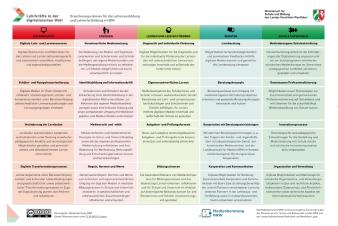
KMK strategy (KMK, 2016) (KMK - Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs)



DigCompEdu (Redecker, 2017)



Media competence framework (Medienberatung NRW, 2018)



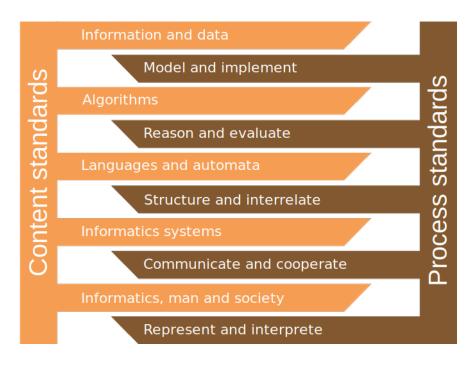
Orientation framework (Eickelmann, 2020)



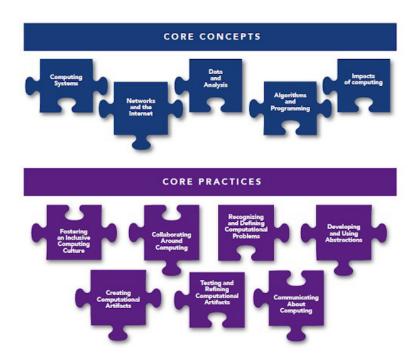
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## **Models (II): Informatics standards**





Recommendations for Educational Standards in Informatics (GI) www.informatikstandards.de (Lower sec.: 2008, Upper sec.: 2016, Primary: 2019)

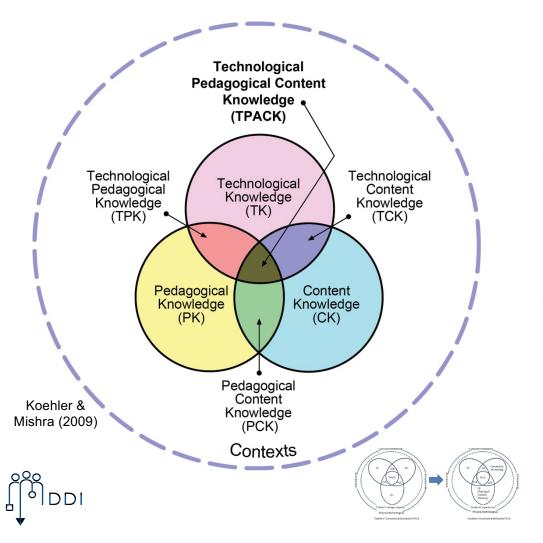


The K-12 Computer Science Framework (www.k12cs.org, K-12 Computer Science Framework Steering Committee, 2016)



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## Models (III): TPACK and FITness





#### Intellectual Capabilities

- 1. Engage in sustained reasoning;
- 2. Manage complexity:
- 3. Test a solution:
- 4. Manage problems in faulty solutions;
- 5. Organize and navigate information structures and evaluate information;
- 6. Collaborate;
- 7. Communicate to other audiences;
- 8. Expect the unexpected;
- 9. Anticipate changing technologies; and
- 10. Think about information technology abstractly.

#### Information Technology Concepts

- 1. Computers:
- 2. Information systems;
- 3. Networks:
- 4. Digital representation of information;
- 5. Information organization;
- 6. Modeling and abstraction;
- 7. Algorithmic thinking and programming;
- 8. Universality;
- 9. Limitations of information technology; and
- 10. Societal impact of information and information technology.

#### Information Technology Skills

- 1. Setting up a personal computer;
- 2. Using basic operating system features:
- 3. Using a word processor to create a text document;
- 4. Using a graphics and/or artwork package to create illustrations, slides, or other image-based expressions
- 5. Connecting a computer to a network;
- 6. Using the Internet to find information and resources;
- 7. Using a computer to communicate with others;
- 8. Using a spreadsheet to model simple processes or financial tables;
- 9. Using a database system to set up and access useful information; and
- 10. Using instructional materials to learn how to use new applications or features.

FITness (Fluency with Information Technologies, 1999) 1. "Media usage"

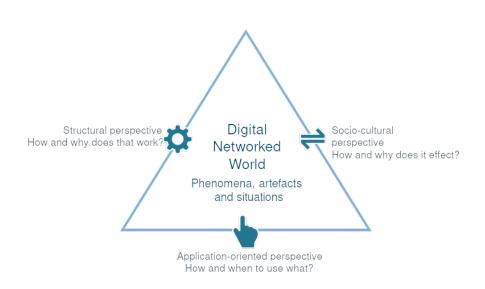
3. "Digitalization-Related Competences"

2. "Informatics concepts"

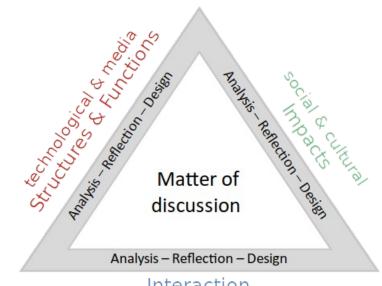
**But: Gaps!** 

## Models (IV): Dagstuhl triangle and Frankfurt triangle





Dagstuhl triangle (2016)



Interaction
User options – Social practices – Identity construct

Frankfurt triangle (2019)



#### Competences instead **Combining the models** Subject-specific edu-Digitalisierung in der cation in the digital Lehramtsausbildung world (GFD 2018) Informatics Fluency standards with IT (GI 2008, (NRC 1999) 2016, 2019) KMK-Standards Competences regarding (teaching with and Frankfurt for subjects MKR NRW triangle (KMK 2019a) (Medienbe-(Brinda et about) digital technologies ratung al. 2020) NRW 2018) Digitalization-related comin a subject Subject-related competences petences DigComp Education (Ferrari in the 2013) digital world (KMK 2016) TPACK-Modell (Koehler/ Mishra 2009) Competences Pedagogical regarding teacontent-specific ching with and competences about digital technologies (regarding digital techno-KMK-Standards (in a subject) logies) Fachdidaktik (KMK 2019a) DigComp-Edu Pedagogical (Redecker competences 2017) Orientierungsrahmen NRW (Eickelmann KMK-Standards et al. 2020) Bildungs-

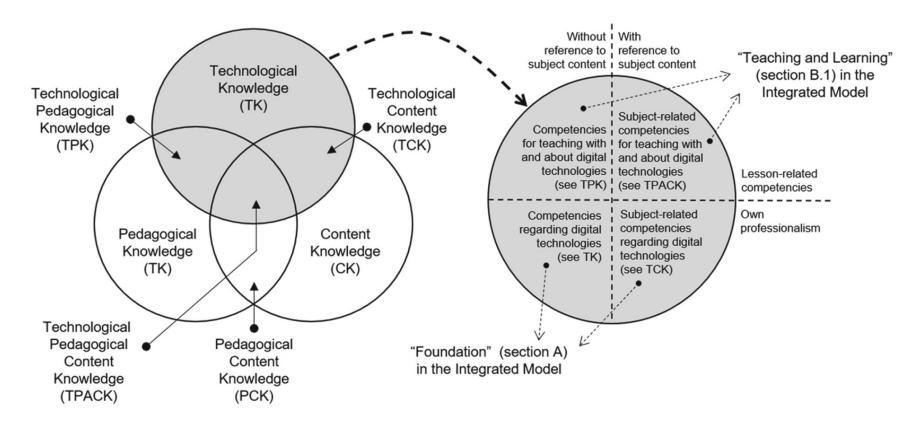
wissen-

schaften (KMK 2019b)

DO

## **Combining the models**

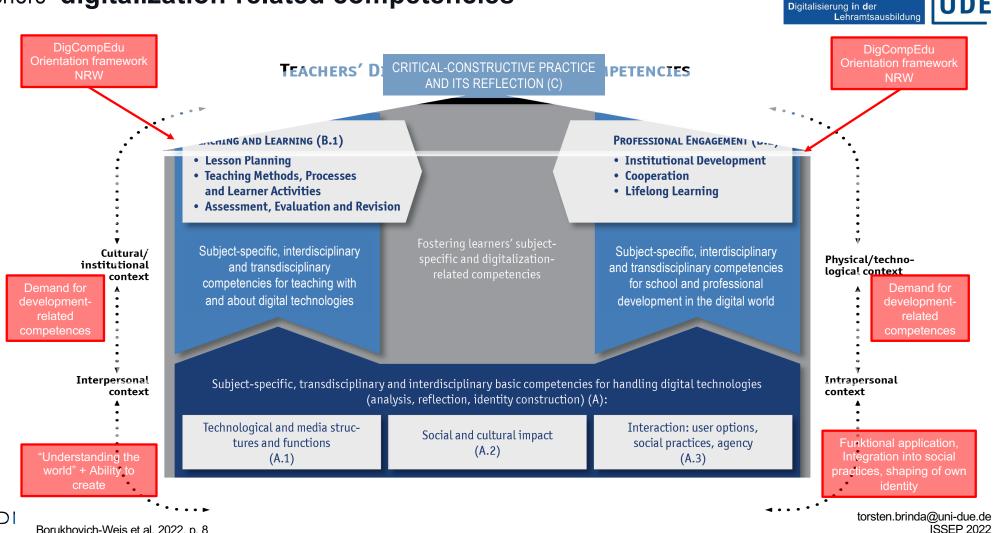






## Teachers' digitalization-related competencies

Borukhovich-Weis et al. 2022, p. 8





# Which Informatics Competencies do All School Teachers Need?



### Perception of digitalization and education in Germany



- Public discourse focuses on technology (tablets, missing wifi) or isolated aspects (privacy laws)
- Many "silver bullet" promises in the past
- Rejecting attitude against everything digital
- Overestimation of "digital natives"
- Schools lack of infrastructure (still)
- Teachers lack(ed) of digital competences
- Authorities lack(ed) of willingness to act (and competence as well)



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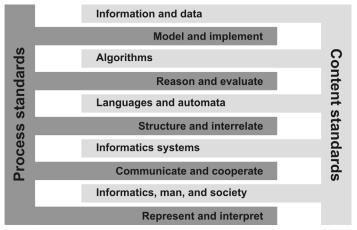
## Work of the German Informatics association (GI) in the area of education



- Educational recommendations:
  - For lower secondary education (2008)
  - For upper secondary education (2016)
  - For primary education (2019)
  - Together with the German STEM community: Informatics reference framework (GeRRI, 2020)
- Informatik-Monitor:
  - Monitors the state of Informatics education in lower secondary education in Germany's federal states



GeRRI: https://www.mnu.de/blog/595gerri-gemeinsamer-referenzrahmeninformatik



www.informatikstandards.de



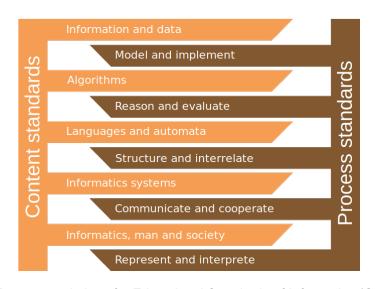
www.informatik-monitor.de



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## Possible approach: Orientation along Informatics competency frameworks

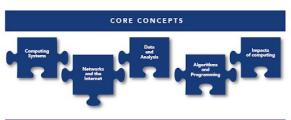




Recommendations for Educational Standards of Informatics (GI) www.informatikstandards.de

(Lower sec.: 2008, Higher sec.: 2016, Primary: 2019)

- Advantage(s):
  - do already exist
  - widely accepted in the community
- Disadvantage:
  - convincing for educators and/or politicians, i. e. people who decide educational politics?





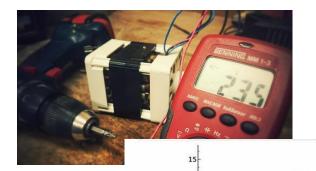
The K-12 Computer Science Framework (www.k12cs.org, K-12 Computer Science Framework Steering Committee, 2016)



## Possible approach: Orientation along topics of other subject groups / scientific fields







Advantage(s):

- o necessity obvious
- no transfer from concept to an application to be made
- Disadvantage:
  - different strategies for every scientific field (science, social sciences, languages, etc.) needed









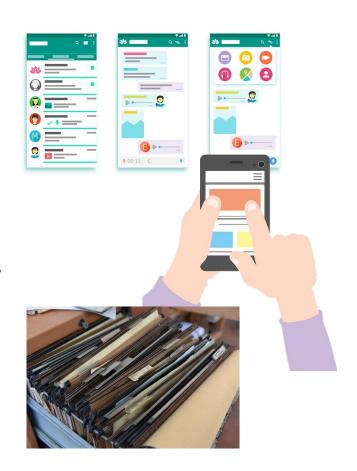
## Possible approach: Orientation along profession-and-digitalizationrelated activities of all teachers





- Advantage(s):
  - necessity obvious
  - no transfer from concept to an application to be made
  - o fits for all teachers
- Disadvantage:
  - is not (always) directly applicable as a topic in lessons







### Goal: recommendations for Informatics for all teachers



### (Selected) Objectives:

- Teachers recognize digitization-related changes and Informatics structures in their own subjects, related sciences and in the field of education.
- Teachers show an open and informed attitude towards phenomena in the digital world.
- Teachers can reflectively select digital tools and informatics methods in their everyday professional lives and use them competently in a structured, confident and efficient manner.
- Teachers can consciously link phenomena to Informatics concepts to explain and reflect on them.
- Teachers' own problem-solving approach to data and IT is exemplary and enables students to adopt an Informatics perspective and to act competently.
- Teachers take an informatics perspective into account while enhancing their own school and their own professional development.



## Goals published as a common position (in German, April 2021)



#### Willkommen beim Arbeitskreis 'Lehrkräftebildung Informatik'

ein Arbeitskreis des Fachbereichs IAD

https://ak-lk-bildung.gi.de

Der Arbeitskreis Lehrkräftebildung verfolgt das Ziel neue Empfehlungen zur Lehrkräftebildung der Gesellschaft für Informatik zu erarbeiten. Dabei stehen sowohl die Informatiklehrkräfte als auch allgemein Lehrkräfte aller Schulformen und -stufen und aller Fächer im Zentrum der Arbeit.

Der Arbeitskreis konzentriert seine derzeitige Arbeit auf die allgemeinbildenden Schulformen.

Als ersten Schritt zu neuen Empfehlungen hat der Arbeitskreis seine **Position zur Bildung aller Lehrkräfte in Bezug auf Informatik** formuliert.

Im zweiten Schritt sammelt der Arbeitskreis aktuell **gute Beispiele** für die Umsetzung von informatischer Bildung aller Lehrkräfte im Studium. Sie sollen dazu dienen die Position zu konkretisieren und als Inspirationsquelle dienen für alle, die ebenfalls Studienangebote mit diesem Ziel etablieren möchten.

#### Vorangegangene Empfehlungen

Die sich hier in der Erarbeitung befindlichen Empfehlungen schließen direkt an **vorherige Empfehlungen der GI** zur informatischen Bildung an. Insbesondere sei hier auf die folgenden Empfehlungen verwiesen:

- Gemeinsamer Referenzrahmen Informatik (GeRRI) Mindeststandards für die auf Informatik bezogene Bildung, Empfehlung der Gesellschaft für Informatik e.V. (GI) und des MNU - Verband zur Förderung des MINT-Unterrichts, https://dl.gi.de/handle/20.500.12116/34418
- Kompetenzen für informatische Bildung im Primarbereich (Januar 2019), https://dl.gi.de/handle/20.500.12116/20120
- Empfehlungen der Gesellschaft für Informatik e.V. (GI): Bildungsstandards Informatik für die Sekundarstufe II (Januar 2016), https://dl.gi.de/handle/20.500.12116/2333
- Grundsätze und Standards für die Informatik in der Schule (Januar 2008), Empfehlungen der Gesellschaft für Informatik e.V. (GI) zu Bildungsstandards Informatik für die Sekundarstufe I, https://dl.gi.de/handle /20.50012116/2338

Position zur Bildung aller Lehrkräfte in Bezug auf Informatik

 $\rightarrow$ 

#### Gute Beispiele

für informatische Bildung für alle Lehrkräfte

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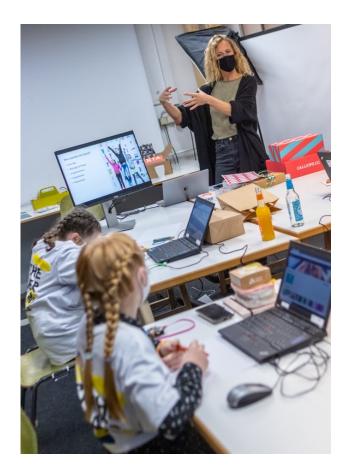
GI bezieht Stellung zur jüngst veröffentlichten ergänzenden Empfehlung zur KMK-Strategie "Bildung in der digitalen Welt"



## Background: Structure of teacher education in Germany



- Three phases of teacher education:
  - 1. Preparation in teaching-degree study programs at university (5 years)
  - 2. Preparation as a trainee teacher in school (1.5 to 2 years)
  - 3. In-service teacher training (lifelong learning)
- German Ministries of Education (KMK) agree on common standards for teacher education for the subjects and educational sciences
  - KMK publishes these standards for all 16 federal states for the first two phases
  - Standards are the basis for accreditation of study programs
- Every teacher studies two (to three) subjects and educational sciences





## Official standards for teacher education in Germany



- Four areas of expertise:
  - o Teaching
  - Educating
  - Advising and assessing
  - Innovating
- Last update (2019) for Educational Sciences contains many competences with a relation to Informatics in these areas
- Formulation of competences is very general, needs interpretation



https://www.kmk.org/fileadmin/Dateien/veroeffentlichungen\_beschluesse/2004/2004\_12\_16-Standards-Lehrerbildung-Bildungswissenschaften.pdf



### Towards Informatics competencies for all teachers



- 1. Official KMK standards for teacher education as a starting point
- 2. Description of example situations taken from the four areas of competence
  - Teaching
  - Educating
  - Advising and assessing
  - Innovating

Description of typical profession-related situations of a fictitious teacher (named "Kim")

- 3. Elaboration of the required Informatics knowledge and competences
- Collection of references to Informatics concepts and competency areas of existing recommendations
  - GI standards
  - Informatics reference framework GeRRI



### **Example: Competence area "Assessing"**



### Competency 8 (see: KMK 2019, p. 12, in German):

"Teachers capture students' performance development and assess learning processes and performance on the basis of transparent assessment standards."

Required sub-competency(ies):

Teachers "know different forms and effects of performance assessment and feedback, their functions and their advantages and disadvantages." They "know potentials and limitations of technology-based tasks and examination formats." They "make reflective use of digital options to support performance recording, assessment and evaluation."



### **Example situation of Kim**



### **Example situation from Kim's school**

For the evaluation of learning outcome assessments, Kim selects (possibly digital) tools with regard to their advantages and disadvantages in terms of availability, usability, the competencies to be assessed, and the resulting outcome format.

Kim responsibly assesses opportunities and risks. The data is consistently stored on encrypted media and deleted at the end of the school year.

## A correspondingly informatically competent teacher ...

- KNOWS licensing models in order TO BE ABLE to assess which programs can and may be used and are helpful for their daily school life.
- KNOWS the basic structure of programs, the difference between data and information, and the limitations of computing systems in order to BE ABLE to evaluate the output of processed data and relate it to other observations.
- KNOWS the operation and the associated opportunities and dangers of local and networked data management TO BE ABLE to select suitable tools.

- ..



## Addressed Informatics concepts competence areas



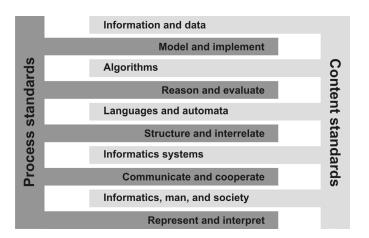
Addressed Informatics concepts	Addressed areas of the GI standards (2008)	Addressed areas of the GeRRI (2020)	
<ul> <li>Algorithms</li> <li>Licensing models for software, open source</li> <li>Data and information</li> <li>Computer networks</li> <li>Data protection</li> <li>Privacy of personal information</li> <li>Data security</li> </ul>	C: Information and data C: Algorithms C: Informatics and Society C: computing systems P: Representing and interpreting P: Reasoning and evaluating	<ul> <li>Digitization (coding, personal data)</li> <li>Computing systems (structure, networks, Internet usage, security, socio-technical context)</li> <li>Automatization (algorithms)</li> </ul>	



### Consequences



- All teachers should possess at least the same Informatics competencies as school students by the end of secondary school.
- They also need some didactical and pedagogical competences to address selected Informatics concepts in their subjects.
- Several courses shall be related to Informatics competences (also in the denominations).
- Special course(s) of at least 5 ECTS should be explicitly dedicated to Informatics competencies and concepts.
- All university personnel teaching in teacher education at least in educational sciences and subject didactics – should also possess at least the competencies recommended here for students.





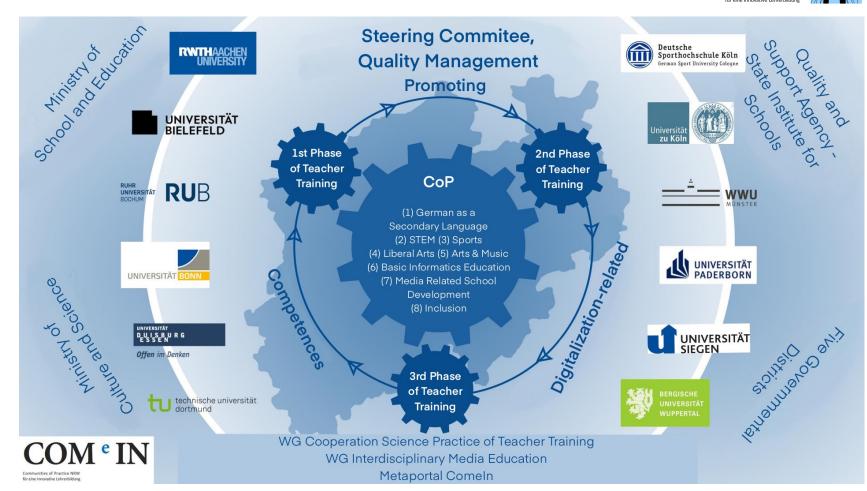


# How can Informatics competencies be included in teacher education?



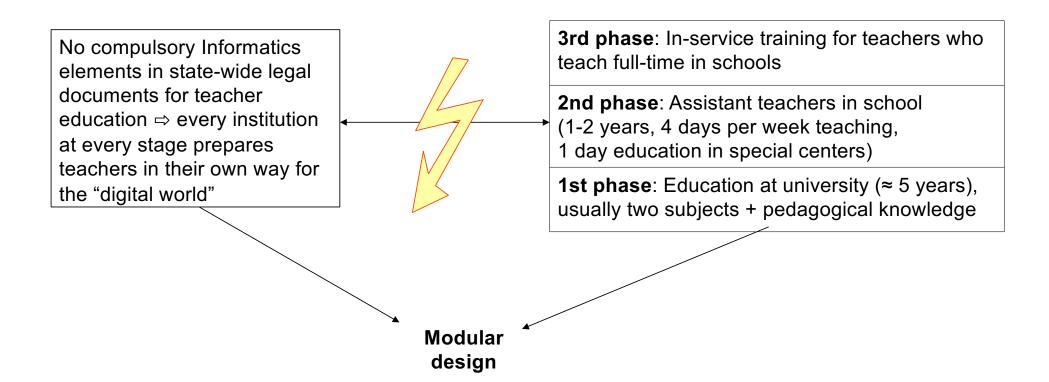
## How can digitalization-related competencies be included in teacher education?







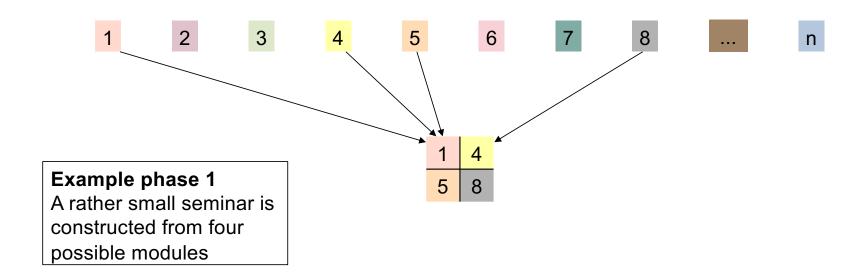








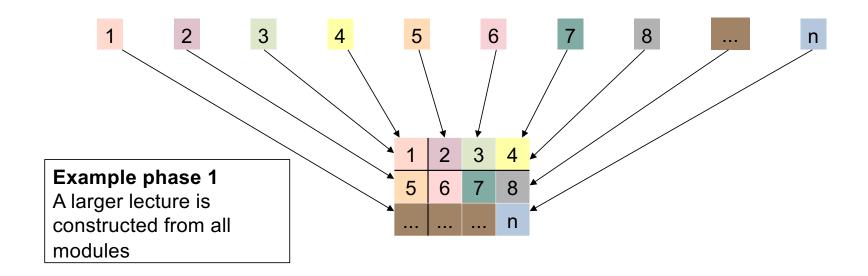
Creation of modular units, that are largely independent of each other and can be used in all phases of teacher education







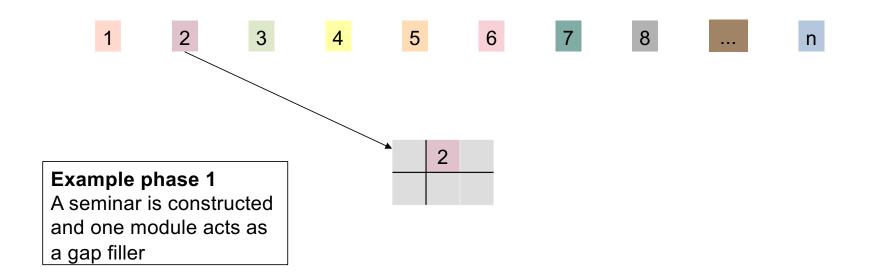
Creation of modular units, that are largely independent of each other and can be used in all stages of teacher education







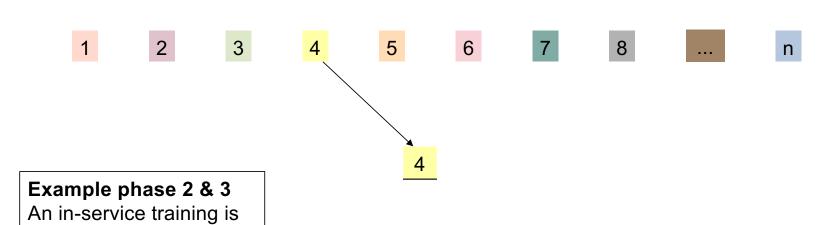
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Creation of modular units, that are largely independent of each other and can be used in all stages of teacher education



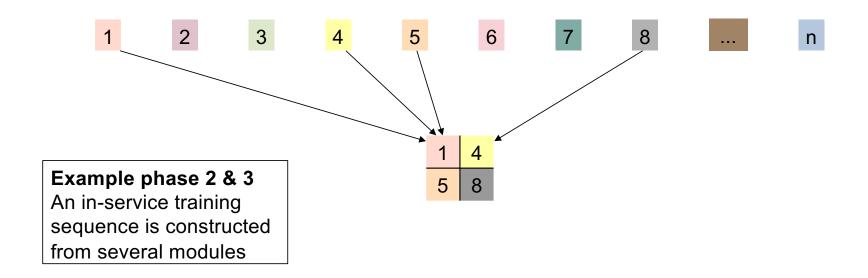


constructed from a single

module



Creation of modular units, that are largely independent of each other and can be used in all stages of teacher education

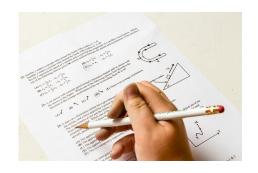




## The CoP Approach – Which topics to include?



Conclusion: All participants from different stages were satisfied with the modular approach. But which topics should be covered?











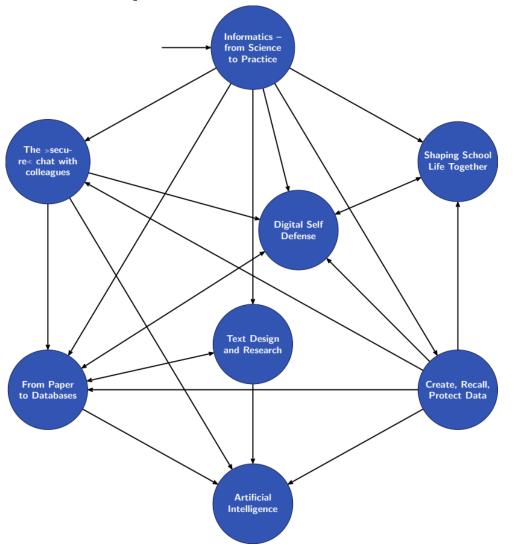


Which informatics competencies are necessary to fulfill these tasks in a competent manner?



### The CoP Approach – Which topics to include?







torsten.brinda@uni-due.de ISSEP 2022

#### The "secure" chat with colleagues



- All teachers communicate with different persons, i. e. with other colleagues, their students, parents, school management etc
- Necessary that all teachers
  - o can assess, which messenger to use for which scenario, based on different criteria
  - understand the models client-server vs. peer-to-peer
  - possess a scientifically correct conception of the structure of the internet as well as communication via internet, along with possible threat-scenarios
- In the interactive lecture, the students
  - o learn about how communication in the internet works
  - o describe their own experiences and requirements for a messenger they would use
  - o establish, check and apply criteria for a secure messenger selection



#### Create, recall and protect data



- All teachers create digital data, e. g. as files, which they transfer to other devices and share with each other
- Files often contain private information about other persons (e. g. grades, addresses, telephone numbers etc.)

Name	Surname	Grade	Contact	Phone	Mail	Remark
Albright	Amalia	7	Anna (M)	0201/123	aa@gmail.com	
Baker	Bridget	7	Barack (F)	0201/456	bb@mail.com	
Clover	Charlie	8	Ben Miller (F)	0201/789	bm@aol.com	Diabetes

What if such data gets lost?



#### Create, recall and protect data



- Necessary that all teachers
  - know how to protect their own data as well as data of other persons from unauthorized access, e. g. by using encryption
  - are able to back up their files and transfer files between devices without violating the protection of data privacy
  - o can assess which apps and programs they can use in conformity with European GDPR
- In the interactive lecture, the students
  - o reflect their own data handling
  - o encrypt and decrypt files, directories or even whole devices
  - o plan and implement backup strategies



#### **Further modules**



- Informatics: from science to practice
  - O What is Informatics?
  - Situations and problems
- Searching the Internet and text design
  - Client, server, protocol
  - Files
  - URLs, hypertext, cookies
  - Search engines (soekia.ch)
  - File formats
  - Document structures
  - LaTeX

- Artificial intelligence
  - Basic terms
  - Machine learning, neuronal networks
  - Al at school
    - Translation
    - Plagiat detection
    - Automatic assessment
- From paper to database
  - Absenteeism management
  - Spreadsheet vs. database
  - Basics of relational databases



#### First experiences and next steps



- Pilot online lecture in summer term 2022 (as an extra-curricular activity)
- Students were interested, but some of them expressed difficulties in understanding basic Informatics terms (such as "source code").
- Most often, students had their cameras switched off and just interacted via chat.
- Students
  - o considered the topics highly relevant for their later school life
  - wished for topics that are relevant for them NOW, i. e. things they could use during their study time at university
- Further experiments will be conducted in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> phase
  - → teaching material needs to be transformed in a more activity-oriented style





# **Summary and conclusions**



#### **Summary and conclusions**



- The digital transformation of the educational system is going forward with major steps.
- This is done by integrating computing systems in teachers' everyday lives.
- In order to develop *digital competences* it is absolutely necessary to develop Informatics competences.
  - → Informatics must become a compulsory part of (all phases of) teacher education.
- Discussion needed with all stakeholders of teacher education:
  - WHY, HOW and WHERE to integrate informatics
  - Mandatory Informatics courses and/or integration in subject courses?
  - Transformation of curricula
- Similar questions and challenges as with bringing a mandatory school subject Informatics forward



#### Your expertise and help are welcome



- We are looking for good practice examples
- GI working group has collected and published some examples (in German): <a href="https://ak-lk-bildung.gi.de/gute-beispiele">https://ak-lk-bildung.gi.de/gute-beispiele</a>
- If you can share further examples, please let the WG know: ak-lebi@gi.de







## Many thanks for your attention! Questions?

#### Contact

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