

Session: BEST+ Webinar - international student experience

Aim of session: 1) Creating a comfortable learning environment, where the participants know each other,
2) Preparing the participants for the physical training, by starting a discussion on international student experiences.

Material needed: None; this is an online session.

Time of session: Around 1.5 hours

Description of session: The text for the course material page can be very short: “This is the introduction webinar in which we will get to know each other and discuss some of the answers from the online assignments.”

The trainer needs to create an online meeting and post the link so that all participants can see it. GoToMeeting is a tool which works well for webinars like this. It is recommended that the participants are reminded that they should open the link about 10 minutes before the start, so that eventual technical issues can be solved before that.

The trainer needs to spend a considerable time to prepare for this webinar, which essentially consists of three parts:

1. Introduction of the participants and getting to know each other;
2. Discussion on the assignment about the UK report;
3. Discussion on the assignment about the student survey.

The first part can be facilitated by someone else than the other two parts, but it can also be the same trainer.

He/she then needs to moderate the discussions. Since the participants do not know each other at this stage, they might be shy in the beginning.

Regarding point 2 and 3, it is rather likely that the participants have identified different issues/challenges, and it is important that the trainer can jump in and comment on the points that come up.

Other notes: If the webinar is recorded, it is important that all participants are made aware of this before the start.