



AnalytiikkaÄly

Information letter for pilot research participants

AnalytiikkaÄly –project, autumn 2020

AnalytiikkaÄly (=AnalyticsAI) -project

The AnalytiikkaÄly –project (Ministry of Education and Culture funding 2018-2020) investigates and develops new ways of supporting fluent studying at universities by using learning analytics. AnalytiikkaÄly is a cooperative project of Aalto University, University of Tampere, University of Oulu, University of Eastern Finland, University of Lapland, University of Turku, and Lappeenranta-Lahti University of Technology. Learning analytics refers to the use of data generated by learning and studying events to support students, advisors, programme leaders and university leaders in planning, monitoring and designing fluent study paths. Analytics can be used, for example, to detect obstacles slowing down study progression, support independent organised studying, fluent progressing of studies and produce information to support academic advising.

Student tool piloting

During academic year 2020-2021 AnalytiikkaÄly is piloting a learning analytics tool for students at the University of Oulu. The aim is to investigate how this tool can help the students to plan and monitor the progress in their studies. This pilot will provide valuable student feedback about the tool and ideas for further development.

Students participating in the piloting will have unlimited access to the tool during the academic year 2020-2021 and will use their study credentials for the access.

Piloting will gather data for research and development purposes. Research data collection is coordinated by University of Oulu, AnalytiikkaÄly project researchers. The collected data will be used for research and for the development of learning analytics tools and usage practices in the University of Oulu. Information about the student experience and feedback will be collected using Webropol questionnaires and interviews. Students experiences and feedback will be gathered three times during the academic year 2020-2021 during organised sessions or an e-mail invitation with the link to the questionnaire.

Piloting and information gathered from the participants

Data used in the tool: The piloted learning analytics tool uses data such as programme structures, student's personal study plans and study performance to produce visualization and estimations presented in the tool. All data used in the tool is already available in the University of Oulu study registry and no data input by student is required to use the tool.

Data gathered as feedback: Student's feedback is gathered using questionnaires and interview. Questions in the questionnaire ask about student's education background, learning strategies, education support needs, user experiences and assessments of how the tool should be developed further. Interview will be focused on student's in-depth experiences of the tool use and their study situation. To better understand the use of the tool during the academic year and its connection to the academic success we also ask students to provide their student ID in the questionnaires. This information will be used to combine data about student's continuous tool use (counting the use of the tool) and feedback. Contact information will be used to contact students willing to participate in the interview and/or to send the link to the questionnaire.

Data about academic results: Additionally, students can give consent to AnalytiikkaÄly researchers to use their student ID to access and utilize their academic results data (results of academic year 2020-2021 and academic results used for enrolling to University of Oulu) for research and development purposes.

Students will be able to give separate consents for participation in interviews, answering questionnaires and use of their academic results data. Student's ID and contact information will be deleted from the dataset and will not be used further when it is no longer needed for the research purposes (the data will be pseudonymized).

Participating in research

Participation is voluntary and the participants will be asked for their consent to participate. Collected research materials will be kept confidential, in accordance with good scientific practice, and only accessible to the researchers responsible for the research activities. For more information about the project, you can contact:

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