

MOOC and Mookies:

The Connectivism & Connective Knowledge
Online Course

Stephen Downes

eFest

September 10, 2008

To Date...

- George Siemens and I are ushering roughly 1900 students through a 12 week online course
- Some of these paid tuition and are getting credit, but most of them are attending the 'open' course

The Course

- Offered through the University of Manitoba
 - 12 weeks long
 - credit in Certificate in Adult and Continuing Education and Certificate in Emerging Technologies for Learning
 - will explore the concepts of connectivism and connective knowledge

Connectivism

“At its heart, connectivism is the thesis that knowledge is distributed across a network of connections, and therefore that learning consists of the ability to construct and traverse those networks.”

What Connectivism Is

<http://halfanhour.blogspot.com/2007/02/what-connectivism-is.html>

The Best Example...

- 12 week course, readings, activities...
- The course on connectivism is probably the best (early) example of what we mean
 - We began with the course itself – what we wanted to cover
 - We then added communications tools
 - And then the students took over...

Course Components

- The Wiki...

The screenshot shows a wiki page titled "Connectivism" on the Learning Technologies Centre (LTC) website. The page includes a navigation menu on the left with links for "Main Page", "Recent changes", "Random page", "sandbox", and "Help". Below this are "ltc links" and "um projects" sections. The main content area features tabs for "page", "discussion", "view source", and "history". The page text welcomes users to the "Connectivism and Connective Knowledge Online Course support wiki" and provides information about conference tags (CCK08), alternative language versions (Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Hungarian, and Chinese), and a Facebook group. A "Contents" section is visible, listing 11 items from a welcome message to a history of networked learning.

Log in / create ac

LTC
Learning Technologies Centre

navigation

- [Main Page](#)
- [Recent changes](#)
- [Random page](#)
- [sandbox](#)
- [Help](#)

ltc links

- [LTC Website](#)
- [Activities](#)
- [Workshops and Resources](#)
- [Teaching with Technology](#)

um projects

- [Educational Psychology](#)

[page](#) [discussion](#) [view source](#) [history](#)

Connectivism

Welcome to the **Connectivism and Connective Knowledge Online Course** support wiki.

Conference tags: CCK08

This page is also available in: [Spanish](#), [Portuguese](#), [Italian](#), [Hungarian](#), and [Chinese](#) (Simplified Character Version). See also [this short post](#) on making surfing in China easier]

This course also has a FaceBook group at [CCK08](#)

Contents [hide]

- 1 Please enter your email address here if you'd like to be involved (either for free participation or to enroll for cre
- 2 Course [blog](#) is available here
- 3 Course Details
- 4 Weekly Activities
- 5 Learner Assignments and Evaluation
- 6 Course Links
- 7 Pre-week 1
- 8 Week 1: What is Connectivism? (September 8-14)
- 9 Week 2: Rethinking epistemology: Connective knowledge (September 15-21)
- 10 Week 3: Properties of Networks (September 22-28)
- 11 Week 4: History of networked learning (September 29-October 5)

<http://ltc.umanitoba.ca/wiki/Connectivism>

Course Components (2)

- Open Enrollment

24 Final Project
Please enter your email address here if you'd like to be involved (either for free participation or to enroll for credit).
Course blog is available here
Connectivism Research
Course Details
Delivered in partnership with: Extended Education and Learning Technologies Centre, University of Manitoba
Course Code: 98813- 08-01

- The course was advertised in both of our blogs...

Course Components

- Readings....

Week 1: What is Connectivism? (September 8-14) [ed]
Presentations & Papers
George Siemens presentation on Defining Connectivism and Comparing Connectivism
Stephen Downes presentation: A quick introduction to connectivism (ustream)
Readings
Little Boxes, Glocalization and Networked Individualism (.pdf)
What is the Unique Idea in Connectivism?
What connectivism is
Learning Theory or Pastime of the Self-Amused? (.doc)
Bill Kerr - Critique of connectivism
Activities:
Mon: Recorded presentations and readings will be posted to the email list
Wed: Elluminate discussion 11 am CST: See time zone conversions
Friday: Discussion via USTREAM 11 am CST: See time zone conversion
Assignments:

Course Components (3)

- The Blog

CONNECTIVISM & CONNECTIVE KNOWLEDGE
a rather large open online course...



HOME THE DAILY WIKI MOODLE ABOUT AGGREGATIONS SIGNING UP...

ABOUT

Welcome to the **Connectivism and Connective Knowledge** online course! Information on the development and delivery of the course will be shared on this site.

SEARCH

Go

Comparing Connectivism  Posts RSS  Comments RSS

gsiemens on Sep 8th 2008

I've posted a [comparison between different theories](#) of learning. It's not a final word summary, but hopefully it can provide a bit of a starting point for discussing the attributes of different concepts. While exploring distinctions between theories can be a mind-numbing task on par with watching grass grow, it does create an important starting point for ongoing discussion. If our discussions occur along the lines of [Wittgenstein's beetles](#) - where we each speak of a subject from our own, rather than shared understandings - we quickly end up talking in circles without even a prospect of consensus or even the main points of debate.

Filed in [Uncategorized](#) | [17 responses so far](#)

<http://ltc.umanitoba.ca/connectivism/>

Course Components

- Course Moodle Forum

The screenshot shows a Moodle course page for "Connectivism and Connective Knowledge". At the top right, it says "You are currently using guest access (Login)". Below the course title, there is a navigation bar with "Courses" and "CCK08". The page is divided into three main sections: "Bloglines", "Topic outline", and "Calendar".

Bloglines: This section contains several links and snippets of text, including "#cck08 Reading the Moodle forum... It is me, or does ti really looks...", "#cck08 Reading the Moodle forum... It is me, or does ti really looks like mrs. Fitzpatrick is trolling?", "Trying to determine why I cannot connect to the CCK08 Moodle Forum", "Trying to determine why I cannot connect to the CCK08 Moodle Forum...", "User:vtaylor/Connectivism and Connective Knowledge", "[http://valerie.posterous.com/cck08-is-...", "How to filter your CCK08 email (in Gmail)", "How to create a filter for your CCK08 email.", and "Bill Kerr's Challenge to Connectivism".

Topic outline: This section provides an overview of the course and lists several topics. The overview text states: "Connectivism and Connective Knowledge is a twelve week course that will explore the concepts of connectivism and connective knowledge and explore their application as a framework for theories of teaching and learning. It will outline a connectivist understanding of educational systems of the future." The topics listed are: "Introductions", "Google Map of participants", "General Forum", "Connectivas Spanish pageflakes site", "Connectivism English Pageflakes site", and "Week 1: What is connectivism".

Calendar: This section shows a calendar for September 2008. The days of the week are Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat. The dates are: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30. There are two event categories: "Global events" (green) and "Course events" (orange).

Connectivism Course Blog: This section contains a blog post titled "Comparing Connectivism". The text of the post reads: "I've posted a comparison between different theories of learning. It's not a final word summary, but hopefully it can provide a bit of a starting point for discussing the attributes of different concepts. While

At the bottom of the page, there is a list of topics with a "1" next to "What is Connectivism?".

<http://ltc.umanitoba.ca/moodle/course/view.php?id=20>

Course Components

- Introductions...

Connectivism and Connective Knowledge

Jump to...

Courses ▶ CCK08 ▶ Forums ▶ Introductions

Search forums







RSS

Introduce yourself to other participants in the course. Let us know:

- Where you're from
- Why you're interested in this course
- What has to happen in order for you to consider this course a success
- Random information about yourself - your work, your experience with networked technologies, etc.

Add a new discussion topic

Page: 1 2 3 4 (Next)

Discussion	Started by	Replies	Last post
Let's lower the average age of this course :)	 Navid Tomlinson	6	Ruth Demitroff Tue, 9 Sep 2008, 02:23 PM
Introducing Selena from New Zealand	 Selena Chan	4	Selena Chan Tue, 9 Sep 2008, 01:39 PM
Greetings from Winnipeg	 Fred Doern	0	Fred Doern Tue, 9 Sep 2008, 01:20 PM
Technical guy learning "Connetivism"	 Ramiro Arias	3	Diego E. Leal Fonseca Tue, 9 Sep 2008, 01:17 PM
Hello from Colombia	 Jaime Caro	3	Diego E. Leal Fonseca Tue, 9 Sep 2008, 01:17 PM
Greetings from Bogotá, Colombia	 Cecilia Triana	1	Diego E. Leal Fonseca

Course Components

- Pageflakes Site

The screenshot shows a Pageflakes user page for 'lrc's Pagecast'. The page has a blue header with the Pageflakes logo and a search bar. Below the header, there are several widgets:

- Connectivism & Connective Knowledge (5)**: A widget titled 'Comparing Connectivism' with a sub-header 'I've posted a comparison between different theories of learning. It's not a final word summ...'. It lists several items: 'Managing your Moodle Forums', 'Week 1: What is connectivism', 'So, Where are you from?', and 'Introduction to the course...'.
- Technorati Search for: CCK08 (5)**: A widget titled 'How to filter your CCK08 email (in Gmail)' with a sub-header 'How to filter your CCK08 email (in Gmail) September 9th, 2008 — general How to create a ...'. It lists several items: 'Bill Kerr's Challenge to Connectivism', 'Connectivism & Connective Knowledge Course', 'Connectivism: Theory and Application', and 'Connectivism course: nifty (and a little sca...'.
- Sponsored Content**: A large advertisement for AIG Travel Guard travel insurance with a sun icon and the text 'Thank goodness for AIG Travel Guard travel insurance.' Below the ad is the AIG Travel Guard logo and 'TRAVEL INSURANCE'.
- Weather**: A widget for Toronto, Canada, showing a 4-day forecast: Tuesday (17°/9°C, rain), Wednesday (19°/12°C, sun), Thursday (22°/15°C, sun), and Friday (22°/14°C, rain). It includes a link to 'Hourly Forecast | 10-Day Forecast' and is powered by weather.com.
- Winnipeg, Canada**: A widget titled 'Ellis resurfaces in Winnipeg - The Gazette (...)' with a sub-header 'CBC.caEllis resurfaces in WinnipegThe Gazette (Montreal), Canada - 22 hours agoHe was signed on Monday...'. It lists several items: 'Winnipeg couple makes pot discovery - Winnip...', 'Rejigged Bombers-Ticats deal a go - Globe an...', 'Three Winnipeg men charged in drug busts - W...', and 'Grandmotherhood inspires Winnipeg publisher ...'.
- Events in Winnipeg, Canada**: A widget at the bottom with a red flag icon.

<http://www.pageflakes.com/lrc>

Course Components

- Elluminate Discussions (Wednesdays)

The screenshot displays the Elluminate Live! interface during a course session. The interface is divided into several sections:

- Participants:** A list of 19 participants is shown on the left, including moderators and group members. A green box highlights "Group 1" through "Group 4".
- Main chat window:** A central chat window displays messages from participants and moderators. Handwritten notes in green indicate "Main chat window" and "Direct Messaging".
- Whiteboard:** A whiteboard titled "Whiteboard - Main Room (Scaled 84%)". It features a green header "Opportunities to Develop Human Resources" and a bulleted list:
 - Knowledge or skill needs differ
 - Motivation – meaning of work
 - Change in the environment
 - Change in the organizationA logo for "HRE ONLINE" is visible at the bottom left of the whiteboard. A handwritten note in green points to the whiteboard area, stating "White Board space (Displays PowerPoint slides, notes, drawings, etc)".
- Video:** A small video window in the bottom right corner shows a participant, Sandra Williams, wearing a headset. A handwritten note in green points to the video window, stating "Live video of the instructor".
- Audio:** A microphone and speaker icon are visible at the bottom left, with a handwritten note in green pointing to the microphone icon, stating "Mic button".
- Other:** A "Participants window" is indicated by a handwritten note in green at the bottom center.

Course Components

- Ustream



The screenshot displays the Ustream website interface. At the top, the Ustream logo is on the left, followed by navigation tabs for SHOWS, VIDEOS, and COMMUNITY. A prominent orange 'BROADCAST NOW' button is on the right. A search bar with the text 'Search here...' and a magnifying glass icon is also present. Below the navigation, a dark banner features a gladiator and the text 'GLADIATUS HERO OF ROME Play for free now!'. The main content area is titled 'My Recorded Videos' and shows a video player for 'What Is Connectivism?'. The video player includes a play button, a progress bar at 00:00:00, and a 'MENU' button. To the right of the video player, there are input fields for 'Video title:' (containing 'What Is Connectivism?'), 'Tags:' (containing 'connectivism knowledge learning'), and 'Video description:' (containing 'A quick introduction to the topic of Connectivism.'). Below these fields, there are radio buttons for 'Viewable by:' with options for 'Anyone' (selected), 'Friends', and 'Me Only'.

<http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/688902>

Course Components

- Twitter...



The screenshot shows the Twitter profile page for user cck08. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "Name or location" and a "search" button, followed by a link to "Login / Join Twitter!". A language selection dropdown is also visible. Below this is a yellow banner with the text "Hey there! cck08 is using Twitter." and a "Join today!" button. The main profile section includes a profile picture, the name "cck08", and a tweet from @MtnLaurel. The tweet text is "@MtnLaurel hi - no sign up time, but i think the 11 am CST will be the busier of the two...". To the right of the profile is an "About" section with fields for Name, Web, and Bio, and a "Stats" section with fields for Following, Followers, and Favorites.

twitter

Name or location search or Login / Join Twitter!


Select Language ..

Hey there! cck08 is using Twitter.

Twitter is a free service that lets you keep in touch with people using the web, your phone, or IM. **Join today** to start receiving cck08's updates.

Join today!

Already using Twitter via SMS or IM? [Finish signing up.](#)

 **cck08**

@MtnLaurel hi - no sign up time, but i think the 11 am CST will be the busier of the two...

about 7 hours ago from web in reply to MtnLaurel

About

Name cck08
Web <http://lc.umani...>
Bio a rather large online course

Stats

Following 0
Followers 141
Favorites 0

<http://twitter.com/cck08>

Course Components

- gRSShopper...



Course Components

- The Daily

Connectivism & Connective Knowledge

[\[Home\]](#) [\[The Daily\]](#) [\[Wiki\]](#) [\[About\]](#) [\[Aggregations\]](#) [\[Readings\]](#)

The Daily

September 9, 2008

Highlighted Resources

[Time Change for Wednesday Session](#)

Important: We've made a change to our Wednesday (in our part of the world) schedule. The illuminate session will be held at 11:00 am CST (see [conversion here](#)). The event will be held in ellumnate ([link here](#)). Sorry about this last minute change. If the time doesn't work for those in Australia and Asia, please let me know (gsiemens@elearnspace.org) and we can try and arrange a smaller discussion group at a different time). [CCK08](#), , September 9, 2008 [[Link](#)] [Tags: none] [[Comment](#)]

[Connections, Learning, and Ptolomeus \(CCK08-W1\)](#)

Nice post on the question of whether we 'grow' or 'build' new learning. Diego Leal cites John Medina's book *Brain Rules* (I'll have to get that one) on learning: "No defined structure, no progressive storage. Just the creation and recreation of connections between neurons. So, the process seems to be closer to something growing out (or expanding?) than to something being built." Here's the [Brain Rules](#) website, if you want to have a look. [Diego Leal](#), [.Edu.Co.Blog](#), September 9, 2008 [[Link](#)] [Tags: none] [[Comment](#)]

<http://connect.downes.ca/>

Course Components

- Managing Content

The screenshot shows the website 'CONNECTIVISM & CONNECTIVE KNOWLEDGE' with a navigation menu and a 'Site Administration' section. The navigation menu includes: HOME, THE DAILY, WIKI, ABOUT, AGGREGATIONS, READINGS, and SIGNING UP. The 'Site Administration' section is divided into several categories:

- [ADMIN]**
 - [New] [List] Author
 - [New] [List] Box
 - [New] [List] Cite
 - [New] [List] Event
 - [New] [List] Feed
 - [New] [List] File
 - [New] [List] Journal
 - [New] [List] Link
 - [New] [List] Optlist
 - [New] [List] Mapping
 - [New] [List] Page
 - [New] [List] Person
 - [New] [List] Post
 - [New] [List] Presentation
 - [New] [List] Publication
 - [New] [List] Project
 - [New] [List] Task
 - [New] [List] Template
 - [New] [List] Theme
 - [New] [List] Topic
 - [New] [List] View
- Site Administration**
- Reader**
 - [Viewer](#)
- Mailing List**
 - [Test Newsletter](#) (Sends to Admin Only)... [Send Newsletter](#)
- Harvester**
 - [Harvest Next In Queue](#)
 - [Harvest All Feeds](#)
 - [Calculate Most Cited](#)
- Harvest Results**
 - [Most Recent in EduRSS \(RSS Version\)](#)
 - Look at the files: [HTML](#), [XML](#), [RSS](#)
- Feeds**
 - [Export OPML File](#)
 - [Import Feed List From OPML](#)

Course Components

- Feed Harvesting

CONNECTIVISM & CONNECTIVE KNOWLEDGE

a rather large open online course...

[HOME](#) [THE DAILY](#) [WIKI](#) [ABOUT](#) [AGGREGATIONS](#) [READINGS](#) [SIGNING UP](#)

List feeds

[\[ADMIN\]](#)

[New] [List] Author	[Harvest] [Retire] Links: ActionsFLE en formation (category)
[New] [List] Box	[Approve] Links: Aggregator Blog (category)
[New] [List] Cite	[Approve] Links: Al dAa (category)
[New] [List] Event	[Approve] Links: Alvin's Educational Technology Blog (category)
[New] [List] Feed	[Approve] Links: An Education and Technology Blog (category)
[New] [List] File	[Approve] Links: An Oxonian's Learning Journey (category)
[New] [List] Journal	[Approve] Links: Beespace (category)
[New] [List] Link	[Approve] Links: blog.puntopanto.it, bloggers she wrote (category)
[New] [List] Optlist	[Approve] Links: Bradley Shoebottom Blog (category)
[New] [List] Mapping	[Approve] Links: Brett Powell CCK (category)
[New] [List] Page	[Approve] Links: Buthaina-Connect08 (category)
[New] [List] Person	[Approve] Links: CCK-No8 (category)
[New] [List] Post	[Approve] Links: cck08 - learning (category)
[New] [List] Presentation	[Approve] Links: CCK08-Viplav Baxi (category)
[New] [List] Publication	[Approve] Links: Classroomblogging.com (category)
[New] [List] Project	[Approve] Links: Coalesce (category)
[New] [List] Task	[Approve] Links: Concetta Gotlieb's Blog (category)
[New] [List] Template	[Approve] Links: Connecting Online (category)
[New] [List] Theme	[Approve] Links: Connective Knowledge Weblog (category)
[New] [List] Topic	[Approve] Links: Connectivism & Connective Knowledge (edubloggers)
[New] [List] View	[Approve] Links: Connectivism and Connective Knowledge (category)
	[Approve] Links: Connectivism by the Nile (category)

Course Components

- Intro...

The screenshot displays a presentation window titled "GettingStarted (00:05 / 02:45)". The interface includes a sidebar with the University of Manitoba logo and a profile for George Siemens, Associate Director, R & D, LTC, U of Manitoba. The main slide content is as follows:

Connectivism and Connective Knowledge: Getting Started

Massive Open Online Course

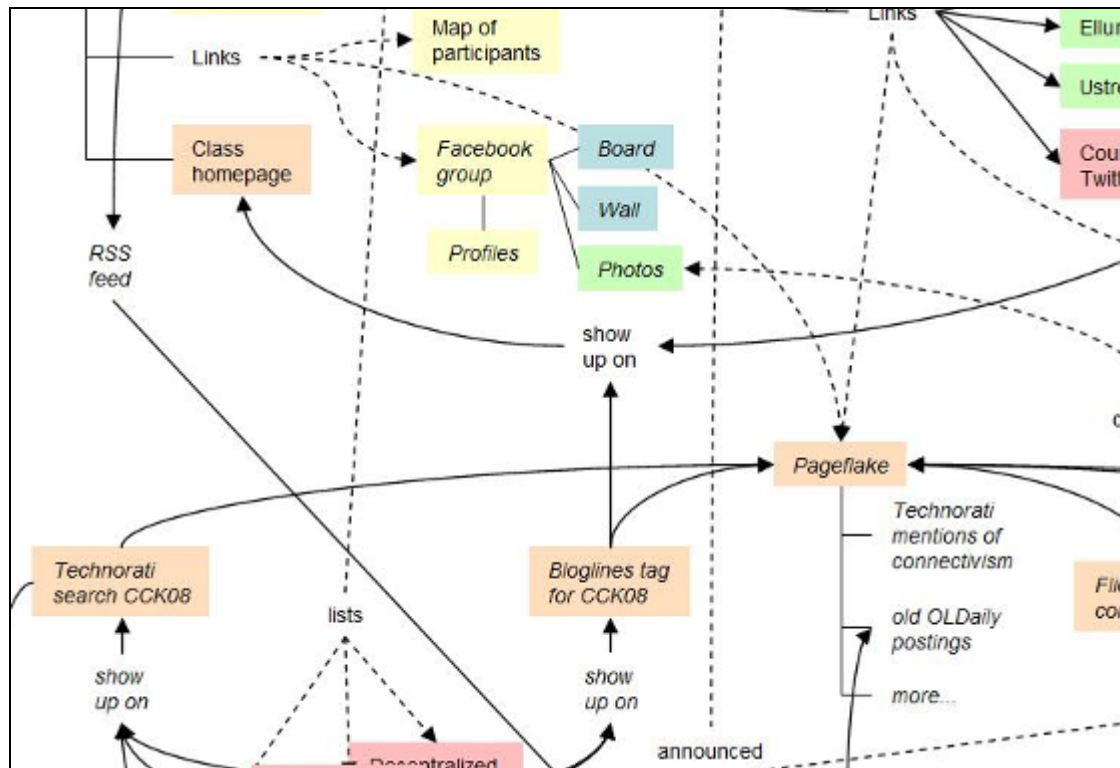
George Siemens

Stephen Downes

The slide also features two portrait photographs: one of George Siemens on the left and one of Stephen Downes on the right. The bottom of the window shows the Articulate logo and a control bar with "SLIDE 1 OF 3", "PAUSED", and a timer at "00:05 / 00:18".

The Students

- The Course Map...



<http://x28newblog.blog.uni-heidelberg.de/2008/09/06/cck08-first-impressions/>

The Students

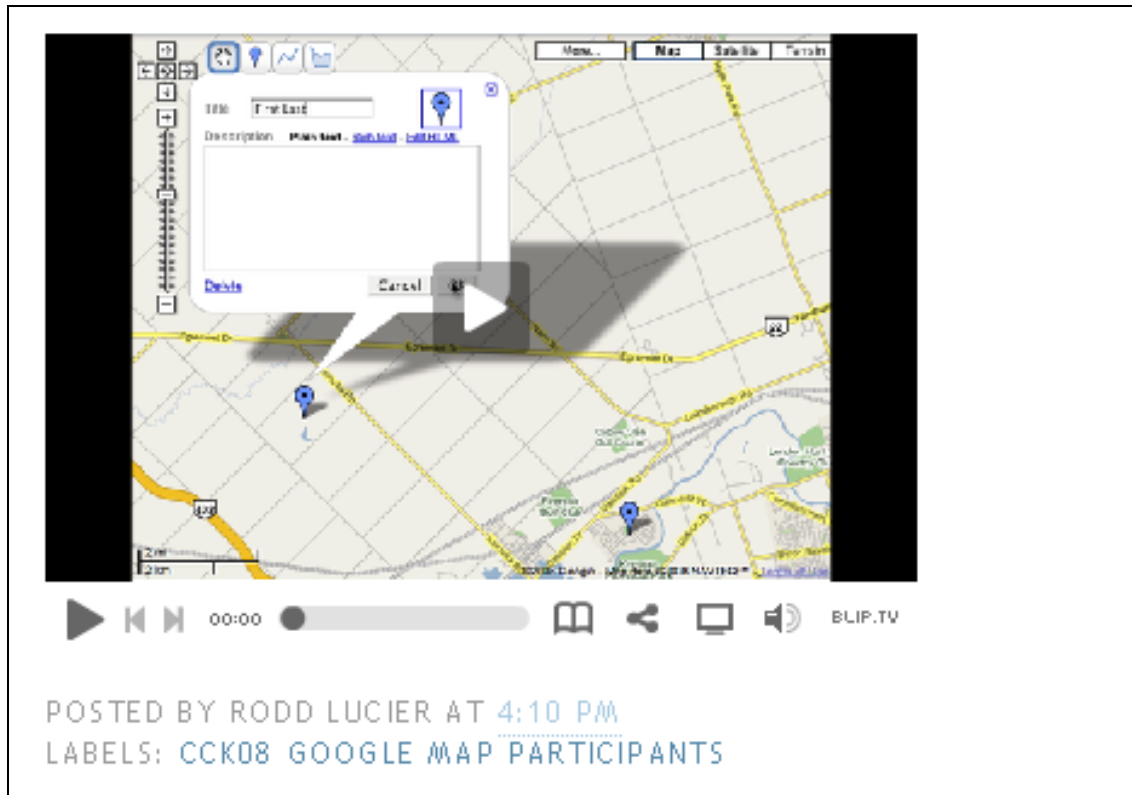
- The *Other* Course Map...



<http://tinyurl.com/cck08map>

The Students

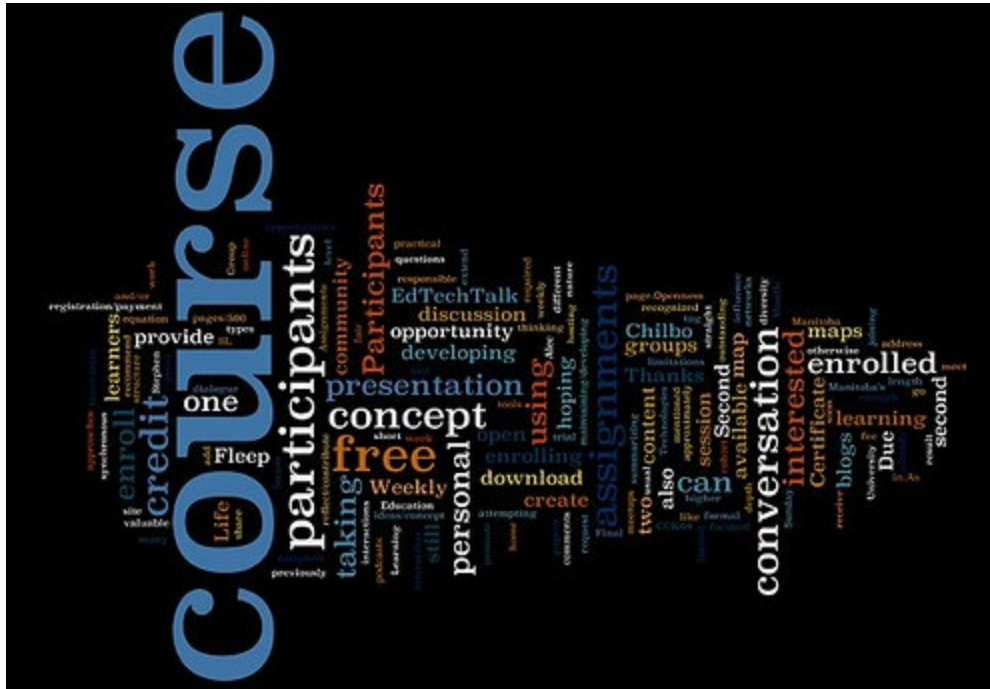
- Add to the Map - Video



<http://thecleversheep.blogspot.com/2008/09/cck08-is-truly-global.html>

The Students

- Wordle... 1



The Students

- Wordle... 2



The Students

- Word of Mouth



<http://fleep.net/blog/2008/08/03/educators-cck08-connectivism-connective-knowledge-course/>

The Students

- Google Groups



The screenshot shows a Google Groups interface. At the top, the logo 'Google Groups' is on the left, and the user 'stephen.downes.ca@gmail.com' with links for 'My Groups' and 'Favo' is on the right. Below this is a header for the group 'Connectivism and Connective Knowledge' with a search bar. A blue banner indicates the current thread is 'extending access of CCK08' with an 'Options' link. Below the banner, it says '7 messages - Collapse all'. The first message is from 'HelenaR' (with a 'View profile' link) dated 'Jun 22, 1:58 am' (with a 'More options' link). The message text asks: 'Is there a need to create a kind of regional help desks, in Portuguese for instance, to easy access to this course ? Can i help translating or co-translating the contends ? Helena'. Below the message are links for 'Reply to author', 'Forward', and a rating of five stars. The second message is from 'MariaTeresa' (with a 'View profile' link) dated 'Jun 24, 4:35 pm' (with a 'More options' link'). The message text says: 'Very good idea Helena. Translation is important, even though the language of the course is english, to count with information on how to participante in several languages will help to engage readers in those languages, Maria Teresa'. It also includes a quoted text section: 'On 22 jun, 07:58, HelenaR <ramoshelena...@gmail.com> wrote: - Show quoted text -'. Below this message are links for 'Reply to author', 'Forward', and a rating of five stars.

<http://groups.google.com/group/connectivism>

The Students

- Translations...

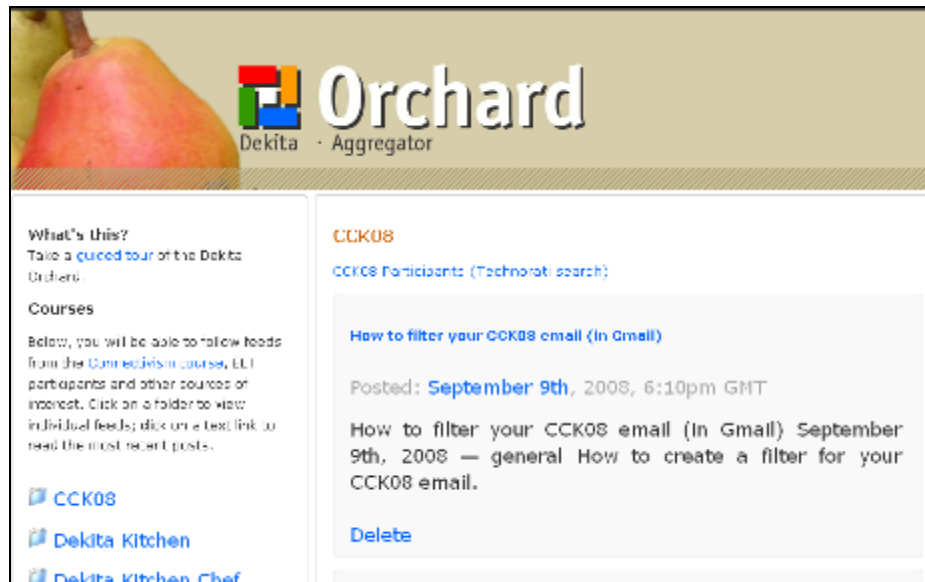


The screenshot shows a wiki page for 'Conectivismo - Curso online'. The page has a navigation menu on the left with links for 'Main Page', 'Recent changes', 'Random page', 'sandbox', and 'Help'. Below this is a section for 'ltc links' with links to 'LTC Website', 'Activities', 'Workshops and Resources', and 'Teaching with Technology'. The main content area has tabs for 'page', 'discussion', 'view source', and 'history'. The page title is 'Conectivismo - Curso online'. The main text reads: 'Bem-vindo ao wiki de apoio ao curso online sobre Conectivismo e Conhecimento Conectado.' followed by 'Tag do curso: CCK08'. It then states: 'Esta página também está disponível em Inglês, em Espanhol em Chinês (Versão simplificada de caracteres) e em Italiano.' and 'Esta página também tem um grupo no FaceBook em CCK08'. At the bottom, there is a 'Contents [hide]' section with a list of items: '1 Por favor, se quiser participar, (seja de forma livre ou de uma forma m formal para acreditação) insira o seu e-mail aqui', '2 Blogue do curso', and '3 Detalhes do curso'.

[http://ltc.umanitoba.ca/wiki/Conectivismo - Curso online](http://ltc.umanitoba.ca/wiki/Conectivismo_-_Curso_online)

The Students

- Dekita...



Orchard
Dekita - Aggregator

What's this?
Take a [guided tour](#) of the Dekita Orchard.

Courses
Below, you will be able to follow feeds from the [Connectivism course](#), ELL participants and other sources of interest. Click on a folder to view individual feeds; click on a text link to read the most recent posts.

- [CCK08](#)
- [Dekita Kitchen](#)
- [Dekita Kitchen Chef](#)

CCK08
[CCK08 Participants \(Technorati search\)](#)

[How to filter your CCK08 email \(In Gmail\)](#)

Posted: [September 9th, 2008, 6:10pm GMT](#)

How to filter your CCK08 email (In Gmail) September 9th, 2008 — general How to create a filter for your CCK08 email.

[Delete](#)

[http://dekita.org/orchard/CCK08 /](http://dekita.org/orchard/CCK08/)

The Students

- Second Life...
- Diigo...
- de.l.icio.us
- WordPress...



The Principles

1. Diversity

We want to encourage students to engage in diverse readings, diverse environments, diverse discussions

The Principles

2. Autonomy

We want students to chart their own course,
to select their own software, to pursue
their own learning

The Principles

3. Interaction / Connectedness

The knowledge in this course emerges as a result of the connections among the students and staff – and is not some ‘content’ shoveled from experts to recipients

The Principles

4. Openness

We don't draw barriers between 'in' and 'out' – which means we can accommodate the full engaged, the partially engaged, and the rest – creating strong ties and weak ties