



Digital Education Storytelling Exhibition Launch

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CMRB

The Centre for Research on
Migration, Refugees and Belonging

living
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Welcome

Centre for Migration, Refugees and Belonging

- CMRB is interdisciplinary centre that fosters critical conversations among students, staff, practitioners and activists for social change
- Integrates research and teaching from undergraduate to post-doctoral levels
 - Master in Refugee Studies
 - Master in Conflict, Displacement and Human Security
 - UBEL Doctoral Training Partnership
- Works in close collaboration with the UEL Refuge Archives and UEL Living Refugees Archives and the Centre for Narrative Research



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Educational Narratives

Narrative (from the Latin to tell) is a story, a spoken, written, visual, multi-media account of connected and interconnected events

Links between social, emotional, and academic skills in emergencies

Agency

- ‘through which to express themselves, their community and their knowledge’ (Vecchio et al. 2017:135)

Politics of representation

- ‘they can tell us about how people themselves, as “experiencing subjects”, make sense of violence and turbulent change. From personal accounts, we may also glean the diversity behind over-generalised notions of “the refugee experience”’ (Eastmond 2007: 249)
- From ‘passive victims’ to ‘individual agents’ (Zeus, 2011)

Psycho-social wellbeing

- ‘a primary embodiment of our understanding of the world, of experience and ultimately of ourselves’ (Kerby 1991:3).
- ‘processes and actions that promote the holistic wellbeing of people in their social world’ and facilitate ‘resilience within individuals, families and communities’ (IFRC 2009)



Life Stories Project with Migrant Learners in Calais

Open Learning Initiative

Methodology

- Decolonial framework of knowledge production that decentres hegemonic histories and calls into question existing power relations among researchers/teachers and participants/learners
- Ethics of care (Taggart 2016)

Life Stories Project with Migrant Learners in Calais

- UEL staff, students and practitioners organised Life Stories multi-modal workshops
- Discussion of Life Stories such as texts by Nelson Mandela, Malala, Displaces photo-project, arts
- Migrants wrote their own Life Stories
- Publication of Voices from the Jungle authored by the migrant learners

Open Learning Initiative (OLive)

10 week course to introduce migrants and refugees into UK Higher Education

English language, academic writing, arts, yoga, child-care and social spaces of support



● Thank you all!



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