

# THE POWER OF THE HYPHEN.

## HOW AND WHAT

The student support format is grounded in the transformative potential of integrating personal experiences into professional development. Experiential knowledge, drawn from students' lived experiences, is a crucial element in shaping a coherent professional identity. To effectively embed this knowledge into learning, the format relies on intentional, transparent and inclusive approaches that normalize reflection and dialogue on experiential knowledge. By catering to all students equally and avoiding stigmatization or specialization, the framework fosters a collective learning culture where diversity of experience becomes a source of growth.

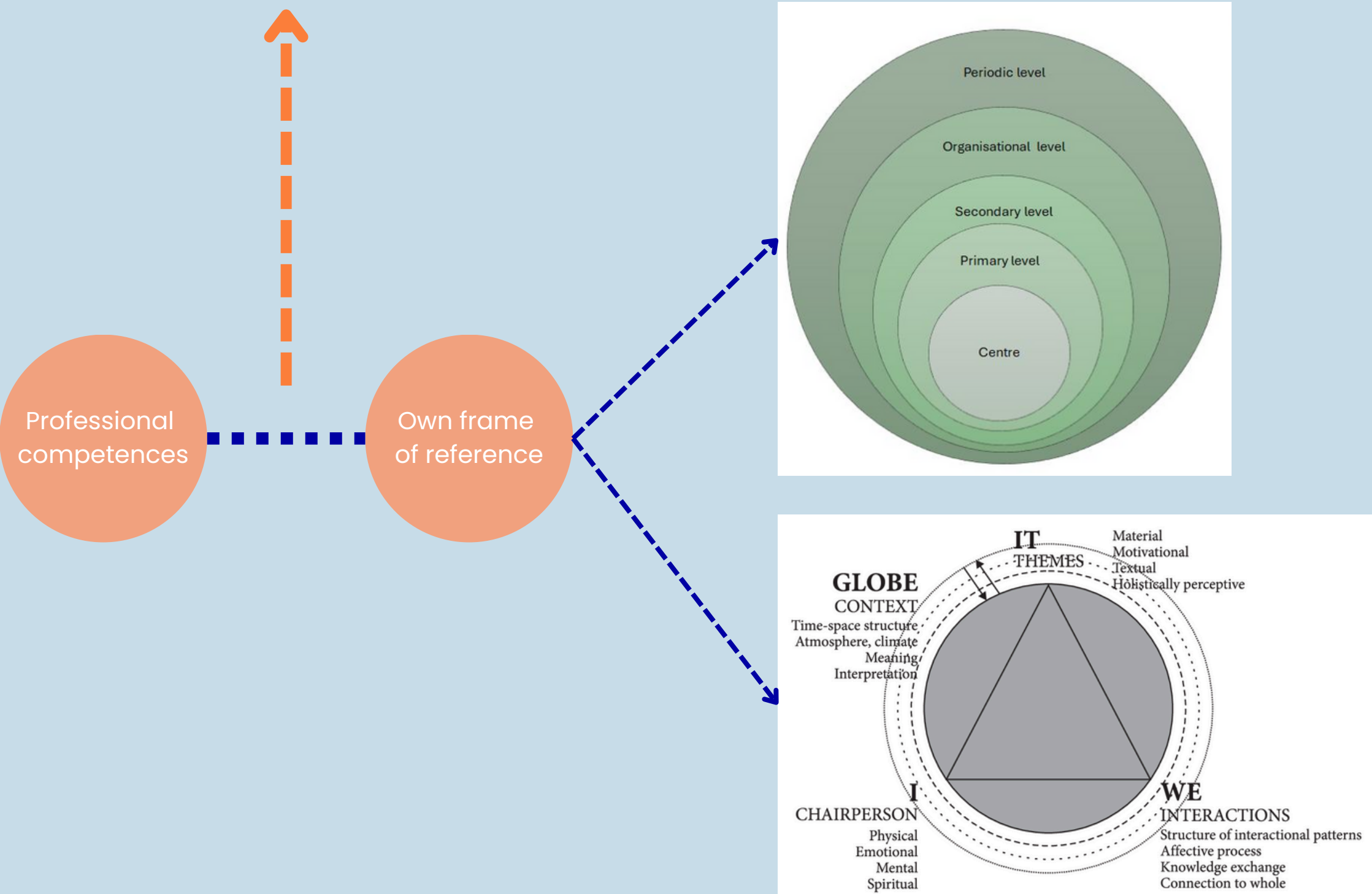
At the heart of the format are two complementary models: the personal reference framework and the Theme-Centred Interaction (TCI) model, which together encourage students to explore and align their personal and professional dimensions.

By integrating these models into the curriculum through group supervision sessions, reflective reports and smaller, safer spaces for sharing, the format provides a structured yet flexible environment for reflection. These methods encourage students to connect their personal histories with their professional development, helping them grow not only academically but also as professionals who understand how their lived experiences influence their work.

## DATA

Year: 2nd Master  
Number of EBEs: 1  
Number of students: 155  
Number of staff: 13

## DEVELOPMENT OF AUTHENTIC PROFESSIONALITY AS CLINICAL ORTHOPEDAGOGUE



## CHALLENGES

- Reflection must be a continuous and integral part of the academic journey, rather than limited to isolated moments
- A shared vocabulary and the normalization of practices that embed experiential knowledge as a recognized and valuable source of learning are vital for addressing the hesitation and vulnerability often associated with sharing such personal insights
- Flexibility in how and when students engage with reflection is essential to ensure inclusivity

## LESSONS LEARNED

- Reflection practices foster deeper insights into how personal histories shape roles, team dynamics and professional decision-making
- Group discussions and written reflections enhance collective and individual learning
- The personal reference framework and TCI model provide students with a foundation for critically examining their experiences within professional contexts
- The framework empowers students to take ownership of their learning, fostering personal and professional growth that equips them to navigate the complexities of real-world practice with confidence and authenticity
- Students report a stronger alignment between their personal experiences and professional growth, resulting in a more coherent professional identity