Open Educational Resources on Integrated Curriculum in SBE Context

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Abstract

The purposes of this research were to 1) design and develop the online scripts and storyboards; and 2) evaluate the online scripts and storyboards. The 2 sample groups were purposively selected from public and private universities, and the public and private organizations. The first sample group composed of 7 content experts, who evaluated the online content scripts in Phase 1: 4 in English language and 3 in French language. The second sample group was 3 experts in Open Educational Resources (OER) and technology who evaluated the online storyboard in Phase 2. The research instruments were the questionnaires and the online scripts and storyboards. The data were analyzed descriptive analysis and narrative
The research results revealed that:
1) the online scripts of the OER on Integrated Curriculum in SBE context for Foreign Language Education, using Blog builder service, comprise of 5 main topics of content: Concepts and Theories, Integrated Curriculum, Process and Examples, OER Hot Links, and French Resources. They are located at the URL: http://oer-mef.blogspot.com/; 2) the online storyboards of the OER website designed by using the model of existing OER sites and Web builder service provider, locating at: http://rosechong.wix.com/oerforeignlang; 3) most content experts agreed with the level of content and the utility and utilization of the offered resources at 93.8%. Very few uncertainties at 6.22% were on the level of language difficulty used and the beneficial for parents and general users. All of experts found that the OER resources can be very useful for teachers, lecturers, and students due to their innovative concepts of free use and open content. The quality of the resources bases mainly on their selection and categorization, as well as the various data formats: text, slide, video and pdf file/ebook; 4) most experts in OER and technology agreed with the design of the online storyboard for OER website at 72.72%. Few disagreements and uncertainties at 4.54 % and at 22.72%, respectively were mainly due to the incomplete development of the content. The emphasis must be paid especially on the use of Creative Commons Licenses.

**Keywords:** OER, Open Educational Resources, Integrated Curriculum in SBE context, Foreign Language Education

**INTRODUCTION**

During the past decades, there have been some changes in the principles and concepts, including objectives, of Thai education. In accordance with the National Education Act B.E. 2542 achieved on August 1999 and amended in 2002, Thai people have equal right to receive basic education that has a quality and free of charge for the duration of at least twelve years. After more than fifteen years of educational reform, Thailand still faces with critical problems of unsuccessful education. Stanley (2013) had cited which teachers seem to be at the center of the causes as follows:

... In 2006, a survey was carried out in collaboration with the University of Cambridge to measure the qualification of 400 Thai English teachers. The revelation was that more than 60% of the English teachers had inadequate knowledge of English and teaching methodology while the other 40% had passing knowledge and teaching skills and 3% of those had reasonable fluency in English. Another revelation was that some teachers were forced to teach English even though they had little or no knowledge of the language. (Saksith Saiyasombut and Siam Voices 2012)

The problems of teachers still lack the knowledge and understanding about Standard-Based Education, especially in Integrated Curriculum field. It will negatively affect the designing of teaching and learning activities in the class. Moreover, the poor English
competency of Thai teacher is unable to benefit from the existing knowledge about Standard-Based Education in the internet. Furthermore, there are great deals of information on the internet but not all of them are categorized and organized. Hence, the OER will help to collect the knowledge for benefit with the educators to study it in the future.

Therefore, the creating a source of learning is easy to access "Open educational resources". It will provide teachers with resources to further their education even more to adapt correctly in their classroom, especially for teaching in integrated curriculum. In addition, the research results had shown that most of French and English language teachers were highly satisfied and aware of the benefits of the open educational resources.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this study were as follows:

1. To design and develop the online scripts and storyboards of the “Open Educational Resources on Integrated Curriculum in SBE context for Foreign Language Education”.

2. To evaluate the online scripts and storyboards of the “Open Educational Resources on Integrated Curriculum in SBE context for Foreign Language Education”.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Population

Foreign language content experts in universities of Thailand and OER and technology experts in universities and organization in Thailand.

Samples

Data were collected from two sample groups: (1) The sample group of 7 content experts: 4 English language lecturers and teacher from 4 following universities: Thammasat University, Rangsit University, Rajabhat Rajanagarindra University and Rajapruk University and 3 French language lecturers from 2 universities: Kasetsart University and Prince of Songkla, Pattani Campus University (2) The sample group of 1 OER expert from Thai Cyber University Project and 2 technology experts from Kasetsart University and IEC Corporation.

Research Instrument

1. Research instruments used to design and develop the sitemap OER were:

   1.1 English and French resources from the World Wide Web were used to design and develop the sitemap for the OER, composing of the main topics and the sub-topics.

2. Research instruments used to design and develop the scripts and storyboards were:

   2.1 Documents and books about script, storyboard and web design were used to design the scripts and storyboards.

   2.2 Blog builder service provider: Blogger.com was used to develop the online script for the content of Integrated Curriculum in SBE context.

   2.3 Web builder service provider: Wix.com was used to develop the online storyboard for the website of Foreign Language Education OER on Integrated Curriculum in SBE context.
3. Research instruments used to collect the data were:

3.1 Web 2.0 tools and services: Google form was used to develop the online questionnaires for the content experts and technology and OER experts.

3.2 Questionnaire for the content experts was used to assess the experts’ opinion toward the content on the online script.

3.3 Questionnaire for the technology expert was used to assess the experts’ opinion toward the design of the OER website of Foreign Language Education OER on Integrated Curriculum in SBE context.

Data Collection

PHASE 1: Information about OER content sitemap “Integrated Curriculum in SBE context”, the URL scripts and the evaluation results

The OER Content Sitemap:

The researcher collected the information about “Integrated Curriculum in SBE context” for sitemap design and development from the WWW, the related documents and books.

The URL Scripts:

The researcher developed the URL scripts in Word file format and the online scripts in Blog format at Blogger.com, using the collected resources from the WWW.

The Evaluation Results from the Content Experts:

The researcher collected the data from the content experts and improved the URL scripts as being suggested.

PHASE 2: Information about the OER website and the evaluation results

The Online Storyboard Design and Development:

The researcher collected the information about the OER website and selected “Jisc” OER website as a model to create the online storyboard, using web builder service provider: Wix.com and the online scripts.

The Evaluation Results from the OER and Technology Experts:

The researcher collected the data from the experts and made the conclusion for the thesis advisory committees. The online storyboard was corrected and improved according to the advices of the committees.

Data Analysis

Percentage, descriptive analysis and narrative descriptions were employed to analyze the data.

RESEARCH FINDINGS

1. The design of Online Scripts of the “Open Educational Resources on Integrated Curriculum in SBE context for Foreign Language Education”

The OER scripts were developed using the script files and Blog builder service, composing of 5 main topics of content with different sub-topics as follows:

**Main Topic 1: Concepts and Theories**
- Sub-topic 1: Related Concept and Theories
- Sub-topic 2: Types and Models

**Main Topic 2: Integrated Curriculum**
- Sub-topic 1: Methodology and Process
- Sub-topic 2: Models and Process

**Main Topic 2: Process and Examples**
- Sub-topic 1: General Curriculums
- Sub-topic 2: Foreign Language Curriculums
Main Topic 3: OER Hotlinks

Sub-topic 1: About OER
Sub-topic 2: Related OER Sites

Main Topic 4: French Resources

2. The evaluate of Online Storyboards of the OER Website

The OER storyboards were developed using the online scripts and Web builder service: Wix.com, the resource links concerning Foreign Language Education in 2 main categories: Curriculum Development and Innovative Instructions as follows:

1. Curriculum Development
   - Integrated Curriculum in SBE context
   - Standards-Based Secondary Curriculum
   - Curriculum Evaluation

2. Innovative Instructions
   - Action-Oriented Approach
   - Active Learning
   - Online Training Management

The Evaluation Results from the Content Experts and the Experts in Technology and OER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Level of Agreement</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Number and Level of Agreement of the Content Experts for the Online Scripts of “Open Educational Resources on Integrated Curriculum in SBE context for Foreign Language Education”: The Content, Utility, and Utilization</td>
<td>153 (93.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Disagreed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Uncertain</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Number and Level of Agreement of Technology and OER Experts for the Design of the Online Storyboard for OER website: Presentation and Technology Used.</td>
<td>48 (72.7%)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Disagreed</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Uncertain</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>15</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For the evaluation results from the content experts, the findings showed that all of the content experts agreed with the content of the online scripts on language level, utility, and utilization at 93.8%. Only 6.22% of the respondents were uncertain with some items about the language level of content, utility, and the utilization of the content. All of them found that the OER resources can be very useful for teachers and lecturers due to their innovative concepts of free use and open content.

For the evaluation results from the technology and OER expert, the findings showed that the design of the online storyboards for OER website concerning Foreign Language Education was satisfactory at 72.72%. Very few disagreements and uncertainties at 4.5% and at 22.72% respectively, were mainly due to the incomplete development of the content. The attention must be paid especially on the use of Creative Commons Licenses and the selection of font sizes and font styles.

DISCUSSION

For the sitemap development, as the literature review were carefully studied, the researcher specifically looked into every detail on Integrated Curriculum in SBE context as the related research concerning the application of this approach in teaching and
learning, the topics of content for the sitemap of the OER were, therefore, designed accordingly to the reviewed information.

Hence, all the content experts agreed with the good design for the OER sitemap concerning all topics.

The ideas concerning the development of online scripts in Blog format came from the knowledge and experience of the researcher on the application of Web2.0 tools and services. The inspiration came from the following description of De Montfort University (2015):

“...Blogs and Wikis are web tools that allow you to share and collaborate on the internet. A blog is short for a web log and can be a useful tool for recording reflections, personal experiences, opinions, to reporting or making commentary on event...”

And of Selwyn, N. (2008):

“...The use of blogs and wikis in education is relatively well established and supports existing pedagogies of reflective writing (the blog) and teamwork (the wiki)...”

The easy to use tool like Blogger.com allows every user to create various types of data presentation, from multimedia to the blog and website development. Not any knowledge on programming language is needed as many tutorials are provided for the use of Blogger.com. (Thomson, 2008)

For the storyboard development, the researcher used Wix.com which is Web builder service to design and develop the online storyboards because of its various functions and features of Web 2.0 Technology.

Many features on this service such as the option for free usage, the various Web templates, and the gallery of many Web components make it very easy for users without the programming knowledge to develop the professional website. In addition, as this Web builder service had gain popularity from wide range of users; the site continues to grow and more innovative features are regularly added like the template with OER characteristics.

However, one expert in technology gave the suggestion about the free service that it can turn into the service with charge in the future.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This research had proved that: 1) the online scripts of the OER for Foreign Language Education on Integrated Curriculum in SBE context, using Blog builder service, comprise 5 main topics of content: Concepts and Theories, Integrated Curriculum, Process and Examples, OER Hot Links and French Resources. They are located at the URL: http://oer-mef.blogspot.com/; 2) the online storyboards of the OER website, were designed, using the model of existing OER sites and Web builder service provider and locating at: http://rosechong.wix.com/oerforeignlang; 3) most of the content experts were agreed with the level of content and the utility and utilization of the offered resources at 93.8 %. Few disagreements at 6.22 % were on the language used in introduction, the content experts and the technology experts. All of them found that the OER resources can be very useful for teachers and lecturers, as well as students and general users due to their innovative concepts of free use and open content. The quality of the resources bases mainly on their selection and categorization, as well as the
various data formats: text, slide, video and pdf file/ebook; 4) most of the experts in OER and technology were agreed with the design of the online storyboard for OER website at 72.72%. Very few disagreement and uncertainty, respectively at 4.54% and at 22.72%, were mainly due to the incomplete.

I recommend that before developing the website using the scripts and storyboards of the “Open Educational Resources on Integrated Curriculum in SBE context for Foreign Language Education”, the new developers should study the usage models and methods of the OER website.

References


