A model: Integrating Humanities into Science and Engineering Programs

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First Experiences as Director of Humanities

Challenge:

Develop a program that would bring about a transdisciplinary understanding of sciences and engineering that should transpire into students’ mindset and attitudes.

Meetings with Consulting Committee of the Humanities Dept at UTEC.

Insights:

- “As CEO, most of my job is related to talent management” (Humberto Nadal - CEO of Cementos Pacasmayo)
- “Empower students to the point they develop a voice of their own so they can stand up for themselves” (Roberto Lerner - Psychoanalyst)
- “Make it fun for students!” (Humberto Polar - Publicist)
Envisioning the program & landing a structure

First structure responded to managerial needs and a linear understanding of coordination and responsibilities.

- Finding the right co-pilots
- Content-centered

Second structure responded to a competencies development focus and a cyclical understanding of education.

- Learner-centered
- Transdisciplinary Faculty
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Current Structure of Humanities Program

- Governance & Power
- Developing Economies
- Global Challenges
- Negotiation and Leadership
- Personal Branding
- Ethics & Tech
- English 1-2
- English 3-4
- Comm. Lab
- Intro. to business
- Scaling a business
- Innovation & Product Development
- Critique of Modernity
- Elective courses in English
Implemented strategies so far

- Educational Model: Integrated Learning Experience
- 10 min. introductory meditation/breathing exercises in Communication Labs 1, 2 & 3
- Transdisciplinary courses (e.g. Peru: Industrial Country?, Geopolitics of Water, The origin of the Cosmos, Designing Fictions)
- Disruptive workshops: voices hacking the system
- Transdisciplinary profile of faculty and co-teaching experiences
- “UTEC goes Quechua” initiative
Next steps

- Partnership with Transdisciplinary Studies Program at Purdue
- Transdisciplinary trend: Faculty development programs
- Collaborative courses: Humanities + Engineering