Best Practices Identification - Grid

PARTNER SUGGESTING THIS PRACTICE: UNIVIE

TITLE DOCUMENT: Peer Mentoring Sozialwissenschaften

PROMOTER: University of Vienna, Faculty of Social Sciences

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WEBSITE: http://esowi.univie.ac.at/mentoring

LANGUAGES: ☐EN | ☒DE | ☐FR | ☐FI | ☐GR | ☐Other:

The output of this document includes:

- ☐ Rational
- ☐ Theoretical background
- ☐ Characterisation of the context
- ☐ Reference to existing "needs"/"problems"
- ☒ Reference to possible "benefits"/"resources"
- ☒ Definition of goals
- ☒ Identification of target groups
- ☒ Description of main intervention strategies
- ☐ Partnership with other organisations
- ☐ Process evaluation
- ☐ Outcome evaluation

Target group(s):

first-year students

Topic or discipline:

peer-mentoring is offered at a number of faculties; this specific format of mentoring in multiple languages is only offered for students of political science

Short Description

Translation of the title document: Peer mentoring social sciences

Peer mentoring at the University of Vienna is offered at a number of different faculties in order to support first-year students with getting oriented, organizing their studies and processes of learning, but also socializing and making new contacts. Higher-year students of the same program accompany first-year students, meet regularly with them and offer support ortiented towards the specific needs of the mentees. Thereby academic learning shall be facilitated. The university offers support for the higher-year students who are doing the mentoring - affording them with tools and relevant content.

At the Department for Political Science peer mentoring is offered in multiple languages: German, Albanian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Kirghiz, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Swiss-German, Turkish and Vietnamese. Thus, first-year students are being supported in a number of different languages, thereby fostering culturally inclusive education, aiding also learners who might not feel as comfortable or well-versed in German.

Why is this an interesting case? Is there any formal recognition of this case as a good practice? Why do you think this sample should be taken into consideration?

Peer mentoring is an established practice at a number of faculties at the University of Vienna, being supported by the Department for Quality Development within Teaching. The extension of this support to target learners with multiple mother tongues constitutes an example of supporting international students or students of an ethnic minority background. At the same time it gives value to the language capacities of higher-year students thereby contributing to the appreciation of multilingualism.