

NOU 2015: 8 The Future of schooling Renewal of subjects and competences





#### Key questions in the report

- Which competences will become important for the students in their school activities, in further education and work life, and as responsible citizens?
- Which changes are needed in the subjects in order for the students to be able to develop these competences?
- What are the demands for different institutions and actors in the educational system to insure that subject renewal will lead to in-depth learning?



## Building evidence for learning

- What types of evidence?
  - Evidence at different levels research designs and generalizations
  - Evidence in microstructures and interactions
  - Measurement, processes, abstraction and the context
  - Aggregation and transformation of practices
    - Knowledge organizing
    - Differences:
      - Abstracting; sorting key factors
      - Integrated in sequences actions



## Using evidence for change

- What works what is what and what does work means?
- 1=1
- Limitation the boundaries
- The move from empirical results to normative assumption as guidelines
- What should we *not* do from single studies to policy or systemic changes



#### **Future learning**

- Connecting multiple resources
- Interpretation of data (visual, figures, tables etc.)
- Scientific methods and ways of reasoning
- Critical thinking and reasoning and ethical considerations
- Problem solving in digital environments
- Knowledge integration as condition for becoming a involved and participating citizen
  - In-depth learning and learning progression



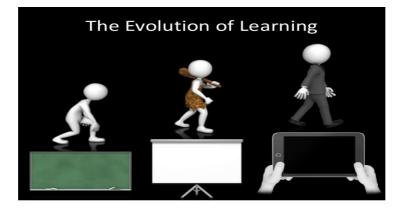


## The need for subject renewal

- Deep trends in the society
- The knowledge foundation
- The objects clause for the Norwegian school system



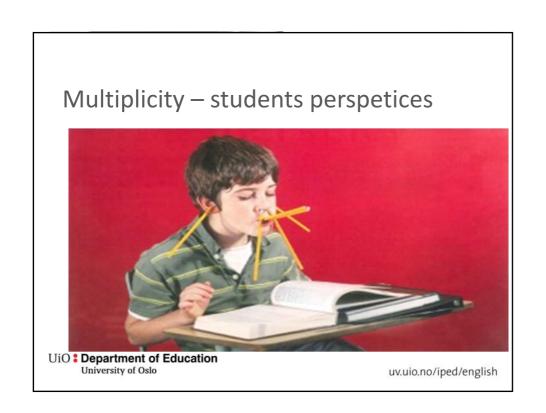
## Learning metaphors



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# Learning metaphors - Distributed cognition



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#### Curriculum overload

- Curriculum «A mile wide and an inch deep» (Smith et al., 1996, s. 68)
  - Information overload
  - Inquiry takes to much time
  - Experiment is relevant, but one can't be sure if the experiences become transformed to concepts
  - Forms of assessment

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## Building blocks in the subject curriculum

- Curriculum overload
- Increased weight on building blocks in the construction of the subject curriculum
  - Methods, ways of reason, concepts and conceptual systems principles and contexts

## Design based research

- Designing for in-depth orientation
  - Hard-to-learn problems
  - Generative ideas and principles
  - Over several weeks

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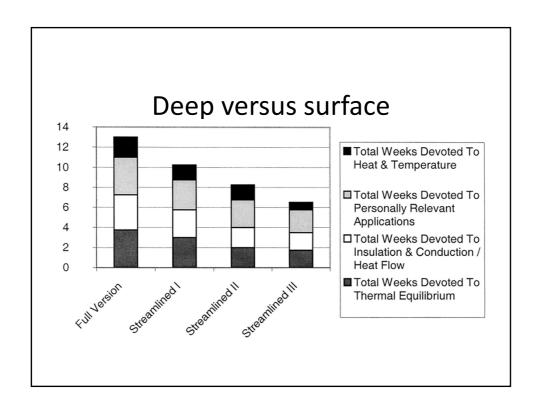
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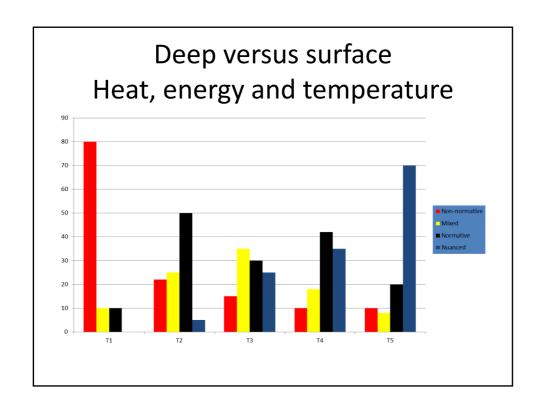
- What can time mean for learning concepts within a conceptual systems
  - Problem: Overload with regards to themes and relation between themes (prior knowledge, connecting, transfer ....)
  - Natural science
  - US 65 themes grade 8
  - Japan 5 themes grade 8
  - Norge closer to the US than Japan

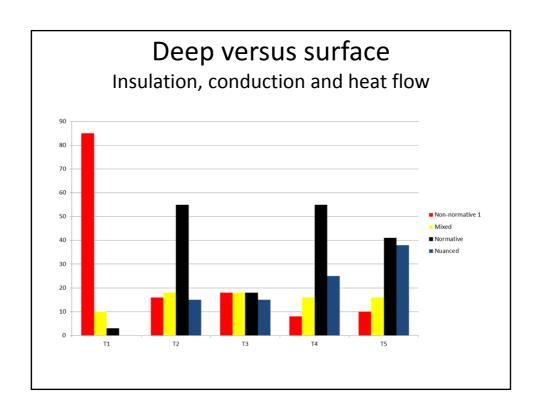
#### Deep versus surface

- Design (M. Linn et al)
- 13 weeks
- 10 weeks
- 8 weeks
- 6 weeks
- Recommmendation 1-2 weeks
- 3000 students multiple choice, knowledge integration items and qualitative methods

- Theme: thermodynamic
- Insulation, conduction and heat flow
- Heat, energy and temperature
- Thermal equilibrium







#### Deep versus surface

- Summary
  - Study of one student
  - 12 weeks
  - 'Thermodynamics' 70-90% of the students develops normative ideas within the themes
  - Reduction of time with 50% then the reduction goes down.....
- To develop good normative understanding approx. 8 weeks
- Students patterns can continue .... Transfer



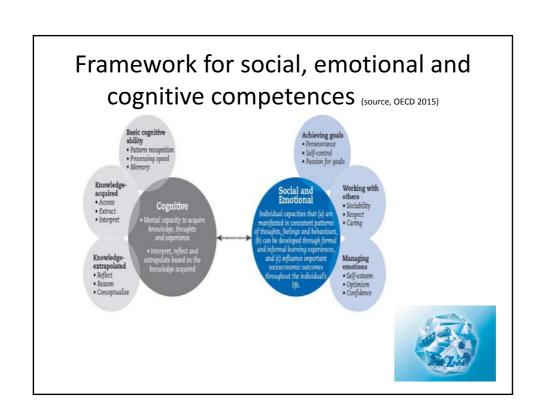
#### In-depth learning and progression

- Robust and flexible understanding
- Transfer to new situations and settings
- Understanding of relationship between concepts and how to use them
- Reflections over the learning processes and outcomes
- Development over time learning trajectories



## In-depth learning and progression

- In-depth learning
  - Cognitive dimension
  - Self-regulation
  - Dialogues advanced talk
  - Validation of arguments in different knowledge domains
  - Generic and domain specific competences





#### A broad concept of competence

 Involves solving problems and dealing with challenges in different context, including cognitive, practical, social and emotional aspects of pupils's learning



#### Subject renewal

- Four areas of competences
- In-depth learning and learning progression
- Building blocks in the subjects
- Cross curriculum themes:
  - Multicultural society, sustainable development and health and well-being



#### How to create change?

- Implementation strategy "all" institutions and actors engaged and involved
- Increased focus on curriculum development and developmental work for municipalities and schools
- Development of competences and capacity building
- Research-based knowledge as foundation for further development

#### Four areas of competences

#### Competences in the subjects/knowledge domains

- Mathematics, science and technology
- Languages
- Social science and ethics
- Art, design, craft, music, physical education, health and nutrition

#### Competences to learn – generic and domain specific

metacognition and self regulation

#### To communicate, collaborate and participate – generic and domain specific

- Competences in reading, writing and oral communication
- Collaboration, participation and democratic compete
- Digital competences

#### To explore, inquire, create –generic and domain specific

- Creativity and innovation
- Critical thinking and problem solving





#### The Committee

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