Kolloquium Lehrer*innenbildung

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Zentrum für Lehrer*innenbildung

Ways of Thinking in Informatics

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Zentrum für Lehrer*innenbildung
Porzellangasse 4, 1090 Wien, Stiege 2, 3. Stock, Seminarraum 4

Abstract

»Computational thinking« is one of the educational buzzterms that have dominated the discussion about what makes a good computer basic education. The scientific field informatics seems to be happy to have found their assumed »core« in computational thinking. With this on the table, it is time to return to the roots of the discipline and acknowledge the broad interdisciplinary nature of theory and practice of informatics.

Ways of thinking in informatics is a novel introductory course for informatics students at TU Wien that tries to fan out the colorful bouquet of interdisciplinary paradigms of informatics, and discuss the principles and benefits — and the perils! – of nine different thinking traditions that contribute to the field. It is mandatory for first-semester informatics students at TU Wien, and has been going on since seven years.

The talk discusses the concept, implementation, and reception of this course.

About

peter purgathofer is a researcher at the HCI research group at TU Wien informatics. his work is best characterized as interdisciplinary and eclectic. he has earned recognition as artist (prix ars electronica), teacher (staatspreis gute lehre) and designer (multiple UX design projects with large clients). his most recent efforts concerns the definition of a new intellectual foundation for the field of informatics. he is currently on sabbatical and working as senior researcher at the digital education and learning group.