Title: Supporting History teachers in the instruction of critical Internet skills

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Abstract:
Students in secondary education increasingly use the Internet when searching for information. However there are concerns regarding their skills to assess the reliability of the information found. Students need to be taught better critical Internet skills. Teachers seem to have difficulty to include critical Internet skills in their lessons. This study proposes to determine the extent of the problem through questionnaires and interviews and to set up a professional learning network for teachers to acquire the skills, experience and knowledge they need to teach their students critical Internet skills. Data acquired from the professional learning network will be analyzed in order to contribute to the already existing knowledge of network learning. Students’ internet skills will measured with a pre and post test in order to measure the effectiveness of the professional learning network as a tool for the professional development of teachers and the effect of the network on the teachers’ students.

Research question
How can secondary education teachers be supported in the development of critical Internet skills and the integration of these skills in their teaching by participating in a professional learning network, in such a way that the critical Internet skills of students and subsequently their learning outcomes improve?