Engaging students through online activities

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Theoretical frame
We base our work on hermeneutical approach using a framework from online learning theories.

The framework:
- Learning theory – Illeris (DK)
- Online learning theory – Rankin (US), Pasgaard (DK)
- Student engagement and outcome – Hampton and Pearce (UK)
- Educational design – Jaggers and Xu (US)
- Collaboration and cooperation – Bang and Dalsgaard (DK), Harasim (US)
- Structure and flexibility in online learning – Yukseltur og Yilderim (TR)

Method:
We select two study activities per study program
Student groups record their collaboration on video
Each study group is subsequently interviewed, on the basis of their video (Focus group interview)

Analytical focus
- Video recordings: Student interaction, collaboration or cooperation, depth of learning in online sessions
- Group interviews: Students’ experience with study activities, online cooperation and feedback from teachers and peers.

Preliminary findings
- Challenge in finding study groups for video recordings and interviews
- Study groups do not necessarily work together in synchronous settings
- We consider including a survey in our research design in order to enhance reliability