

DCSA – Departamento de Ciências Sociais Aplicadas

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Lifelong Professional Learning



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First degree in **Sociology** at ISCTE (1992); Master and PhD in **Education** at FCT/UNL (1997 and 2004)

Assistant Teacher at DCSA since 2004; **researcher** at UIED – FCT/UNL.

Objectives

TO UNDERSTAND...educational processes of people learning in different contexts of life and constructing knowledge and competencies relevant to their professional practices and development. **How do individuals learn to become professionals nowadays in a lifelong and life wide perspective?**

TO ACT...elaborating proposals, evaluating and monitoring educational practices and systems in order to take advantage of learning occurring in different life contexts and phases of the life cycle. **How can we improve educational practices and systems regarding professional learning of the individuals?**

Methodology

- Examining **higher education graduates' trajectories and expectations**: studying transitions to and from work and professional learning; collecting data through questionnaires answered by statistically representative samples of UNL's graduates; interviewing graduates.
- Examining the **perspectives of higher education graduates' employers**: interviewing and analysing employers' perspectives regarding strengths and weaknesses of graduates' ability to work.
- Examining **higher education**: critical analysis of educational practices and systems in the light of lifelong professional learning

Expected Results

A global overview about lifelong professional learning of higher education graduates is enabled throughout the triangulation of empirical information about (and from) graduates, employers and higher education institutions...

...this deepen understanding allows for **(re)thinking educational practices, systems and activities**, contributing to its improvement.

Empirical data will be available on employment/unemployment; competencies developed in higher education and required in the labour market; match (or mismatch) between the degree and professional activities, and so on.

