



INNOVATION

PBL & Research skills: website and manual available

Over the course of 2016, an inter-faculty EDLAB team has looked into the best ways to integrate the development of research skills on both course and curriculum level at Maastricht University. We are pleased to announce the publication of the UM 'PBL & Research skills'-manual and webpage filled with theoretical notions applied to the UM-context, good UM practices, and tips and tricks for educators. Download the manual and view our webpage here: www.edlab.nl/research-skills.

Student involvement Global Citizenship

The EDLAB project-group 'Global Citizenship' is investigating ways to address Global Citizenship Education (GCE) at UM in a meaningful way. This is done by making an inventory of the current offer of Global Citizenship Education in UM curricula, researching opportunities for integrating intra- and extracurricular GCE activities, and exploring the possibilities for incentivizing students for service learning. EDLAB also involved a panel of engaged students from international student organisations to give their views on GCE. In March 2018, EDLAB will organize a Global Citizenship Symposium to share the project findings with the UM community. Check our [website](#) for more information.



Activate your students with FeedbackFruits

As from this academic year, Maastricht University (UM) has joined a four-year consortium license with FeedbackFruits. This innovative company offers a set of tools aimed at increasing student engagement. At UM, these tools enable teachers to activate student participation not only during PBL sessions but also outside the classroom. Students might discuss course materials, give feedback on each other's assignments and behaviour, or collectively prepare for the next PBL session. Check [this](#) University Library (UB) post for more information.



Study Smart: UM students receive training in effective learning strategies

EDLAB has started pilot training sessions for students to adopt effective learning strategies. Project leader Anique de Bruin (FHML) and an inter-faculty EDLAB team of experts have created three training sessions during which students become aware of different learning strategies, reflect on their study behaviour and practice effective learning strategies. Some learning strategies like self-testing are scientifically proven to be more effective than e.g. summarising, highlighting, or re-reading. Want to know more? Check out the project-infographic (figure 1) and have a look at our [Youtube-channel](#) for an explanation of the best learning strategies.

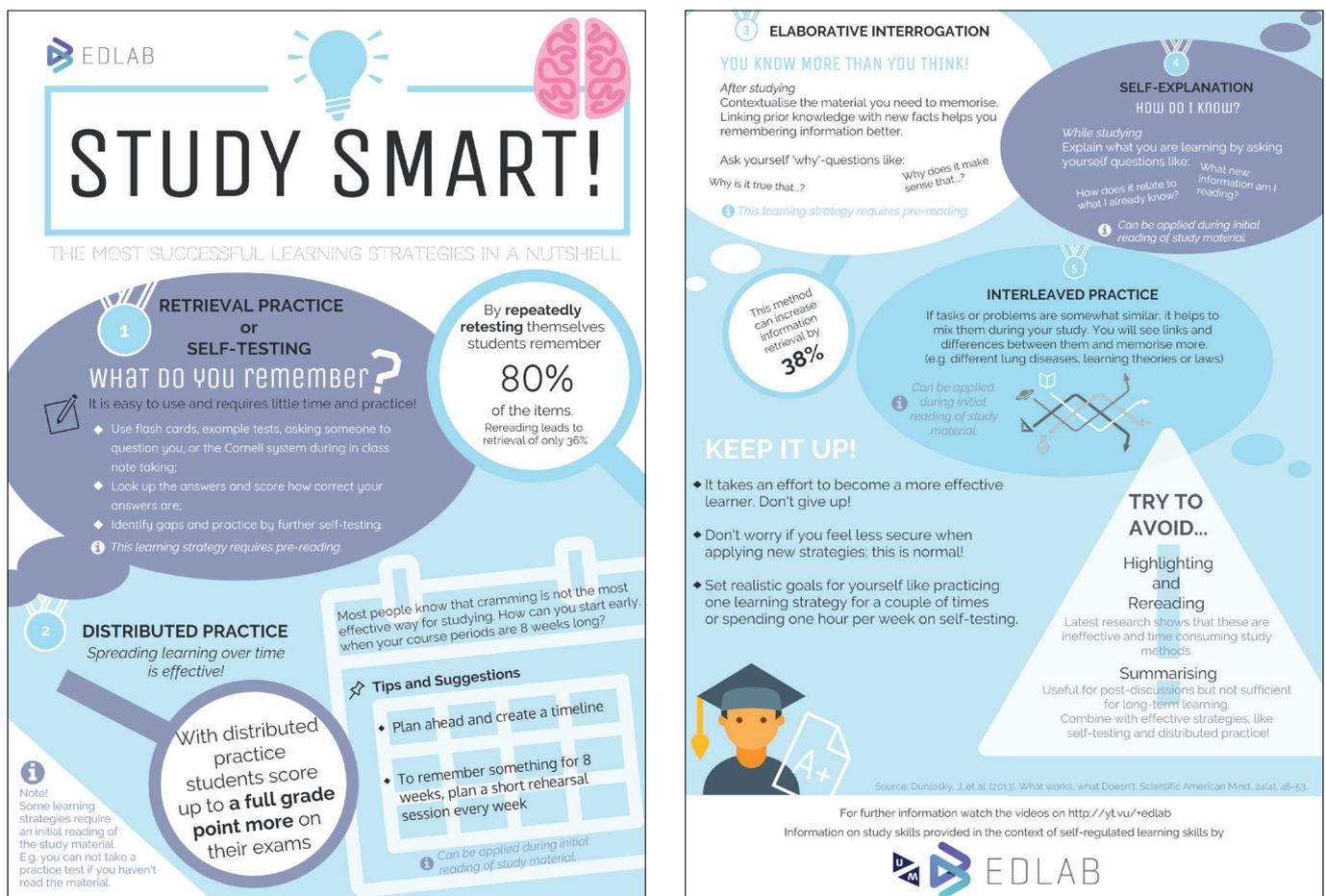


Figure 1 Learning strategies infographic ([click to enlarge](#))

RESEARCH

EDview: UM education in the next 40 years

After more than 40 years of student-centered learning at UM, it is time for a reflection on how to proceed in terms of our educational approach and practice in the future. For this reason, EDview has been created. EDview is a research project on “the do's, the don'ts, and the don't knows” of teaching and learning at Maastricht University. This collaboration between EDLAB and the Department of Educational Research and Development (FHML) aims to synthesise a shared vision on UM's education in the future.

The first phase of the project included focus group interviews with educational researchers and policy makers. During the next phase EDview captures opinions of both staff and students in focus groups, interviews and a survey. For more information, please check to the project infographic (figure 2) and on www.edlab.nl/edview.



Figure 2 EDview infographic ([click to enlarge](#))

The First Year Experience at UM

EDLAB has conducted a qualitative study on the 'First Year Experience' of UM bachelor freshmen. The findings give insight in levels of first year student engagement and satisfaction at Maastricht University, resulting in some overall attention points and programme-specific recommendations regarding the pre-academic period, education, and support. The report is used as a starting point for other EDLAB projects such as EDview. Please have a look at the infographic for the findings (figure 3). The report is available on request.

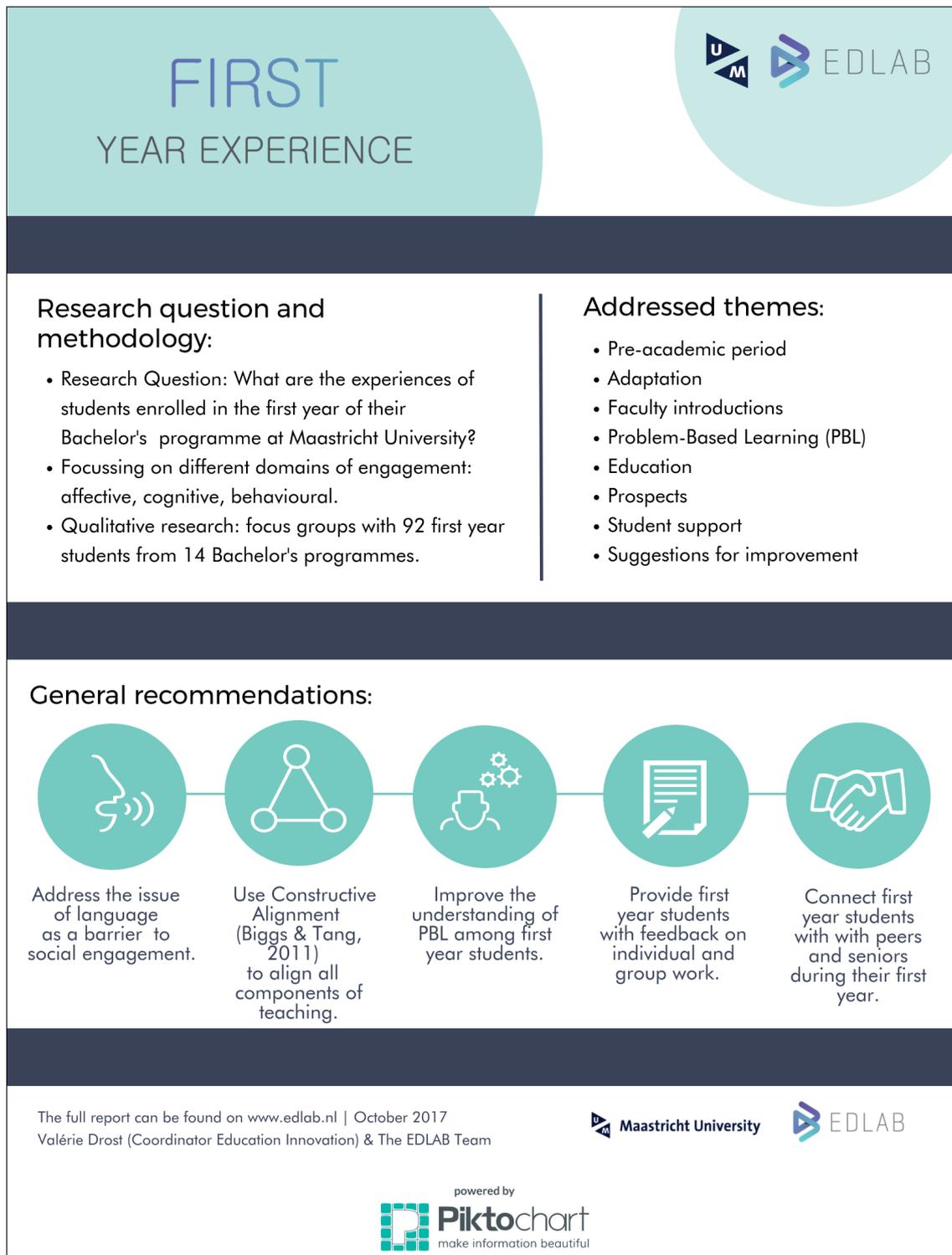


Figure 3 Infographic First Year Experience ([click to enlarge](#))

EXCELLENCE

MaRBLe

Just like the previous academic year, EDLAB awarded five MaRBLe scholarships enabling students to attend a conference to present their research. Please visit the [MaRBLe webpage](#) to check their experiences.



PREMIUM

EDLAB is proud to present a total of 24 interesting and diverse projects in this year's PREMIUM programme, kicking off in January 2018. This year we have included midterm pitches, a common recruitment and selection tool, during which each project team will have to present their progress in a 5-minute pitch. Another change in the programme is the inclusion of reflective practices between student team and project mentor.

Honours+

On 31 October, Honours+ kicked-off this year's programme, during which more than 130 students, supervisors and faculty coordinators were present. UM-Rector Rianne Letschert gave an inspiring lecture about Victimology and emphasised the importance of interdisciplinary work to solve today's complex issues. Honours+ allows students to work in an interdisciplinary team on assignments that are related to UM's core research themes. This year's Honours+ batch will focus on 22 [topics](#) such as 'The first 1000 days of life', 'Effects of the refugee crisis on the EU', and 'Bildung in the 21st century'.



EVENTS

Teach-Meet: PBL Problem Design

On Thursday 26 October, EDLAB hosted a Teach Meet on 'PBL problem design'. The Teach Meet is an initiative by EDLAB with the aim to create a platform for educators to exchange their knowledge and experiences with teaching at UM across faculties. With a long-awaited topic, this session attracted more than 50 UM teachers. Five speakers were invited to share their insights from practical experience and literature about how to design a PBL problem. [Check our website](#) for a summary of the presentations.



Follow EDLAB!!

If you are interested in learning more about the EDLAB projects, please visit our webpage, our facebook page, or follow us on LinkedIn (links below). Next to project information, you will be able to read interesting interviews and relevant news on education, and find an overview of events organised by EDLAB.

