Hochschulforum Digitalisierung –
German Forum for Higher Education in the Digital Age

Hochschulforum Digitalisierung (HFD) orchestrates the discourse on higher education in the digital age.

As an innovation driver, it informs, advises and connects stakeholders from higher education institutions, politics, business and society.

Founded in 2014, HFD is a joint initiative by Stifterverband, CHE Centre for Higher Education and the German Rectors' Conference (HRK). It is financed by Germany's Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

Collaboration is key!

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HFD-Community Working Group and Whitepaper "Digital Assessment in Higher Education"

- Urgent topic in the HEI community - HFD Call for **Community Working Group** members in Spring 2021
  → more than **80 members** from Germany, Austria and Switzerland engage in CWG in **7 thematic groups**

- **>40 Co-authors** provide expertise and summarise their lessons learnt and findings, including 20 **practical examples** for assessment in HE

- Whitepaper provides an **overview** and **orientation** for HE staff and offers **recommendations**
  → **English version** will be published in Summer

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Digitale Prüfungen in der Hochschule

Whitepaper einer Community Working Group aus Deutschland, Österreich und der Schweiz

Herausgeber:innen

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https://hochschulforumdigitalisierung.de/de/news/digitale-pruefungen-hochschule-whitepaper

Scenarios

Digital examinations as on-campus exams

Digital remote examinations / online examinations outside the HEIs

Online oral exams

Digital examinations with third-party applications

Online proctored exams

E-portfolios

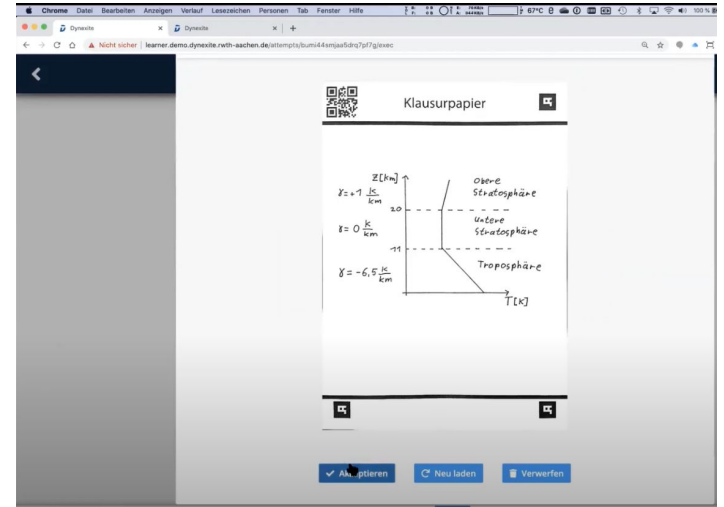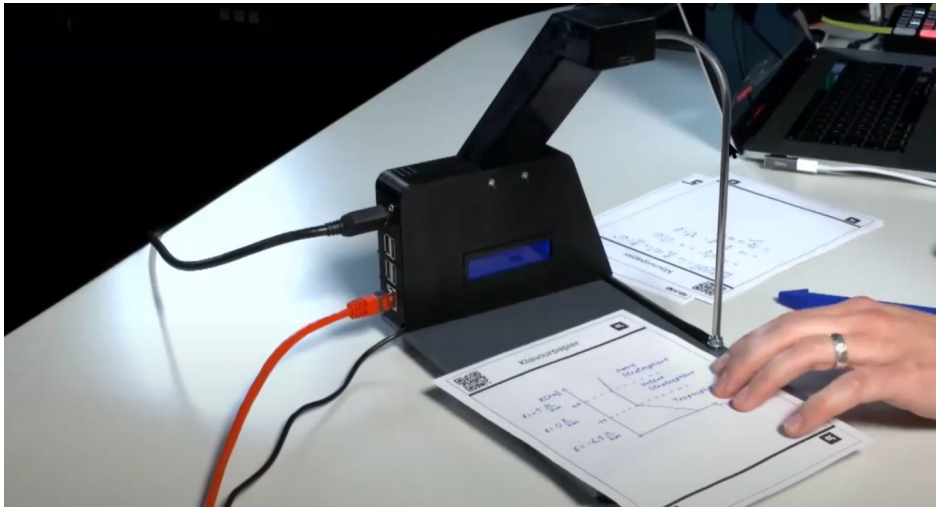Digital open-book and take-home exams

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Examples from practice

- **Digital examinations as on-campus exams**
  - Quick-E-Scan as at **RWTH Aachen University**

Demo (DE): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ud6bbpV4bEk

Examples from practice

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- **Digital examinations with third-party applications**
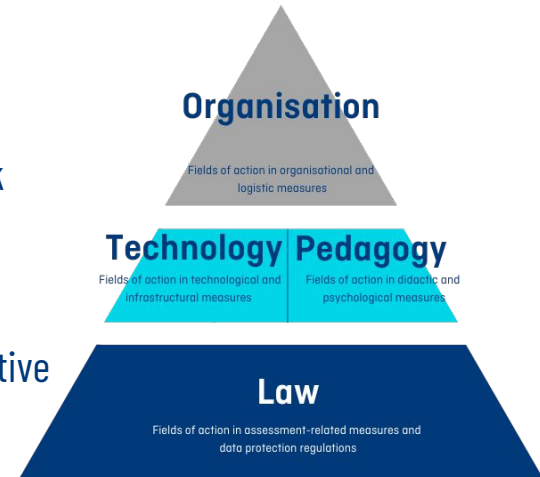 - Examinations with virtual desktop infrastructure and Safe Exam Browser at **ETH Zurich**

See also: https://blogs.ethz.ch/letblog/tag/safe-exam-browser/ and https://safeexambrowser.org/about_overview_en.html

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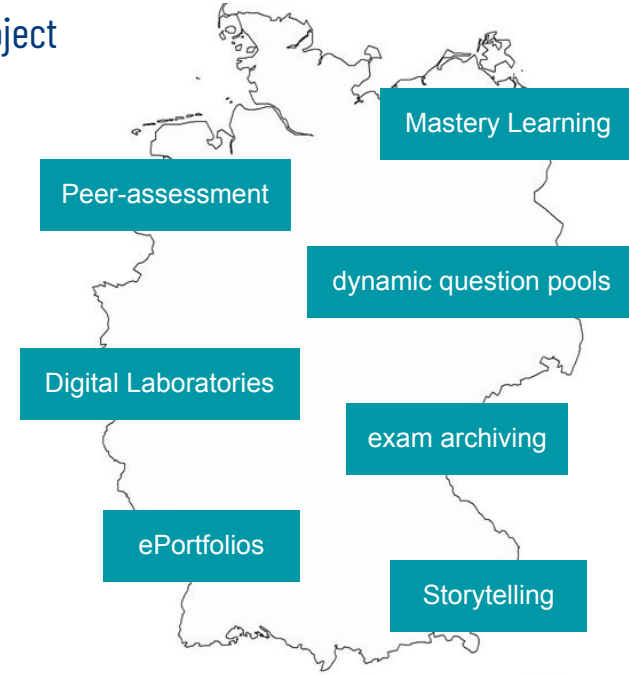Digitalisierung

Fields of Action:

- **LAW:** i.a. data protection and examination law requirements, conditions and measures
  → Possibilities of deception control correspond to the analogous on-campus examination

- **TECHNOLOGY**: i.a. measures for technical-infrastructural framework conditions
  → Infrastructure: complete standardisation, simplified maintainability

- **PEDAGOGY:** i.a. measures for the implementation of concepts that precisely interlock examination content with teaching/learning objectives
  → design of a variety of examination scenarios

- **ORGANISATION:** i.a. measures for the implementation of concepts for the administrative organisation and planning of digital examinations
  → direct points of contact and exchange between the HEI and the lecturers on questions of examination design and implementation of examinations

Organisation
Fields of action in organisational and logistic measures

Technology
Fields of action in technological and infrastructural measures

Pedagogy
Fields of action in didactic and psychological measures

Law
Fields of action in assessment-related measures and data protection regulations

White Paper (2022): Four fields of action: Law, technology, pedagogy, organisation.

Prüfung hoch III drei - 'Assessment to third'

- Three initiatives from three German universities joined forces for this project

- **Aim**: holistic approach to stakeholder-oriented development of digital assessments
    - mapping review of research studies in the field
    - learning from shared good practices
    - supporting transfers from strategic development into action

- **Fields of Action**: Didactics | Technology | Networking

- Incentives for innovation: **Fellowships**
    - **to foster innovative ideas and "out of the box" thinking**
    - to support development, planning, and implementation

Mastery Learning

Peer-assessment

dynamic question pools

Digital Laboratories

exam archiving

ePortfolios

Storytelling

Challenges and opportunities in digital assessment

Key Challenges:

- Creating long-term framework conditions and **legal certainty** (e.g. privacy)

- Numerous terms require **fundamental clarification** for further discourse

- Inequality in **technical equipment and competencies** of students

Opportunities:

- Strengthening **strategy development** within HEIs

- Facilitation of **competence-oriented** and real-life examination

- **Organizational facilitation** during and after examination (e.g. communication)

The international perspective – International re-assessment of assessment

Digital assessment is a cornerstone for transforming international academic cooperation and exchange.

Let´s use the momentum of the last 2years:

- **comparing experiences** on flexible assessment solutions;

- **find consensus** beyond national HE-systems on terms and definitions;

- **review assessment practices** and make it a strategic development priority;

- **extend collaboration** for (digital) assessment on an international level;

- pave the way towards **seamless mobility for lifelong learners**.

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