

Promoting student agency in an open learning environment in higher education

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Agency in education  
The capacity to intentionally and reflectively construct one’s learning path and influence one’s functioning and circumstances. We focus on Social-cognitive perspective. (Bandura, 2006; 2018)

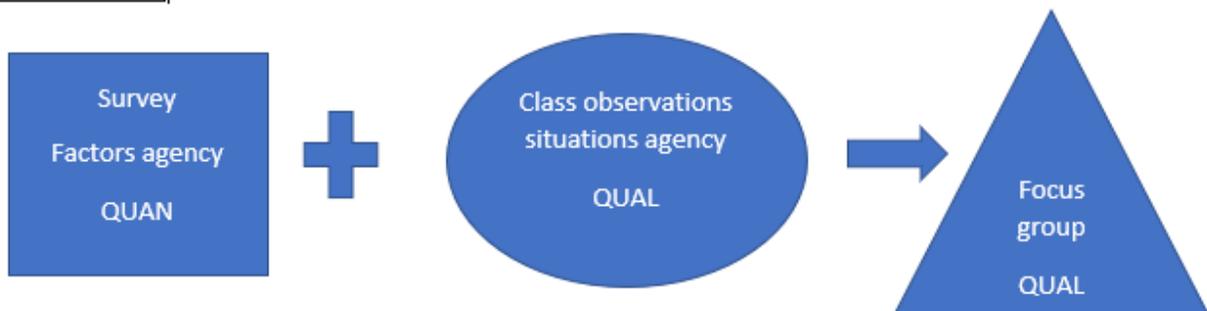
The learning environment  
Agency develops in the social context (Bandura, 2018; Biesta & Tedder, 2017).  
An **open learning environment** can promote students’ agency (Bovill et al., 2016; De Bruin & Verkoeijen, 2022; Hannafin et al., 2013).



*How do students and teachers perceive the **factors** that are put forward as fostering **student agency** in an **open learning environment**?*

25-50 first-year <b>students</b> and 4 <b>teachers</b>	Open learning environment of a UAS
Follow them during one year with a mixed methods explanatory design	

3x during year



### Survey

<b>personal factors</b>	competence beliefs, self-efficacy, interest and utility values, and intentionality
<b>learning skills</b>	forethought, self-reactiveness, self-reflectiveness and help seeking
<b>Relational factors</b>	equal treatment, teacher support, safe learning climate and peer support
<b>Educational design factors</b>	agentic engagement, influence in learning outcomes, learning activities, assessment, content, study material and coaching

### Class observations

<b>Interactions and group dynamics</b>	Relational factors	equal treatment, teacher support, safe learning climate and peer support
<b>Space to influence</b>	Educational design factors	agentic engagement, influence in learning outcomes, learning activities, assessment, content, study material and coaching

### Focus groups

1.	Reaching consensus about three factors (survey) and two agency situations (observations)
2.	All participants explain their meaning of each factor (no consensus needed).
3.	All participants explain their meaning of the two situations (no consensus needed).
4.	All participants explain whether and why the factors and situations are (not) important for student agency.

### References

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