

Method: Future Scenario Writing

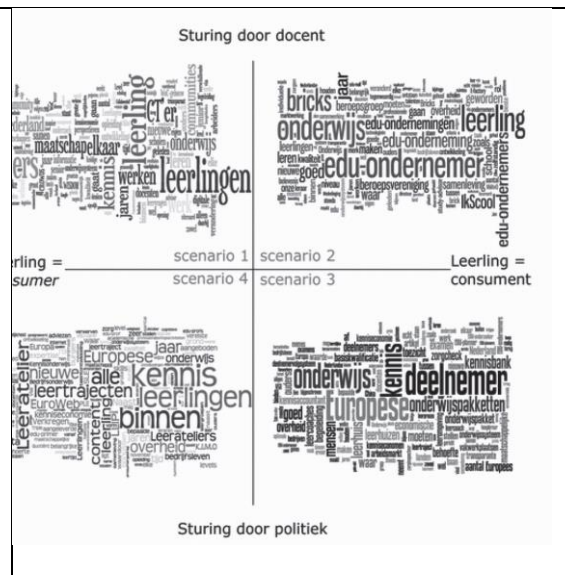
In UCLL, Ruth Wouters has lead several activities in the area of Future Scenario Writing. The present example is

Here are the steps UCLL takes in applying this method:

<p>Motivation phase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I asked first a fascinating and urging question: <i>Who and where will curriculums/programmes be designed in 2040?</i> • I asked the group to go into pairs to inquire / look for tracks of trends for the future. I suggested to walk around: through buildings, the city, ... • Check for STEEP elements (Society, Technology, Economy, Ecology, Politics) • Go regularly back to the question • Note ideas, elements, ... down on post-its or a paper 	<p><i>'Scenarios are a combination of estimates of what can happen and assumptions of what could happen: a science and an art.'</i> (Gosselin & Tindemans, 2010)</p>
<p>Analysis phase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next, I give the instruction to choose driving forces: underlying drivers/factors that shape trends, that give direction to trends <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use terms that are free of any norm/value ○ Terms are equal ○ Terms are mutually dependent • Next we delimitate quadrants and the group makes "scenario groups" 	
<p>Design Phase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In this phase, I ask students to elaborate 4 small scenarios: this needs a personage, a context, scenario-specifi trends 	

Reflection Phase

- In this phase, we reflect upon the scenarios in group
- I ask every group to share their scenarios
- Next, we assess the scenarios: what scenarios would you prefer? What contemporary trends do you recognize in the scenarios?
- In this phase, I encourage students to take a stand, to make it explicit and to argue



Further suggestion for readings provided to students in this example:

- Barber, M., Donnelly, K. & Rizvi, S. (2013). *An avalanche is coming. Higher education and the revolution ahead*. IPPR.
- Dhert, S., Hermans, K., Smits, B. & Wouters, R. (2013). *Leren uit de toekomst. Aan de slag met scenario's in het onderwijs*. Leuven: LannooCampus
- Perkins, D.N. (2015). *Futurewise. Educating our children for a changing world*. Jossey-Bass
- <https://www.pearson.com/avalanche.html>
- <http://www.samenvernieuwenindepraktijk.nl/>

[Go to Future Scenario Planning method](#)