

Name: Mag. Petra Kletzenbauer

Title: Challenges and Perspectives of CLIL Practice in Higher Education: Linguistic and pedagogical initiatives at the University of Applied Sciences

Advisor: A.O. Prof. Dr. Margit Reitbauer

Abstract

In response to increased international cooperation, mobility and profiling within the European context, the Department of Computer Sciences at the FH JOANNEUM offers a Master's Degree Programme taught in English, which is considered to be the Lingua Franca of academia. However, adapting the concept of Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) for this specific educational setting also poses some challenges as CLIL methodologies and practical experiences with such an approach are completely missing. For example, many CLIL initiatives tend to be in the form of lecturing-like classes where the focus is put on the content but not on the language. Hence, interaction and communication in the foreign language are reduced to a minimum and there is no verbalization of explicit language learning goals. Seeking to implement the concept successfully, this thesis will explore pedagogical and linguistic initiatives necessary to exploit the full potential of CLIL in Higher Education. It is hoped that an outcome of the research will be a series of recommendations for future Master Degree Programmes taught in a foreign language.