

## RESEARCH CLINIC

### General information

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| Supervisor:  | Caroline Archambault and David Ehrhardt  |
| Title of clinic:   | How to make virtual teamwork actually useful (rather than a pain in the neck)? |
| Number of students:  | 1-4  |
| Major ( <i>if applicable and approved by the Major Convener</i> ): | GED  |
| (Pre)requisites ( <i>if applicable</i> ):                          |  |

### Research context

Teamwork, or groupwork done well, is one of the keys to successful online teaching and learning. However, it is very difficult to get groups to collaborate well: that is, to collaborate in such a way that the outcome is more than just the simple sum of its component parts. In this clinic, we will apply and experiment with different ways of organizing group- and teamwork in online courses. Specifically, we will work in all the courses taught by the supervisors: the SPOC Development Project Management, Institutions in Time, and Coming of Age in Africa. In these courses, we will apply different forms of groupwork assignments and supervision, and explore which ones work best in what context. Students will help with the design of the teamwork, with the facilitation, and with the systematic evaluation of its outcomes.

### Students' tasks and activities

*Please specify the tasks and activities, timeline, the learning aims and how they are assessed, i.e. what the deliverables will be.*

#### Activities:

1. Survey the literature and other relevant resources on virtual teaming
2. Help design groupwork assignments and supervision strategies to facilitate good teamwork in different online courses.
3. Help facilitate the online teamwork of the students, for example through different communication platforms or other tools and techniques.
4. Help evaluate the efficacy of different approaches, assignments and evaluation techniques.

#### Deliverables, all in close collaboration with the supervisors:

1. Designed assignments and supervision strategies for teamwork.
2. Report on the evaluation of the different teamwork approaches.