Embedding Mātauranga Māori in Computing Courses: A Case Study

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Abstract

This paper discusses how to embed mātauranga Māori in computing courses to increase the awareness of ākonga (students) regarding Māori beliefs, language and practices. The study has been driven by the low scoring of the statement regarding embedding Māori beliefs, language and practices in the course survey conducted by Unitec for the School of Computing, Electrical and Applied Technology. The paper considers different methods provided by Unitec to embed mātauranga Māori in teaching and learning, such Te Noho Kotahitanga, I See Me initiatives, and others. The paper then looks at how to apply these methods in computing through a case study of one of the courses in the New Zealand Diploma of Information Systems (NZDIS) Level 5. The case study discusses the approaches that are currently used, then it moves to how these approaches can be improved, as well as applying new ones. The aim is to apply these proposed approaches through Semester 2 2023, to get the results in the course survey by the end of that semester. The expectation is that the applied approaches will increase the awareness of ākonga of how they feel that Māori beliefs, language and practices are embedded throughout their computing courses. The proposed approaches here can be considered as a reference to embed mātauranga Māori in other IT courses.

Keywords: Mātauranga Māori, Māori beliefs and practices, computing courses