cMOOC for open professional development

Christina Hendricks, Faculty of Arts
Will Engle, CTLT
Cindy Underhill, CTLT
Lucas Wright, CTLT
Our motivations

Cindy: learning design question: what’s a good balance between structure and open space for learning communities to thrive?

Christina: develop a community of people using WP in teaching & learning to continue beyond the course

Will: Transform our support and PD for WordPress to be less tool oriented and more teaching (with that tool) oriented; model open practices for PD

Lucas: explore networked online learning to engage educators in teaching with WordPress
Where do YOU go to learn & why?
WELCOME!

This is an open online course on Teaching with WordPress, running June 1-26, 2015. Join us to talk about and experiment with, among other things:

- open education, open pedagogy and design
- WordPress as a highly customizable framework for teaching and learning
- examples of instructors and learners using Wordpress sites in many different ways for multiple purposes
- plugins, applications and approaches for creating, discussing, sharing and interacting with each other

Throughout the course, you'll be creating your own WordPress course site, so that by the end you'll have a beginning structure to build on with your learners.

Latest Updates:

WEEK 3: COURSE DESIGN IN WORDPRESS

We are coming to the end of Week 2 in Teaching in WordPress and looking forward to another exciting week learning from the ever expanding TWP15 community. Last week we dug a little deeper and started exploring some of the affordances of WordPress in teaching and learning. This week we will start putting it all together [...]

http://blogs.ubc.ca/teachwordpress
Completely online

Open to access, Engage, Retain, Reuse, Revise, Remix, Redistribute

Aligning the learning outcomes, curriculum goals into the design of the goals (e.g. using the tool to teach the tool, using open pedagogy to explore open pedagogy, etc).
Open Development

**Documentation:TWP2015**

Welcome! This is for wiki pages associated with the design, development and offering of Teaching With WordPress at UBC (TWP2015):

http://blogs.ubc.ca/teachwordpress/<br/>

**About**

TWP2015 open online course on Teaching with WordPress that explores among other things:

- open education, open pedagogy and design
- WordPress as a highly customizable framework for teaching and learning
- examples of instructors and learners using WordPress sites in many different ways for multiple purposes
- plug ins, applications and approaches for creating, discussing, sharing and interacting with each other

**All TWP2015 Pages**

- Activities/week1
Weekly Learning Goals and Activities

WEEK 1: OPEN PEDAGOGY AND DESIGN

Introduction to Open Pedagogies and Open Course Design

“ At its core, the question of open pedagogy is “what can I do in the context of open that I couldn’t do before?”

- from David Wiley in his blog post: Evolving Open Pedagogy.

This week, we will:

- Orient ourselves to the course structure and approaches for sharing and receiving fee on work in progress.
- Discuss what we mean by “open pedagogy” and openness in teaching and learning.
- Consider the “backwards design” approach (Wiggins and McTighe) and associated con

WEEK 2: AFFORDANCES OF WORDPRESS

Week 2: Sketching on the Blank Slate: Affordances of WordPress

“ You’re designing a web not a website.

- Stephen Downes From his talk: Design Elements in a Personal Learning Environment.

This week, we will:

- Discuss how the WordPress environment can be used to support varied teaching and learning goals.
- Share strategies for designing assessment and learning activities in WordPress
- Reflect on benefits and limitations of using WordPress for teaching and learning
- Build, refine your WordPress course environment and post for feedback on design
Self Directed, with Multiple Learning Pathways

**Curated Readings**

**Learning Activities**

June 1st 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm (PST) kick-off webinar: Join us and our colleagues from BC Campus for a webinar discussion on Open Pedagogy! Facilitators Amanda Coolidge, Mary Burgess and Tracy Kelly will help us think through what open pedagogy is/isn't and what it might look like in practice. Sign in a few minutes before the session.

View the session archive. Add to the Google Doc – with your examples of open pedagogy in action!

Plus, this week, you’re invited to engage in the following activities...

**On Your Own**

- Create a WordPress site and add it to the course blog hub, make an introductory post, comment on someone else’s introduction. See the resources on WordPress for help setting up your site for comments.
Leveraging Peer Interaction

**With Others**

- **Participate** in a synchronous video/audio chat about open education hosted chat/webinar on topic of open pedagogy (BCcampus)---see above.

- **Post/Discuss** on the following, in your own blog posts or in comments on the week 1 weekly page---see that page for instructions. Please also comment on someone else's post.
  - *Is there any such thing as a safe, open digital learning environment? Consider your reflections on trust and privacy.*
  - *David Wiley's question: "What can you do in the context of open that you couldn't do before?"*
Syndicated Blog Hub

Participants work entirely in their own WordPress site.

Content in a user specified category is syndicated and re-published on main course site.

RSS feeds can be used to keep up with activity:
Use of Twitter to Facilitate Learning Network

#twp15

Rich @richardtape · 56m
We'll be live with the #TWP15 google hangout #WordPress clinic in a little over 3 hours (1pm Pacific). More details: blogs.ubc.ca/teachwordpress...

Tom Woodward @twoodwar · 1h
Just a note to #twp15 ppl- if you haven’t, try using the “Press This” tool. No one uses it but it’s really nice. #vcuaitlab

John Johnston @johnjohnston · 1h
A couple of #twp15 #teachingWP posts today johnjohnston.info/blog/category/...

Simon Warren @worried_teacher · 1h
Help needed from the #TWP15 community: I have a domain for my WP but still not able to get plugins. HELP!!!!!!!!!!

Tom Woodward @twoodwar · 5h
@worried_teacher & as a bizarre last resort you can pull RSS feeds into Google
Collaborative Resource and Knowledge Building

ASSIGNMENT BANK

Contribute to the assignment bank! As the course progresses, we hope to collectively develop a set of resources for learning activities that use affordances of WordPress and open. Try an assignment and comment on your experience or create one.

RESOURCES COLLECTION

Welcome to the Resource Collection! As the course progresses, we hope to collectively develop a set of resources around open pedagogy and WordPress. Know a great resource? Please add it!

Self-Introduction

On the importance of social presence in online learning...allow Ss to express their personality. by Course Participant - Date: June 15, 2015 @9:57 am

ISW Pre-Workshop Module - Learning Objectives

WordPress module with the goal of

What is Open Education?

Good overview and introduction to what is meant by "open education".

Link: http://blogs.ubc.ca/chendricks/2015/04/11/what-is-open-education/

Students as Producers: An Introduction

Derek Bruff provides an introduction to the Student as Producer pedagogical model.

Link: http://cft.vanderbilt.edu/2013/09/students-as-producers-an-introduction/
Connectivism
(according to George Siemens)

- “Learning is a process of connecting specialized nodes or information sources”
- “Nurturing and maintaining connections is needed to facilitate continual learning”
- “The pipe is more important than the content within the pipe. Our ability to learn what we need for tomorrow is more important than what we know today.”

Connectivist MOOCs

- Promote connections!
- Instructors as facilitators & co-leaners
- Curriculum co-created
- Participants follow own learning goals/paths
- Central hub plus distribution across sites/platforms

*Networks*, Flickr photo shared by Alex, licensed CC BY 2.0
Still image from What is a MOOC? by Dave Cormier & Neal Gillis. Licensed CC-BY (no link to the license on the video, just stated in the description)
Challenges & Opportunities:
open? online? self-directed?
Benefits & Opportunities

Building on “learning web”: working in WP
Benefits & Opportunities

Collective contribution to resource curation.

Contribute to the assignment bank! As the course progresses, we hope to collectively develop a set of resources for learning activities that use affordances of WordPress and open. Try an assignment and comment on your experience or create one.

Welcome to the Resource Collection! As the course progresses, we hope to collectively develop a set of resources around open pedagogy and WordPress. Know a great resource? Please add it!
Outcomes

“Did the MOOC as a whole produce some new insight, or recognize some new phenomenon in its area of study?”

Stephen Downes
Christina Hendricks @clhendricksbhc · Jun 6
Some ppl in #TWP15 have set up a p2 WP site to test it out for discussions: marianafun.es/gintd/ If u want to play, tweet to @mdvfunes

Viv Rolfe @VivienRolfe · Jun 7
#twp15 This week has been awesome. How can I run an open course if my Uni has no policies? Might be simpler to work openly beyond the Uni?
Designing for open #TWP15

JUNE 17, 2015  |  Uncategorized

galwaysimon:

Really interesting challenges posed here: whether an open platform can enhance a well working closed platform; building on previous action learning modes which brings issues of vulnerability for students #TWP15

Originally posted on Jeff Merrell:

I want to attempt to address two questions posed as prompts for week 1 of Teaching with WordPress:

- What can you do in the context of open that you couldn’t do before?
- What’s your biggest challenge in designing for open?
Chris Lott
8 Jun
My big #TWP15 interest is less my teaching with WP than helping my co-learners (students) learning & connecting with their own WP sites.

Chris Lott
June 5, 2015 at 10:34 am | Reply

What you want to do with your course sounds very, very close to what I am doing with a course this summer at http://nousion.net/s15/. Students build their own domains on Reclaim Hosting and I am interrogating the ideas of “digital citizenship” and “intellectual property” and the like by having them live, learn and connect in the open and online using WordPress as both the course site (except for the gradebook) and as their starting point on their own domains.

Mo Pelzel
June 5, 2015 at 4:02 pm | Reply

Chris, thanks for connecting and commenting...this is extremely helpful, and I am very grateful for your sharing your course with me. I am still in course construction mode (but fast running out of time, so need to get on with it). I have navigated through your course site and am very impressed with its thoughtfulness, design, and organization.
Challenges

Participation: core vs. periphery

Signups vs participation

Waning over time
Challenges

Most participants already pretty familiar with WordPress

Is this the right environment for support for WP newbies?
Your questions:

how will you explore…

on your own?

with your networks?
Tweet your question to our network #TWP15

Visit our course site at:
http://blogs.ubc.ca/teachwordpress/

Christina Hendricks @clhendricks
Will Engle @infology
Cindy Underhill @cindyu
Lucas Wright @lucwrite