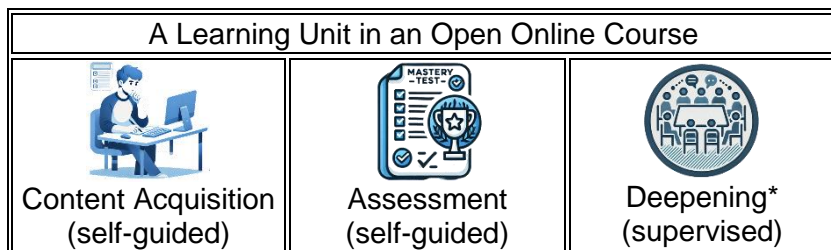


## VLC Open Online Courses

The majority of VLC courses are Open Online Courses. They have no limit on the number of participants and consist of an interactive course syllabus with a up to 14 learning units to be completed independently without tutorial support. Each learning unit consists of two obligatory activities and of an optional deepening phase:



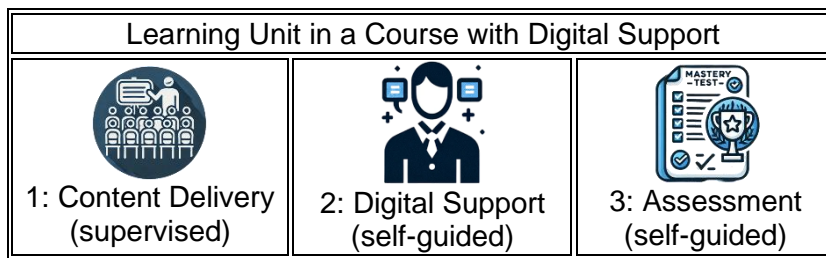
\*optional

- Phase 1: Acquisition**  
 The learning process starts with a self-guided content acquisition phase which consists of a set of carefully designed quality-assured multimedia content activities to be worked through.
- Phase 2: Assessment**  
 To document the successful completion of a learning unit, there is a final test for each learning unit. It is referred to as Mastery Test.
- Phase 3: Deepening (Optional)**  
 All Open Online Courses are structured in such a way that they can be used without additional in-class work. However, if an in-class phase is added, it is no longer used for content delivery. Rather, it is a supervised competence-oriented collaborative scenario and primarily serves to consolidate the newly acquired content. For such cases, where the role of the teacher changes to that of a learning guide, the VLC provides appropriate material with model solutions for in-class use for all learning units.

On the VLC, Open Online Courses are referenced by “VLC” plus an alphanumerical identifier, and the course name, e.g. *VLC202 – The History of English*.

## Courses with Digital Support

VLC Courses with digital support are based on the classic principle of content delivery and acquisition in class supported by two digital phases:



- **Phase 1: Content Delivery**

The initial phase of this classical teaching scenario involves a well-trained academic who delivers the course content in class.

- **Phase 2: Support**

The central phase of in-class knowledge transfer is supported by an interactive version of the course syllabus with short descriptions of all learning units (usually 10 to 14 per course). Each learning unit involves a set of key questions, important terms, texts and interactive materials ready for self-guided support. This component can be used as preparation for the in-class phase but also for follow-up work.

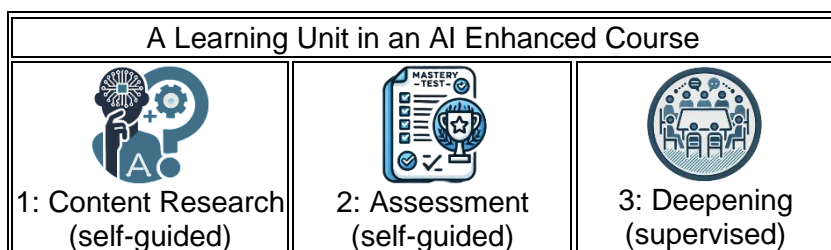
- **Phase 3: Assessment**

To document the successful completion of a learning unit, there is a final test for each learning unit. It is referred to as Mastery Test.

On the VLC, Courses with Digital Support are referenced as follows: “DS”, followed by an alphanumerical identifier, and the course name, e.g. *DS502 - British Children's Literature*.

## VLC AI Enhanced Courses

AI Enhanced Courses have no limit on the number of participants and consist of an interactive course syllabus with a up to 14 learning units to be completed independently without tutorial support. Each learning unit consists of two self-guided and one supervised activities:



- **Phase 1: Content Research**

In phase 1, the role of the course participant changes *from consumer to researcher*. The learning process no longer is a mere process of consumption itself but a self-directed AI supported research process. It precedes the subsequent in-class-phase and consists of two activities ready for self-guided research:

- a) *Questions and Central Terms*
- b) *Additional Data*

Whereas a) presents AI generated key questions and central terms ready for research, b) involves additional material developed by the course instructor. Both activities should be worked through independently without tutorial support.

- **Phase 2: Assessment**

To document the successful completion of a learning unit, there is a final test for each learning unit. It is referred to as Mastery Test.

- **Phase 3: Deepening**

The subsequent obligatory and supervised Deepening phase in class primarily serves to consolidate the newly acquired content. For this purpose, the VLC provides exercise materials as part of the learning units.

On the VLC, AI Enhanced Courses are referenced as follows: “AE”, followed by an alphanumerical identifier, and the course name, e.g. *AE\_MC44 – The History of English*, where “MC” stands for Micro-Credential.