

Project report
mosaique magazine –
“MOSMAG”

Seminar: “A House for everyone: Be a Part of The mosaique!”
Modul: Komplementärstudium, Praxisorientierte Zugänge zu inter-
und transdisziplinären Wissenschaften
Prüferin: Corinna Krome
Semester: Sommersemester 2018
Abgabetermin: 15.09.2018

Name: Ariane Stabel

Content

Introduction	3
Importance of the project and goals	4
Course of the Project	5
Achievements	6
Reflection on team work and personal performance	7
Team work	7
Personal Performance	9
Summary and outlook	10
Bibliography	11
Statement of Authorship	12

Figures

Figure 1: Table of contents of MOSMAG	6
Figure 2: Screenshot of task distribution from spreadsheet	8
Figure 3: Team photo	9

Introduction

Writing a magazine is like creating a mosaïque. It is made of many different articles and contributions and it will only be a good piece of work if it is coherent and build on consensus. The present project report is the summary of the group work on the mosaïque magazine (“MOSMAG”) that was planned, written, edited and printed in the past months of the summer semester 2018 within the complementary seminar “A House for everyone: Be a Part of The mosaïque!” given by Corinna Krome at the Leuphana University Lüneburg.

The project report gives an overview of the importance of the project, the goals, the course of the project, the achievements and finally a personal reflection on the team work and the personal performance.

The mosaïque is a place in Lüneburg that was opened in March 2018 with the vision of providing a house for people of all origins, regardless of their religion, nationality, culture and beliefs. It is a place for common learning, meeting people with different social backgrounds, participating in collective activities, living together, getting advice and being in a “respectful, supportive, multilingual environment” (Mosaïque e.V. 2018).

Creating and fostering multicultural spaces to meet other people, to be with and next to each other and to actively shape those places is inevitable for a peaceful cooperation in social places (Krummacher, Waltz 2002: 97).

The seminar gives students of the Leuphana University the opportunity to get active for and with the mosaïque by choosing and executing a project that is supporting the idea and the agenda of the mosaïque.

The mosaïque magazine group issued a printed magazine and an online version that informs about recent, regular and upcoming events in the mosaïque and in Lüneburg with multicultural and peaceful aims. Furthermore, it is a medium that provides space for artistic contributions like poems from people in and around Lüneburg and the mosaïque. It also includes personal stories and portraits. The magazine aims to complement the medial presence, to spread the idea of a peaceful togetherness and to generally introduce people to the mosaïque and to document the work of the seminar. I chose to work on the articles “Humans of Lüneburg” as well as the “Basic Fact Sheet”. Temporarily I kept contact with Corinna Krome.

Importance of the project and goals

The magazine has several functions for both the mosaïque and the students involved. That makes it a valuable tool as it is an interface between the medial presence and promotion for the mosaïque and the commitment by the students of the seminar. Good public relations are crucial to the development of intercultural projects as well as networking with other local stakeholders (Krummacher, Waltz 2002: 100). The magazine hopes to add to these tasks of the mosaïque.

Further, it gives passionate poets, writers and creative heads a stage, explains common terminology of migration that is often mistaken and gives very personal insights into peoples' lives.

The work of the mosaïque magazine, that includes giving voice to people from various cultural backgrounds, is important because being in an active contact with other cultures and accepting and recognizing other peoples' values is necessary in order to gain intercultural competences, i.e. to act adequately (Haller, Nägele 2013: 23).

Furthermore, „[d]ialogue and education are the two most essential concepts that are critical to our ability to tackle some of the biggest problems we are facing all around the globe in the twenty-first century, namely, ignorance and lack of dialogue. This results in antagonism, hatred and animosity towards the other.“ (Race 2018: v). According to William Howe and Penelope Lisi there are four main criteria for development in multicultural education: Knowledge, Awareness, Skills and Action (Race 2018: 4). A magazine like the MOSMAG can function as mediator of awareness and knowledge and can promote action and foster intercultural dialogue.

In Lüneburg there is not yet such a magazine project. The facility “Über den Tellerrand e.V.” with a regional site in Lüneburg and a vision similar to the mosaïque has a newsletter that informs about recent developments and upcoming events. However, it is not that specific to the local site as the mosaïque magazine is. The local newspaper “Was zählt” is dedicated to sustainable change and development in Lüneburg and therefore has a much broader content. Similar to the mosaïque magazine they publish a printed newspaper which is published once or twice a year (Was zählt 2018).

The MOSMAG is aimed at people in and around Lüneburg that are interested in intercultural experiences and learning, in the activities at the mosaïque and other related events in the town. It is supposed to appeal to groups with different socioeconomic status and should be

accessible for all English and German speaking (and reading) people and thanks to the online version it is not limited to the printed number of copies.

The overall aim is to create a magazine that is content wise attention-catching and visually appealing. It should inform people that have never heard of the mosaïque about this facility so that it gets well-known in Luneburg but also in other cities that might one day build up something similar. For people who have already heard about the mosaïque, the magazine is a great opportunity to get a deeper insight and to invite those to upcoming events. Apart from the direct link to the mosaïque, the magazine is supposed to enhance intercultural understanding and to help people change the perspective. It is also an invitation to get involved with one of the many initiatives in Luneburg.

Course of the Project

On the second meeting with the whole project seminar the magazine group of eight people was founded. Even though the biggest of all groups, the group felt that it was an appropriate size as the work can be well distributed into individual tasks. To get a first impression of the tasks, the group wrote a checklist. The checklist included points like aim, necessity, time frame and course, cooperation partners, public relations and financial resources.

On that day the group firstly brainstormed what they would like the magazine to be about, what articles could be part of it, where it could be available and who takes which role within the group (see below in *Team work*).

The group decided Friday morning to be their weekly meeting day which would be later changed to Thursday.

The initial time frame proposed some milestones to be achieved on certain dates for example, to have a final table of content by the end of May, to actually start researching, interviewing and writing the articles in June, to make the layout in July and, of course, to print the magazine in the middle of July. Knowing that often such project work takes longer than expected, the group planned with lots of buffer time and regularly adjusted deadlines.

During the first meetings in May the group finalised the content and distributed the articles among the group members.

By the end of May the group started preparing and writing the articles and during May and June they went to regular and extraordinary events in the Mosaïque but also in Luneburg. For

example, the weekly Yoga class, the “Coraci” Festival and of course the events planned by the fellow students like “mosaique cooks”.

June was the month to interview people, to think about a layout, to research printing companies and to share and reread articles.

In July the group could finish all content and the people responsible for the layout spent some long hours designing everything. By mid of July the first PDF draft was finished and while the group was busy with exams and being on holiday Corinna Krome and Eva Kern from the mosaïque read it. Some small changes were made before it could be finally sent to the printing company by mid of September. Besides the delay of the printing the group stuck quite well with the estimated time table.

Achievements

The magazine is a great success for the group. Everyone contributed great content and lots of creativity even though the group could not include all the articles they thought of in the first few meetings due to lack of time. The group hopes that all facilities and persons presented in the magazine feel adequately represented but the group is confident to meet all expectations. The group definitely achieved the goals to represent the mosaïque, the intercultural scene of the town and to introduce people from Lüneburg with their different characters and stories. Furthermore, the informative part about migration was successfully integrated as well as the reporting of the other project groups.

Given the fact that it is a bilingual magazine, it is not limited to German speaking readers which is a great success because it cannot be taken for granted that a magazine of such extent is printed in two languages.

The goal to be a publisher for artistic contributions from outside the group could not be fully met. It was difficult to get such material as there was only one contribution sent to the group after they distributed the “Spread Your Word”- flyer.

Unfortunately, the group could not get a similar printing offer like the previous magazine group got. That resulted in a lot of research for the best offer and many consultations with



Inhaltsverzeichnis	
ÜBER DAS MOSAIQUE	
◇ SCHON VON MOSAIQUE GEHÖRT?	
◇ MOSAIQUE KOMPASS	
◇ EINE NOCHE IM MOSAIQUE	
◇ INITIATIVENKOMPASS	
GESPRÄCHSSTOFF	
◇ DATEN UND FAKTEN	
◇ LET'S TALK ABOUT...	
LEBEN IN LÜNEBURG	
◇ HUMANS OF LÜNEBURG	
◇ WAS IST DENN HIER LOS?	
◇ WELTEN-BRECHER THEATER	
PROJEKTGRUPPEN	
◇ MEET AND EAT	
◇ WOMEN & CHILDREN'S DAY	
◇ EINSCHALTEN, MOSAIQUE	
KULTUR UND EVENTS	
◇ KULTURKALENDER	
◇ „SPREAD YOUR WORD“	

Figure 1: Table of contents of MOSMAG

Corinna Krome. The expectation to be finished by mid of July could neither be met, but that was not so much a surprise and ultimately it didn't really matter whether it was distributed in July or September.

One of the highlights is the layout that the subgroup came up with. While all articles are individually designed they still have a common colouring and it is clearly visible that it is one magazine with one style.

Reflection on team work and personal performance

Team work

The team work was marked by a very friendly and respectful atmosphere and all ideas were heard and tried to be incorporated. The meetings were generally held in the traditional bar "PONS" at the heart of the city. Surrounded by many other people and mostly sitting outside next to the water it almost felt like an evening with friends so that those meetings hardly felt like an obligatory appointment but rather like free time.

As we had one member that was not familiar with the German language we actually stuck with the English language all the time. Due to different levels of English some members were clearly more active but also the different personalities were visible in the amount of participation. Still, it was never a problem to translate ideas and in terms of correctness of the English written texts it was of great advantage to have an English native speaker.

We communicated via a Facebook group where we organised and confirmed meetings, updated each other about progress, asked questions that needed to be decided commonly and commented on proposals.

For the material, that means protocols of the meetings, final texts, photos etc. we initially wanted to use a platform called "Asana", but some members were not able to upload documents, so we changed to "Google Drive".

While a big group size was generally advantageous, finding dates that fitted everyone's calendar was even more difficult. Most times one or two members were absent.

It really helped to meet almost weekly so that we were always updated about the other peoples' progress. However, we noted that those full-group meetings were of less importance in the course of the project as everyone was working individually or within the subgroups that were assigned to the articles.

	Content	Date	Person responsible	Photos	Pages
1	Table of contents				2
2	Welcome-photostrip		Everyone		
3	What is mosaïque?		Laura, Stella		2
4	Mosaïque compass		Pauline		2
	Weekly events				
	1. Yoga		Arie		
5	2. Bewegungsatelier		Stella		2
	3. Energy Dance		Pauline		
	4. Jam Sessions		Ariane		
6	Initiative compass		Yannic		4
7	article about WLC		Yannic		1
8	Article about racism + coraci festival		Stella, Laura	Cherie (coraci)	
9	Humans of Lüneburg		Laura, Cherie, Kristina		4
10	How to live in Germany		Cherie, Arie		2
11	Culture + Events calendar		Pauline		2
12	Basic fact sheet		Ariane, Arie		4
	Project Groups				
	1. Children's Day	23, June			
	2. Radio Group	3, July	Yannic		
13	3. Cooking	20, June			4
	4. goes to school	28, June			
	5. Finance				
				number of pages:	29

Figure 2: Screenshot of task distribution from spreadsheet

The following tasks were formally distributed to the people:

Coordinator (Yannic), contact person (Laura), layout (Pauline, Cherie, Kristina), journalists (all of the group members), photos (Cherie, Ariane), English text editing (Arie).

In the course of the project it turned out that the responsibilities assigned to those tasks shifted to responsibilities for articles. That means that people mostly took the photos for their article themselves and coordinated their article among the subgroups that emerged.

Very consistent was the “Sunday News” that Laura wrote every week to inform the fellow students from the seminar about our progress. I would like to highlight that this very structured and organized way of working was surely a result of the recommendations and instructions Corinna Krome gave us in the seminar. The necessity to write the Sunday news made it impossible to be inactive. Also, the tools we got in the seminar, for example the checklist, were really helpful for maintaining a productive work. That suits my experience that the right amount of pressure is very valuable. Overall, the project work for the mosaïque magazine was in regard to several aspects very special and differed from usual group work in university. This was mainly due to a different -more intense- feeling of responsibility for the outcome, as well as the organization of the working structure. What also made a big difference was the fact that we worked on something that would actually be published and not just be read by a professor like a normal paper.



Figure 3: Team photo

Personal Performance

I remember one of the first meetings with the seminar when we were supposed to estimate how much time we could put into the project per week. For me it was hard to estimate, and I had not yet realised how much work my other modules would be in that semester. I often had the feeling not to contribute enough or simply a bit less than the others. Retrospectively, I think this is a very important point that should be well communicated among the members so that nobody feels bad or stressed about doing less or doing most of the tasks due to different amounts of time available. Luckily, I think we were all doing approximately as much as we could and as we wanted. I was a bit disappointed from myself that I didn't make it to a single event from the other seminar groups nor from the mosaïque. When I first chose in which of the proposed projects I would like to work I decided on the magazine, hoping I could contribute with texts and photos, as I am a passionate photographer and every now and then I

quite enjoy writing texts. I had planned to take photos of several of those events but in the end, I could only provide my camera but not my presence because I am often outside of Lunenburg at the weekends.

I personally didn't expect this seminar to be that time consuming when I chose the seminar but the effort was definitely worth it.

What I experienced in our group meeting was that we moved on really fast. That meant that missing one meeting kind of excluded you from the process as new tasks were mostly distributed among the members that were present.

As mentioned before the working process was well organized and I realized that I am a person that needs deadlines and a little bit of time pressure to have the best results. Yet it was good that those due dates could be adjusted.

With hindsight I would still choose the magazine from all the projects as I liked the work of researching, interviewing and writing. Yet I would have also liked to be in one of the projects that got in close contact with for example the women and children from the refugee home. My work for this seminar was mostly among my group and on my desk. I am aware that this could have been different if I had visited the other events and the events taking place in the mosaïque.

One of the most remarkable moments was the Skype-Interview with Brendan Woodhouse. It was a far more personal approach to the crisis that is prevalent in the Mediterranean Sea. The interview provoked an ongoing interest for Brendan's work and the articles he publishes on his Facebook page. The approach of the seminar to get in touch with people who fled their home countries and at the same time to look at the crisis that causes and accompanies those flights made the seminar an intense and interesting experience. It was good that there was enough time for discussions and personal feelings during the seminar sessions. Even though it was a very practical seminar, it did not lack informative parts. I learnt for example the precise definitions and differences of terminology like "Refugee", "Internally Displaced Person" or "trafficking". As a publisher of a magazine questions on the legal aspects of publishing a photo had to be clarified.

Summary and outlook

Summing up, the project was carried out with a lot of effort and passion for the magazine. I am more than happy with the outcome and very thankful for such a pleasant group work. The magazine is diverse and accessible to many people due to the English version and the digital

version. I learnt a lot about successful group work, the role of expectations and checklists, timetables and distribution of work. I would have liked to contribute a bit more but unfortunately, I was rather restricted in my time this semester.

For future mosaïque magazines it would be advantageous to have an established cooperation with a printing company. Apart from that there should be developed a better strategy to get guest contributions. The “Spread Your Word” flyer and the myStudy announcement were rather ineffective. Maybe it would be better to ask people personally. Maybe the Welcome and Learning Centre could encourage participants of language courses to write something. After writing and talking so much about the mosaïque in the past months I am really motivated to be a part of the mosaïque in the future!

Bibliography

Haller, Peter M.; Nägele, Ulrich (2013): *Praxishandbuch Interkulturelles Management*. Wiesbaden: Springer Gabler.

Krummacher, Michael; Waltz, Viktoria (2002): Einbürgerung/ Nichteinbürgerung und was dann?, in: Henning Storz, Carolin Reißlandt (Hrsg.), *Staatsbürgerschaft im Einwanderungsland Deutschland*. Opladen: Leske + Budrich.

Mosaïque e.V. (2018): *About mosaïque*, [online] <http://mosaique-lueneburg.de/en/projekt/> [10.09.2018].

Race, Richard (Editor) (2018): *Advancing Multicultural Dialogues in Education*. [E-Book online] <https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007%2F978-3-319-60558-6.pdf> . Palgrave Macmillan.

Was zählt: Magazin für eine lebenswerte Zukunft in der Region Lüneburg (2018): *Über Was zählt*, [online] <http://was-zaehlt-magazin.de/ueber-was-zaehlt/> [11.09.2018].

Statement of Authorship

I hereby declare that I am the sole author of this project report and that I have not used any sources other than those listed in the bibliography and identified as references. I further declare that I have not submitted this report at any other institution in order to obtain a degree.

Place, Date

Signature