

What is Open Education?



Stephen Downes, Medellin, Colombia, April 26, 2018

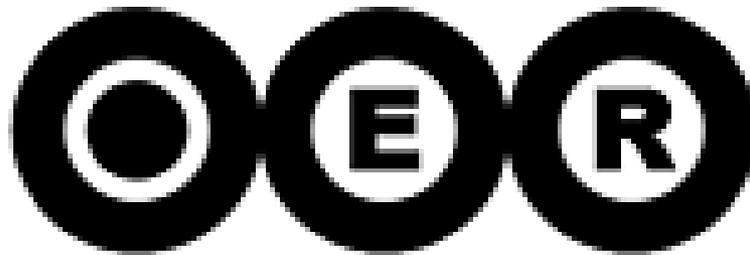
Open education is a philosophy about the way people should produce, share, and build on knowledge. Proponents of **open education** believe everyone in the world should have access to high-quality **educational** experiences and resources, and they work to eliminate barriers to this goal.



<https://opensource.com/resources/what-open-education>

What are OERs?

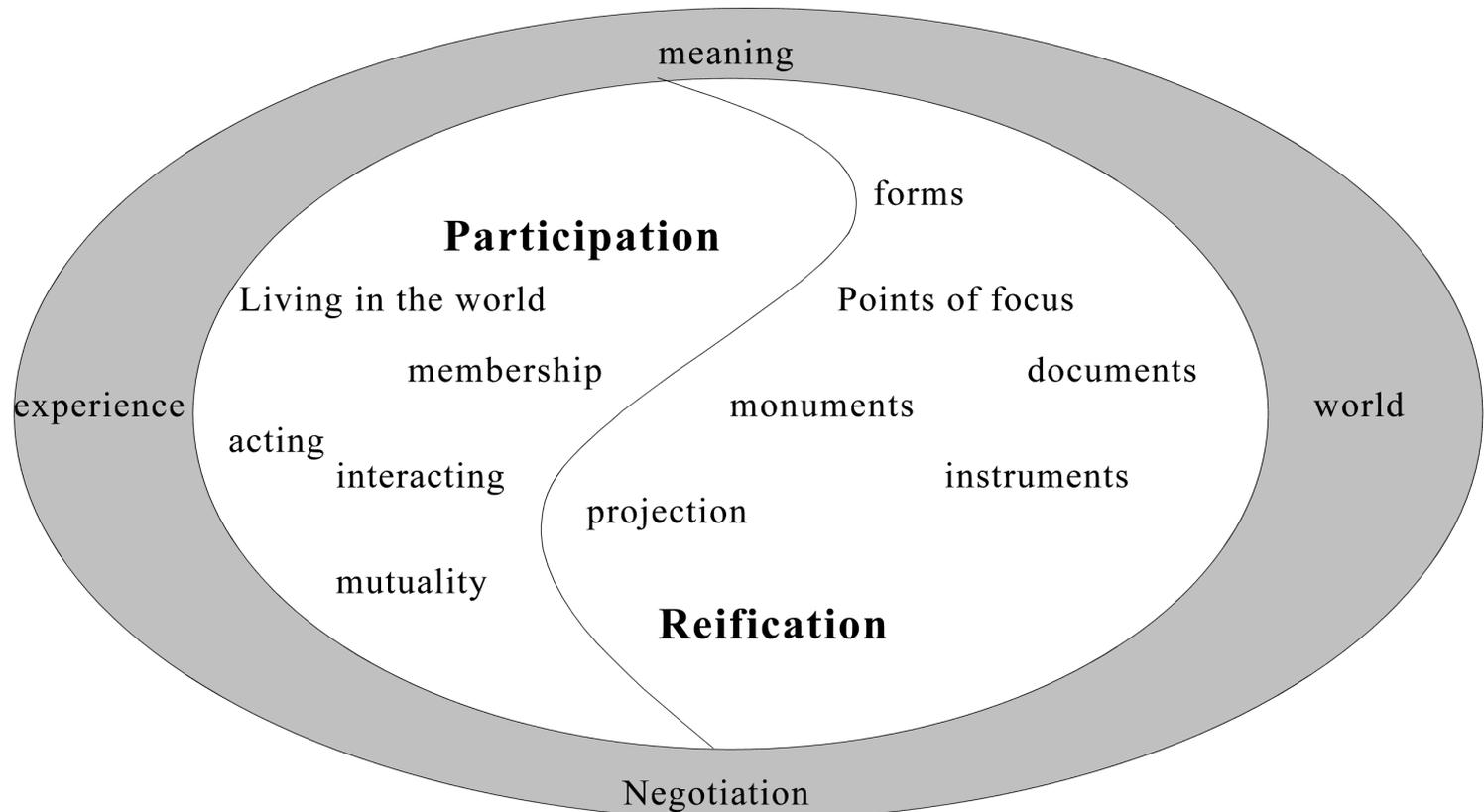
“OERs range from textbooks to curricula, syllabi, lecture notes, assignments, tests, projects, audio, video and animation.”



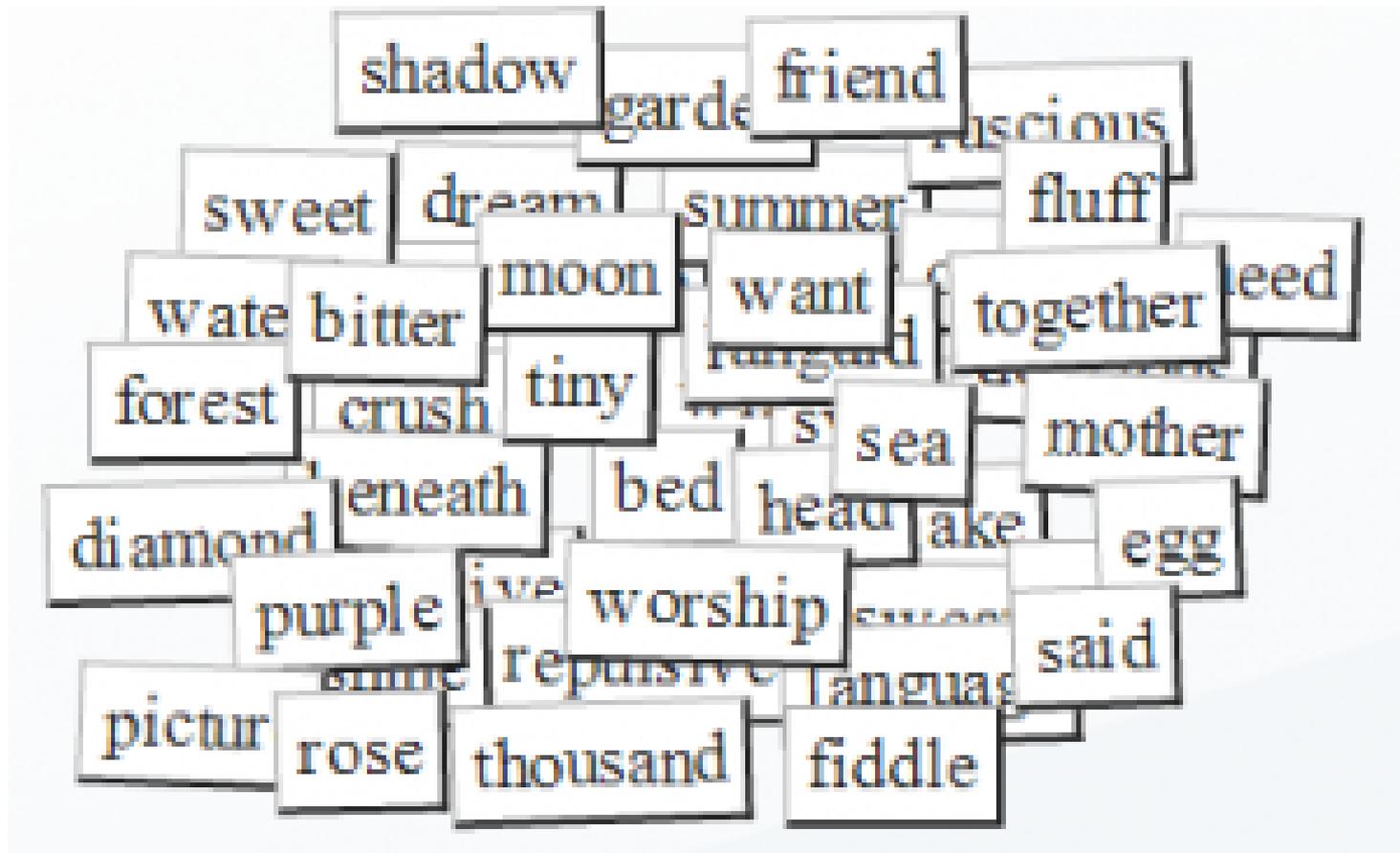
OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/access-to-knowledge/open-educational-resources/what-are-open-educational-resources-oers/>

Knowledge is reified by, and is the product of, not only an individual, but of the wider community.



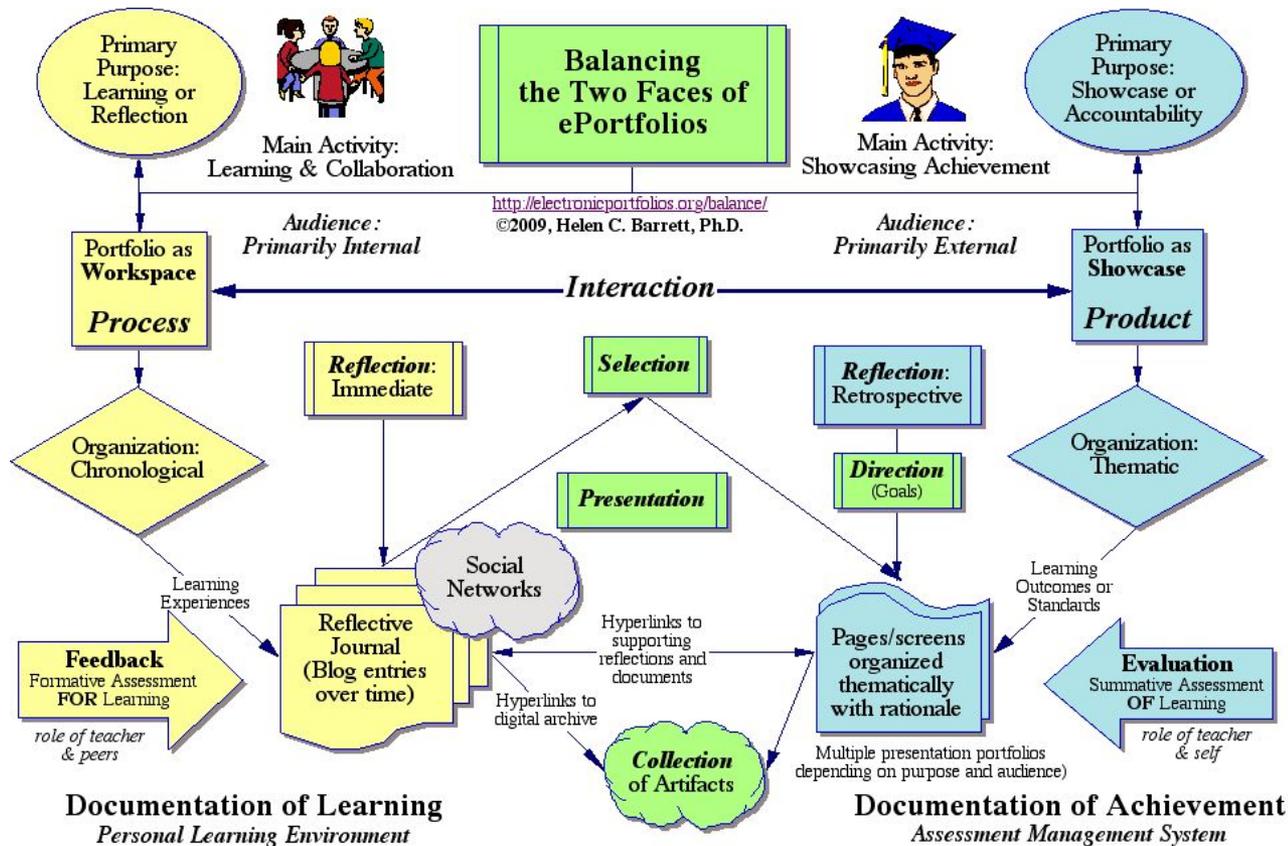
Think of OERs as words in a conversation



It forces us to think about how they can be used.



Consider how words are used in education.



Understanding Knowledge



<http://www2.webster.edu/~corbetre/philosophy/education/freire/freire-2.html>

We are constrained in so many ways

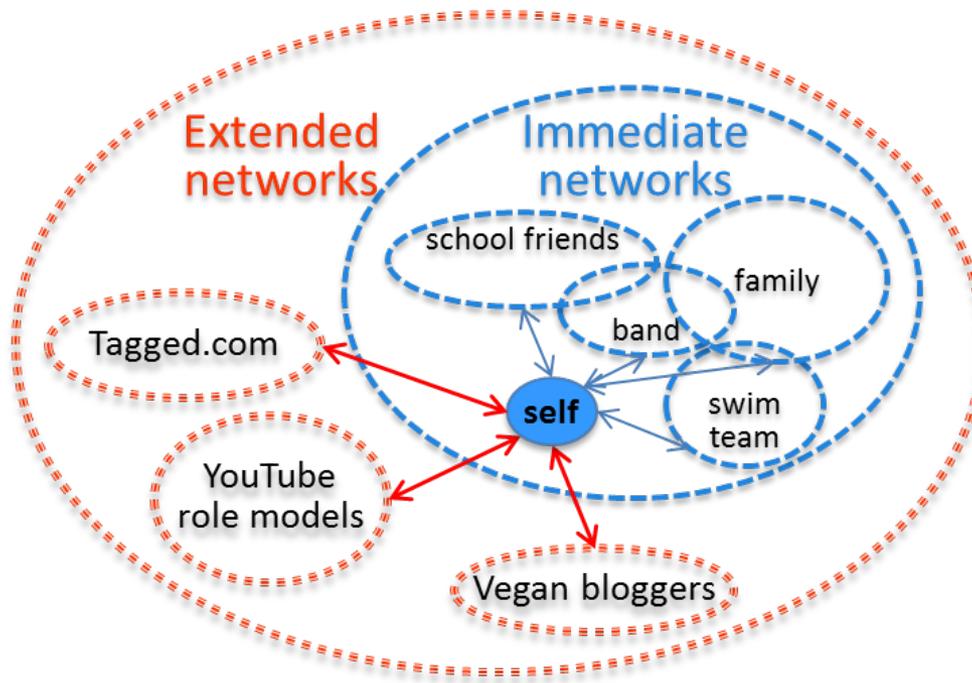
- Limited to objectives and educational purpose
- The words have to contain educational *content*
- They must perform (say) one of Gagne's tasks
- That pedagogy is limited to one of knowledge *transfer*
- Students are rendered essentially mute

Knowing a Pile of Facts?



Image: <http://www.rightattitudes.com/>

Learning in Context



Informal learning opportunities via extended networks

Task-Focused
Network-based

How OERs (Really) Begin

The screenshot shows the Khan Academy website interface. At the top left, the Khan Academy logo is displayed with the text "156,590,606 lessons delivered" and "KHANACADEMY". To the right of the logo is a search bar with the placeholder text "Search for a video or topic". Further right are navigation links: "WATCH", "PRACTICE", "COACH", "VOLUNTEER", and "ABOUT". In the top right corner, there are links for "Login" and "Donate".

The main content area features a video player with the title "LeBron asks about the chances of making 10 free throws". The video content shows a hand-drawn illustration of LeBron James holding a basketball. To the right of the illustration, there are diagrams illustrating the probability of making 10 free throws. The diagrams show a sequence of 10 free throws, with the probability of making each one being 75%. The diagrams are labeled "FT#1", "FT#2", "FT#3", and "FT#10". The probability for FT#1 is 75%. For FT#2, the probability is $75\% \times 75\%$. For FT#3, the probability is $75\% \times 75\% \times 75\%$. For FT#10, the probability is $75\% \times 75\% \times 75\%$. A play button is visible in the center of the video player.

To the right of the video player, there is a section titled "Watch. Practice. Learn almost anything for free." Below this title, there is a paragraph: "With over 3,200 videos on everything from arithmetic to physics, finance, and history and hundreds of skills to practice, we're on a mission to help you learn what you want, when you want, at your own pace." Below the paragraph are two buttons: "Watch a Video" and "Take a Challenge".

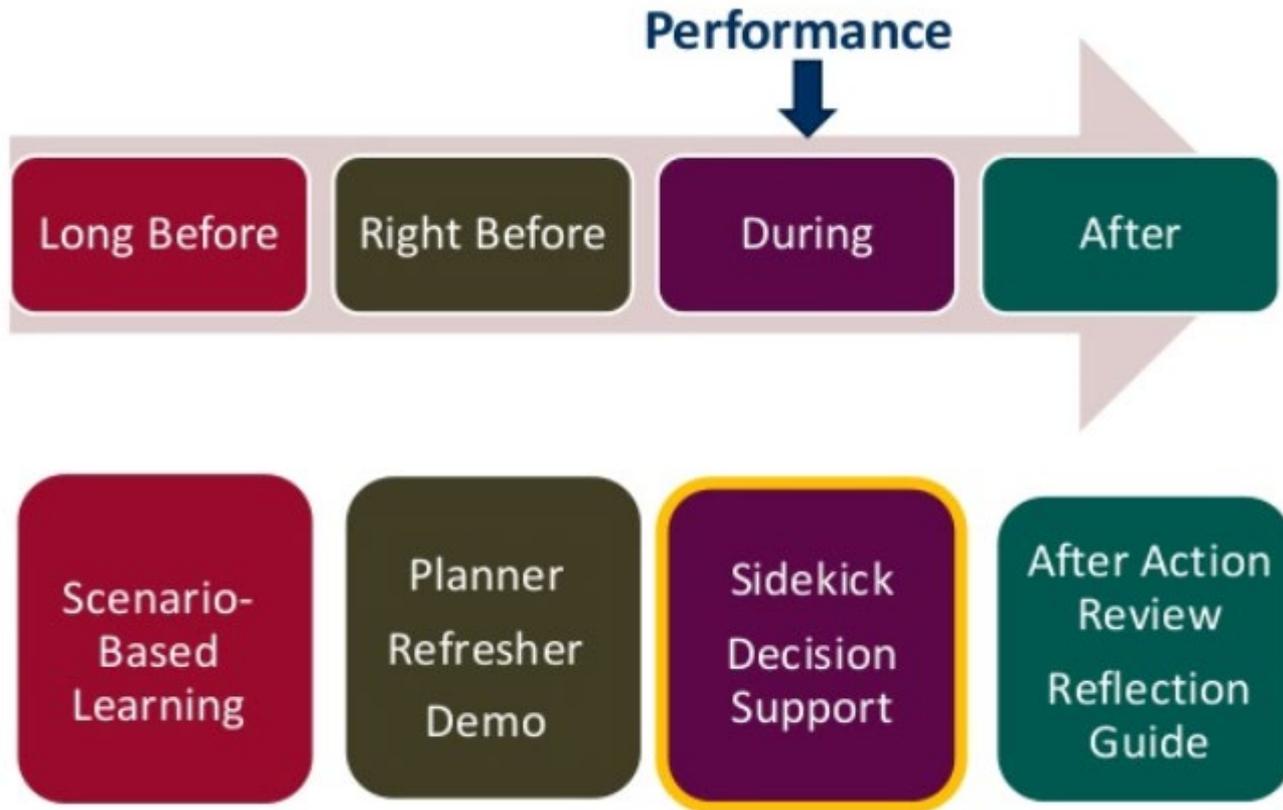
Below the buttons, there is a section titled "Teacher or administrator? Explore our Teacher Resources." Below this section are social media sharing options: "Like" (897k), "Send", "Tweet" (28.4K), and "+1" (18k). Below the social media options is a form to enter an email to learn about new courses, with a "Get Updates" button.

Below the video player and social media options, there is a section titled "New & Noteworthy". This section contains four video thumbnails with titles: "Balance of Payments- Current ...", "Balance of Payments- Capital ...", "Why Current and Capital Acco...", and "Accumulating Foreign Currenc...".

Below the "New & Noteworthy" section, there is a section titled "Browse our library of over 3,200 educational videos...". Below this section is a navigation bar with the following options: "Jump to topic: Math", "Science", "Finance & Econ.", "Humanities", "Test Prep", and "Talks and Interviews".

<http://www.khanacademy.org/>

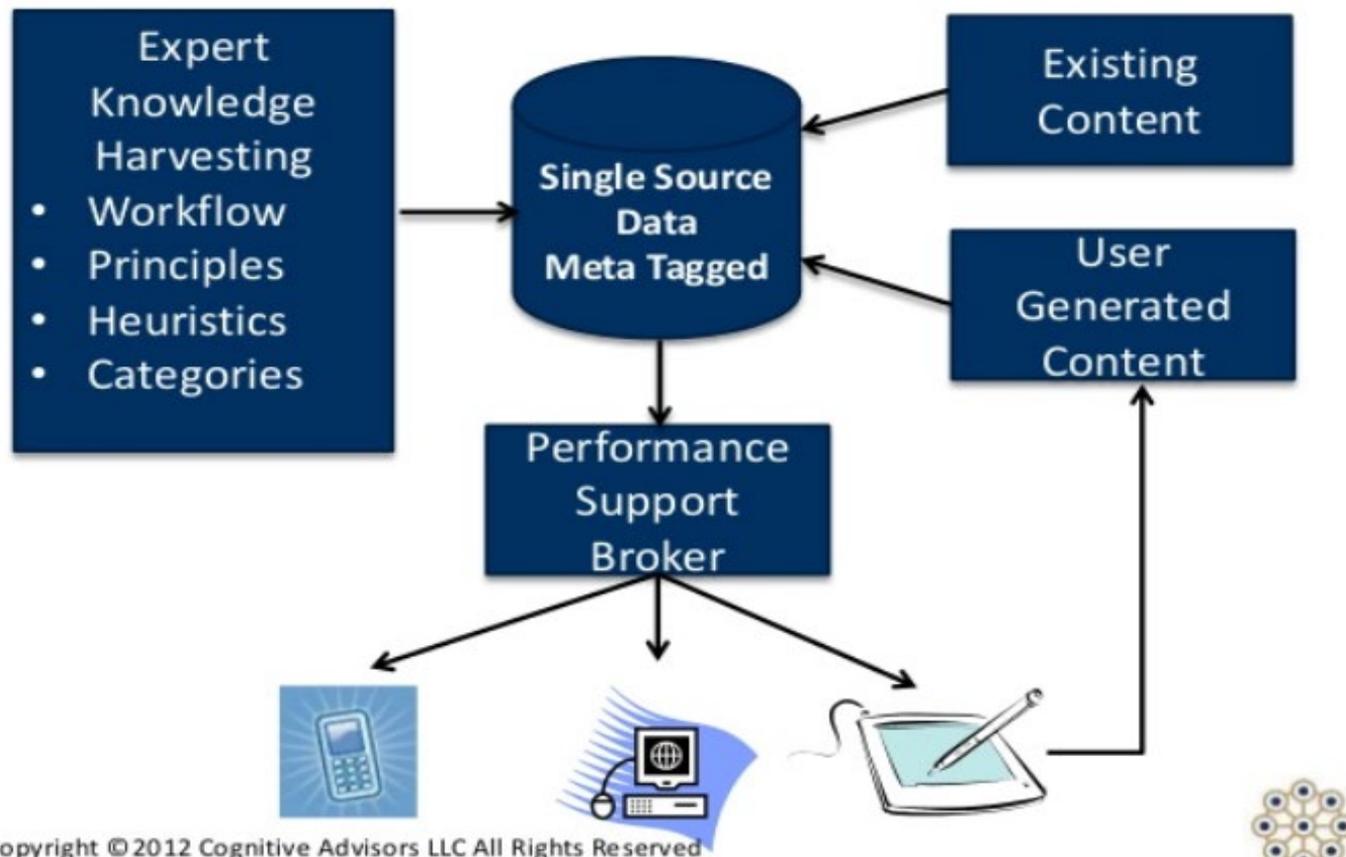
Performance Support



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User-Generated OERs



Working Out Loud



<http://johnstepper.com/2014/01/04/the-5-elements-of-working-out-loud/>

Informal OER Ecosystem



Creating Live OERs



OIF – MOOC-REL

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the REL 2014 MOOC website. The main title is "REL 2014 - Pour une éducation libre". The navigation menu includes "ACCUEIL", "VOTRE COMPTE", "COMPTES RENDUS", "PARTICIPER", "SYNDICATION RSS", and "ARCHIVES". Below the navigation bar, a message states "Vous n'êtes pas connecté(e). [Connexion] - [Inscription]". The main content area features a large graphic on the left with the text "Réutiliser, retravailler, recombinaison, redistribuer" and icons representing people and documents. To the right of the graphic, the main heading is "Réutiliser, Retravailler, Recombiner, Redistribuer – 4R des REL pour une Éducation libre". Below this heading, there is a welcome message: "Bienvenue à votre Cours en Ligne Ouvert et Massif (CLOM) de l'Organisation internationale de la Francophonie portant sur les ressources éducatives libres (REL).". A paragraph follows: "Le cours débute le 3 mars 2014 et dure neuf semaines consécutives. Si vous n'êtes pas déjà inscrit(e), faites-le tout de suite pour recevoir le Bulletin de nouvelles quotidiennes et bénéficier du droit de commentaires/discussion dans le site." Below this is the section title "Introduction au CLOM REL 2014". At the bottom of the screenshot, the beginning of a paragraph is visible: "Vous trouverez ci-dessous une courte vidéo qui explique le contexte du présent cours. Nous vous".

REL 2014 - Pour une éducation libre

ACCUEIL VOTRE COMPTE COMPTES RENDUS PARTICIPER SYNDICATION RSS ARCHIVES

Vous n'êtes pas connecté(e). [Connexion] - [Inscription]

Réutiliser, retravailler, recombinaison, redistribuer

Réutiliser, Retravailler, Recombiner, Redistribuer – 4R des REL pour une Éducation libre

Bienvenue à votre Cours en Ligne Ouvert et Massif (CLOM) de l'Organisation internationale de la Francophonie portant sur les ressources éducatives libres (REL).

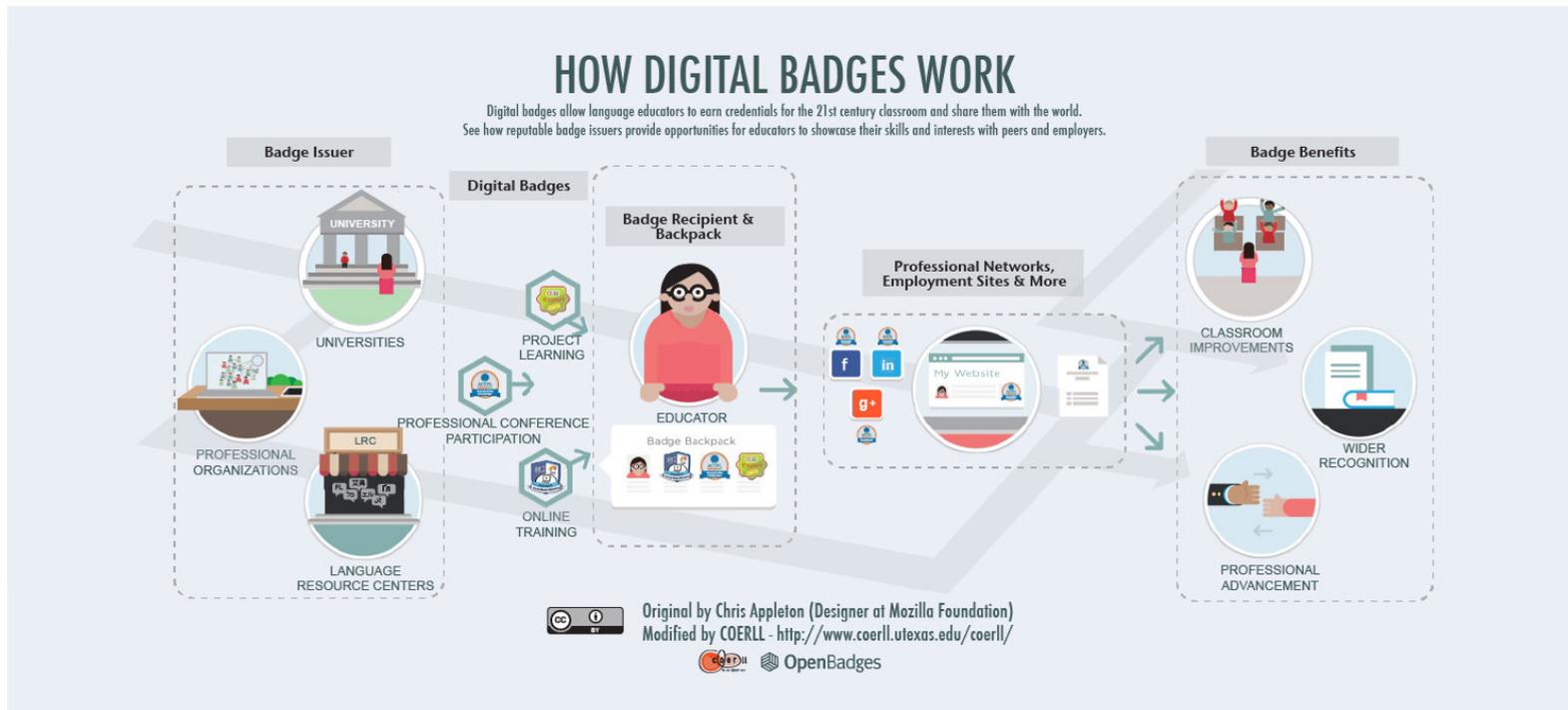
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Introduction au CLOM REL 2014

Vous trouverez ci-dessous une courte vidéo qui explique le contexte du présent cours. Nous vous

<http://rel2014.mooc.ca/>

PCO Badges for Learning



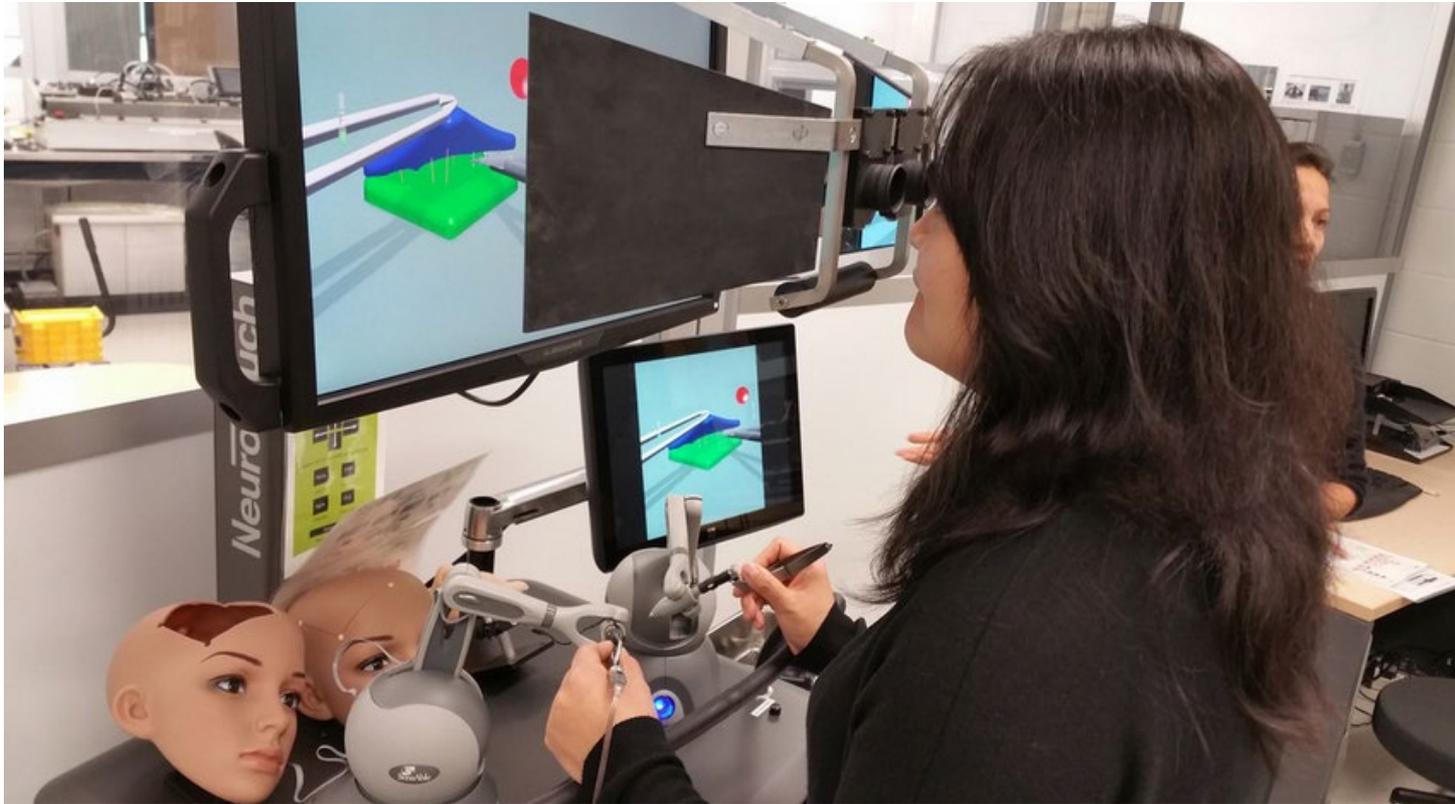
<http://www.downes.ca/post/63738>

ALECSO – Capacity Building



<http://www.downes.ca/presentation/337>

Med Sims



https://www.flickr.com/photos/stephen_downes/15710336207/

<http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/rd/medical/>



Stephen Downes

<http://www.downes.ca>