

# TEACHING DATABASE ANALYSIS AND DESIGN IN A WEB-BASED CONSTRUCTIVIST LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

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**Abstract:** The study of database systems is typically core in undergraduate and postgraduate courses related to computer science and information systems. However, there are parts of this curriculum that learners find difficult, in particular, the abstract and complex domain of database analysis and design, an area that is critical to the development of modern information systems. This paper reflects on these difficulties and describes an approach for teaching database analysis and design online motivated by principles found in the constructivist epistemology, which helps to overcome these difficulties and provides the learner with the knowledge and higher-order skills necessary to understand and perform database analysis and design effectively as a professional practitioner. The paper presents some preliminary results of this work and reflects on the findings.