The Classroom-less Society

The Shifting Boundaries of Online Learning

Jon Dron
Professor & Chair, School of Computing and Information Systems,
Athabasca University

CC BY SA

Athabasca University

Self-paced

No cohorts

No classes

6-month contracts

Tutor support

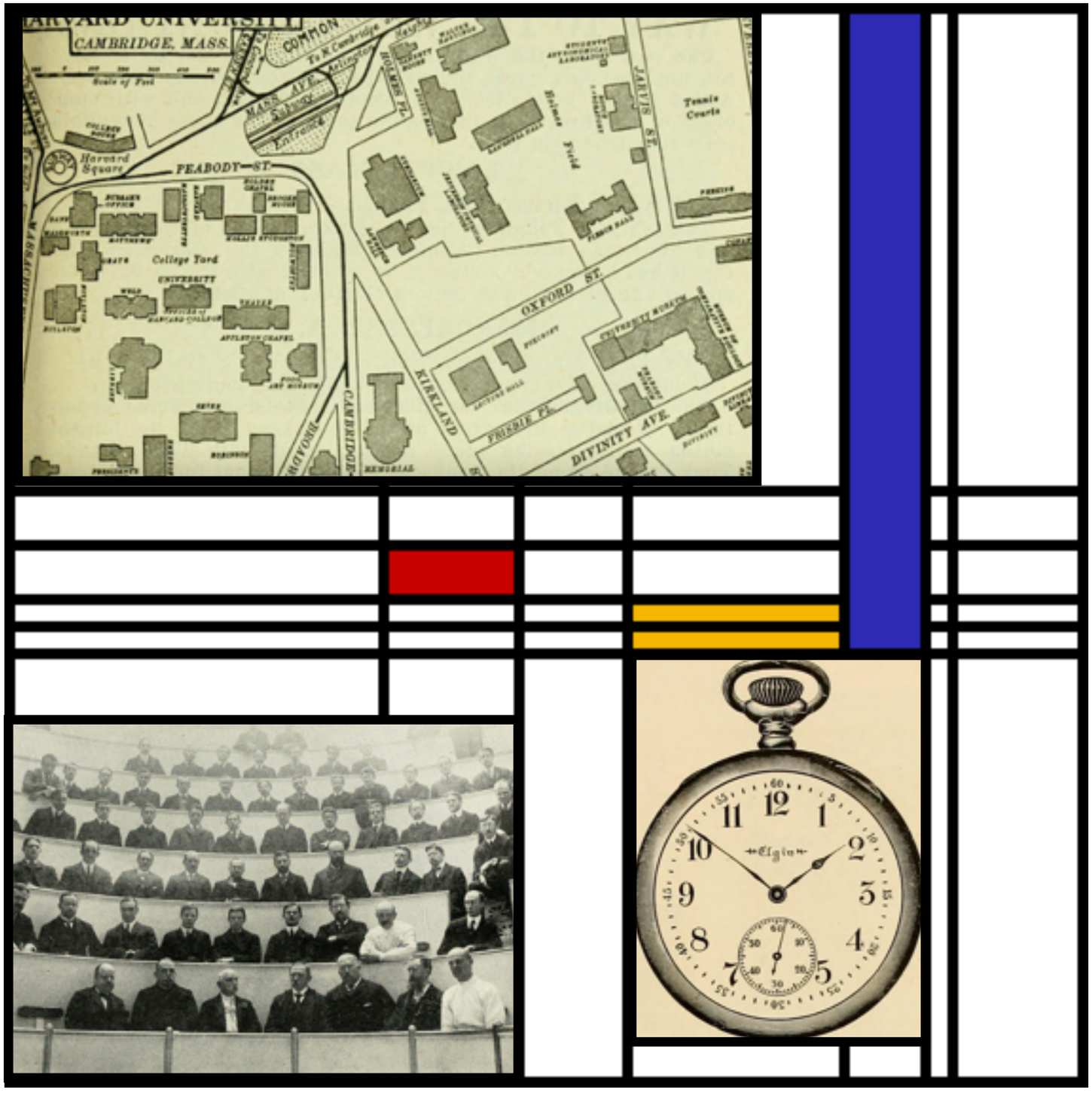
Moodle

Boundaries

containment
not (always)
separation

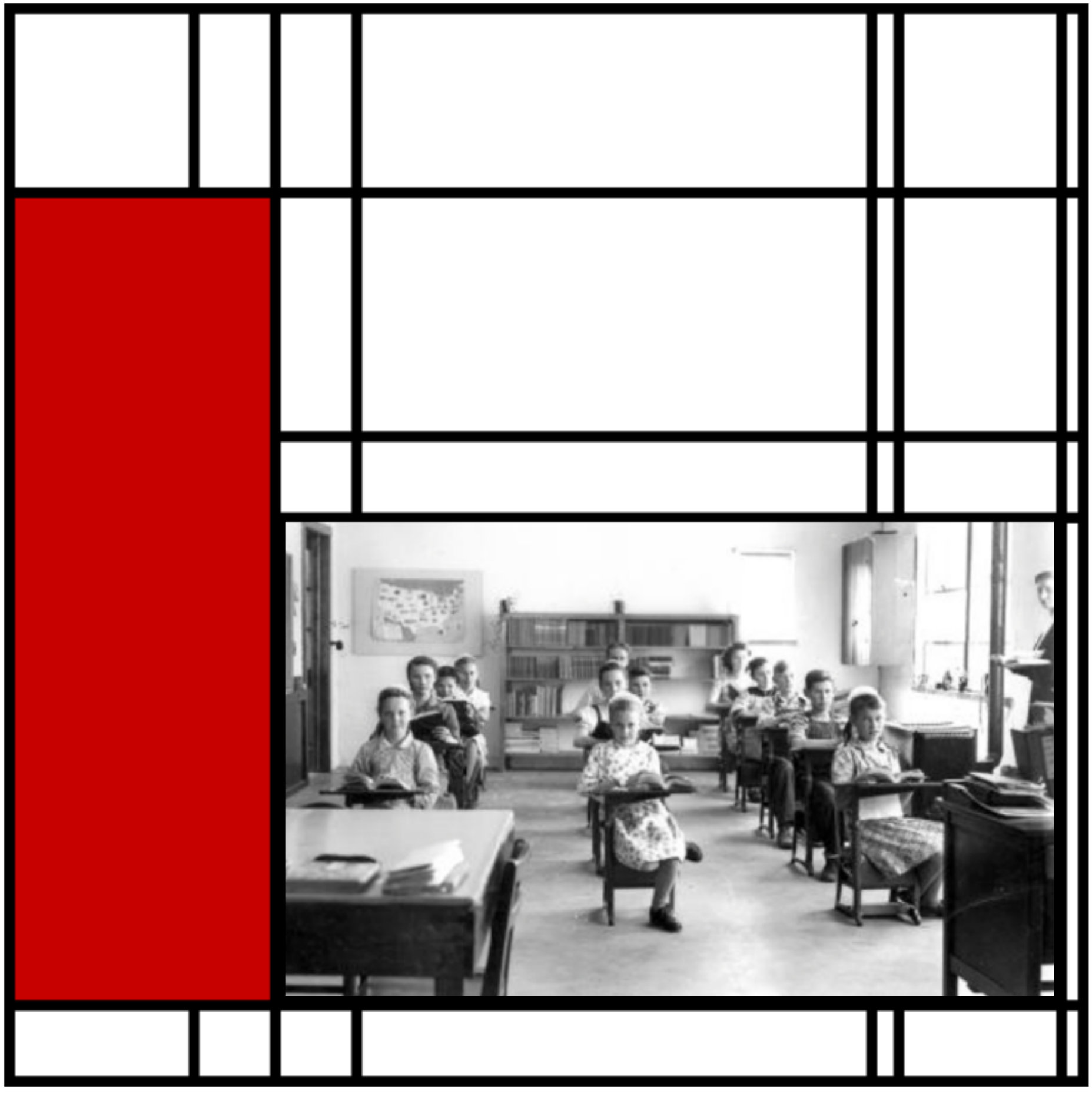
spatial
physical
procedural
conceptual
virtual
contractual
temporal
cultural
organizational
ritual
categorical
political
tribal
ethical
class/caste
legal
linguistic
social
racial
metaphorical
permeable
logical
semi-permeable

Physical boundaries



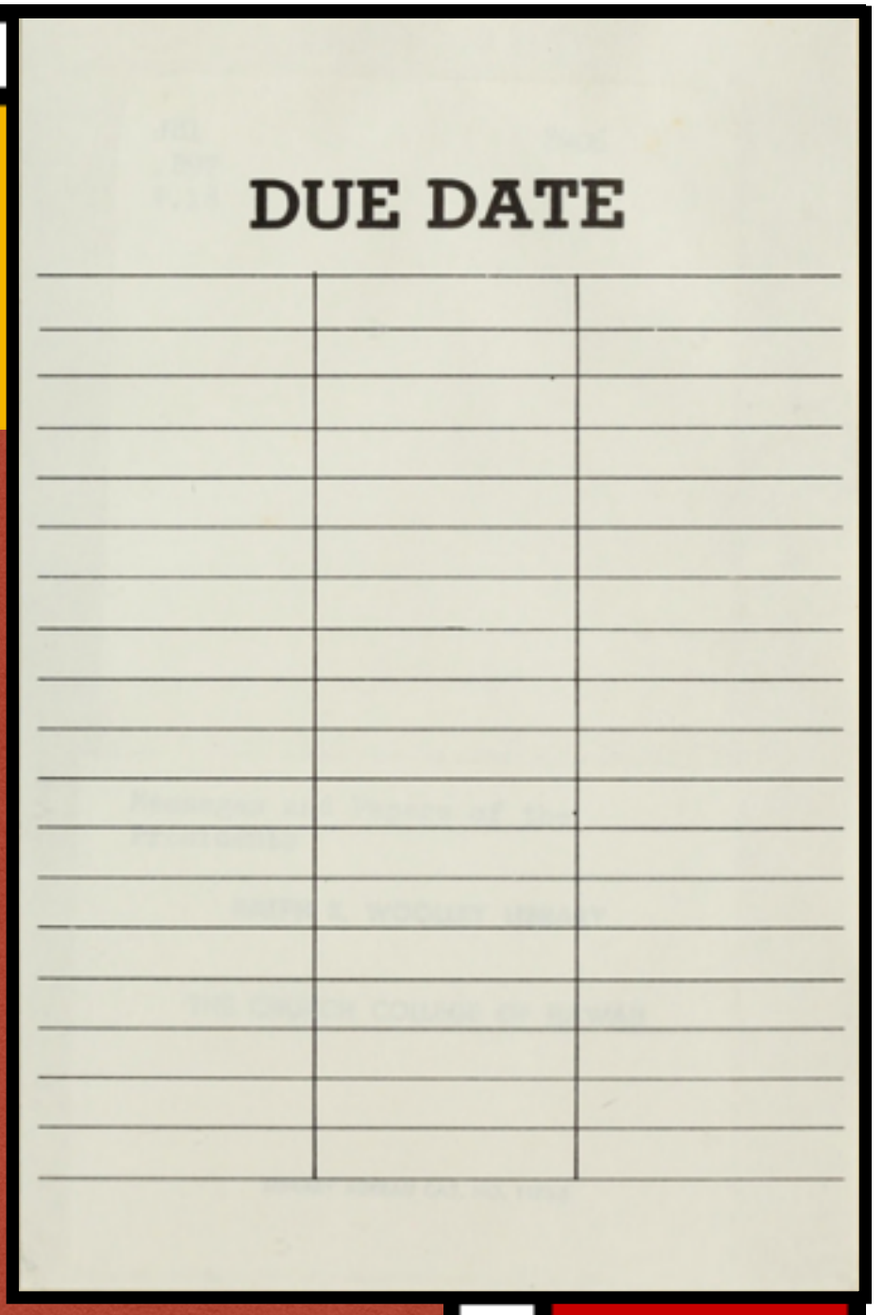
Scarce resources

And so…



And so…

Classes
Courses
Terms
Curricula
Timetables
Disciplines
Hierarchies
Rules
Learning outcomes



One size fits all
Pedagogies of control

And so…

exams

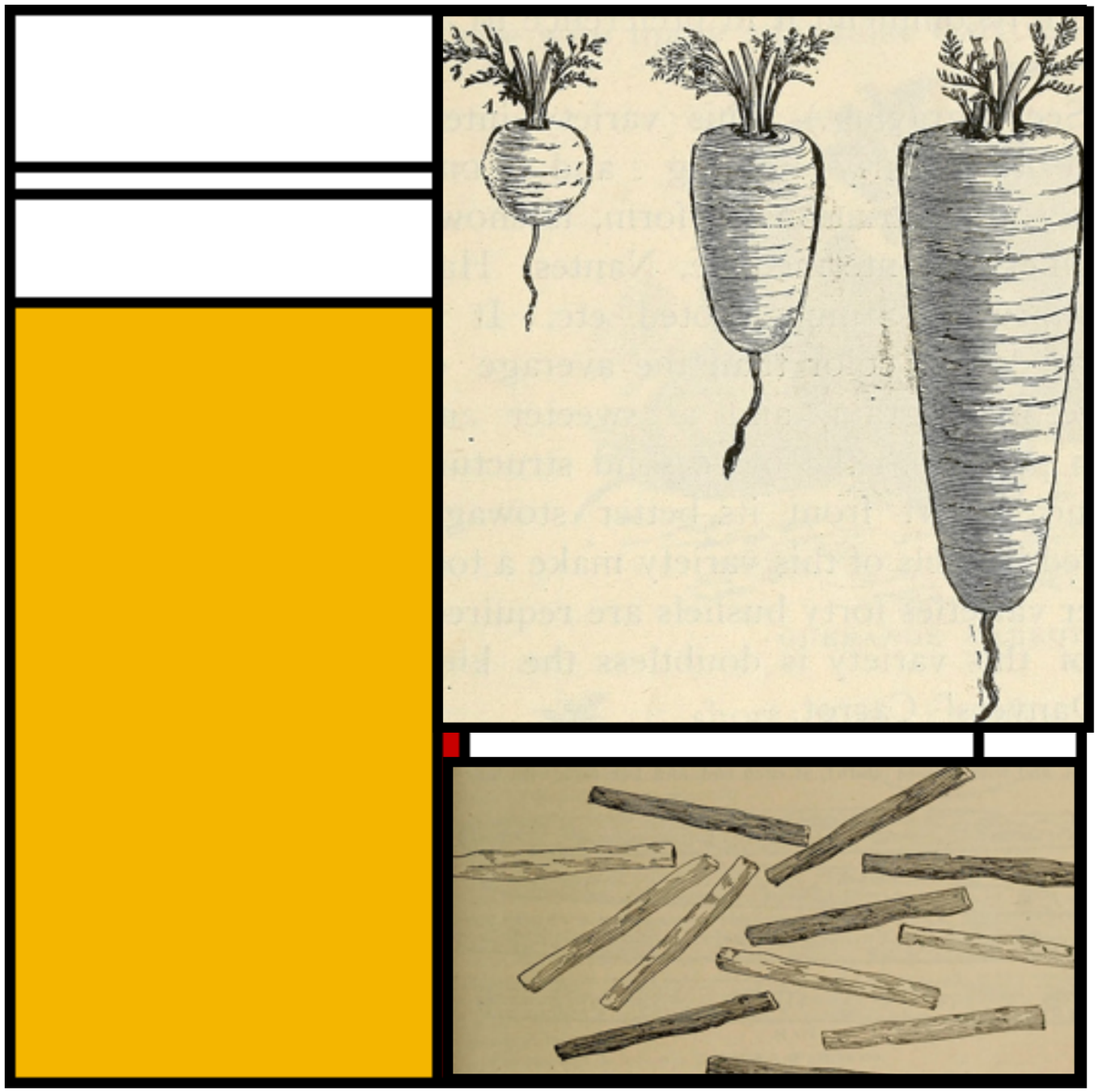
grades

F-

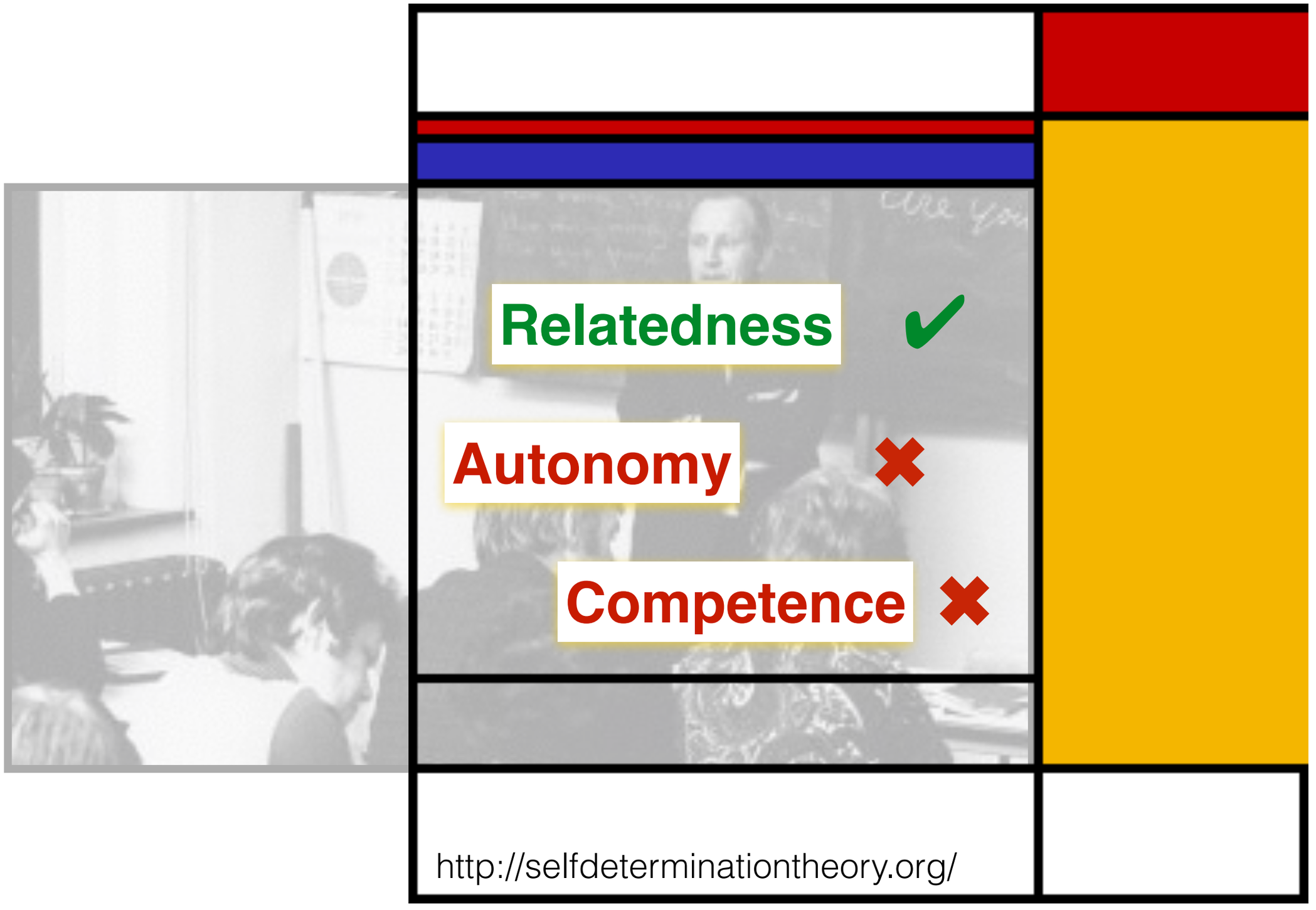
certificates

accreditation

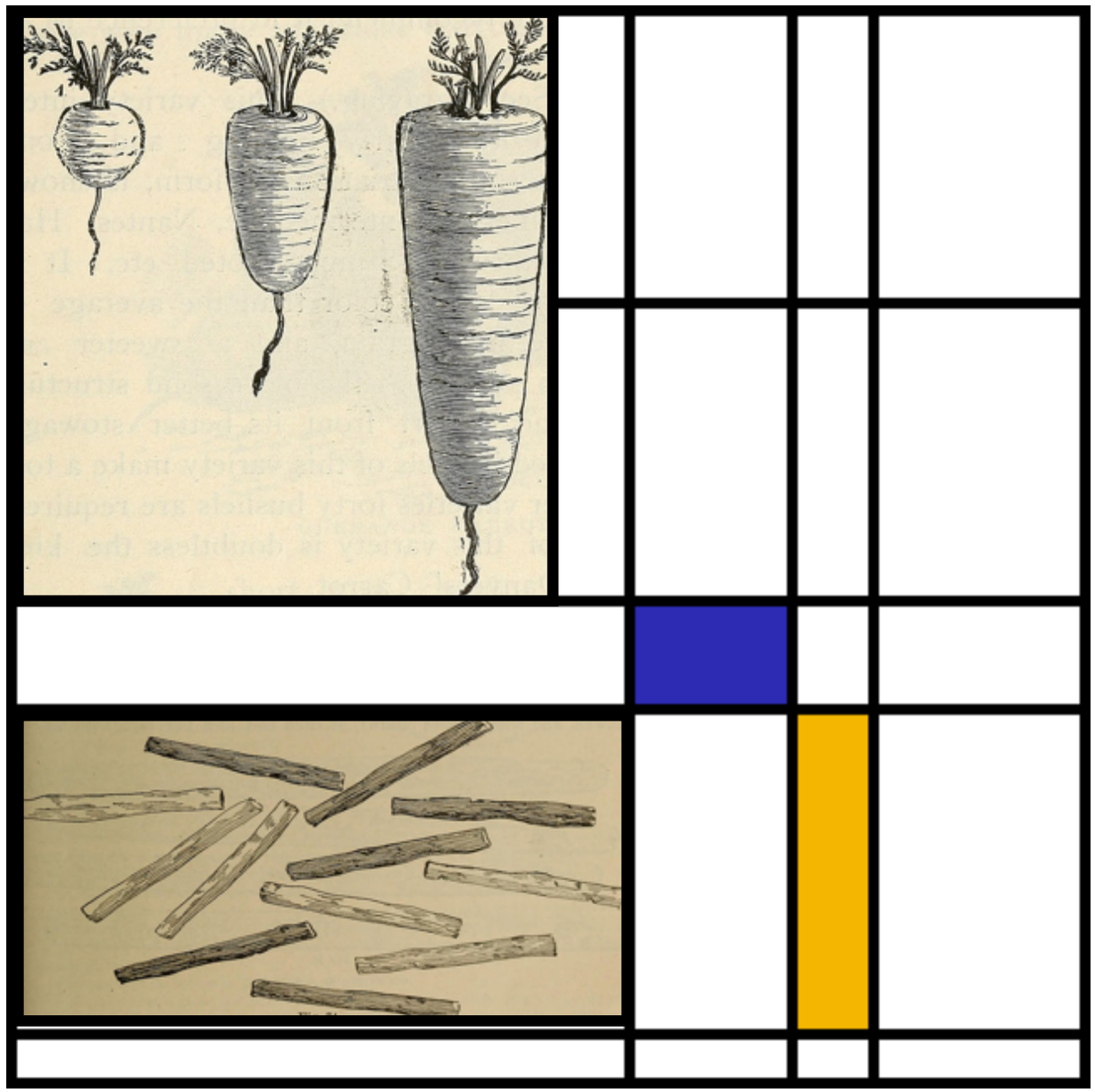
Carrots and Sticks



Intrinsic motivation



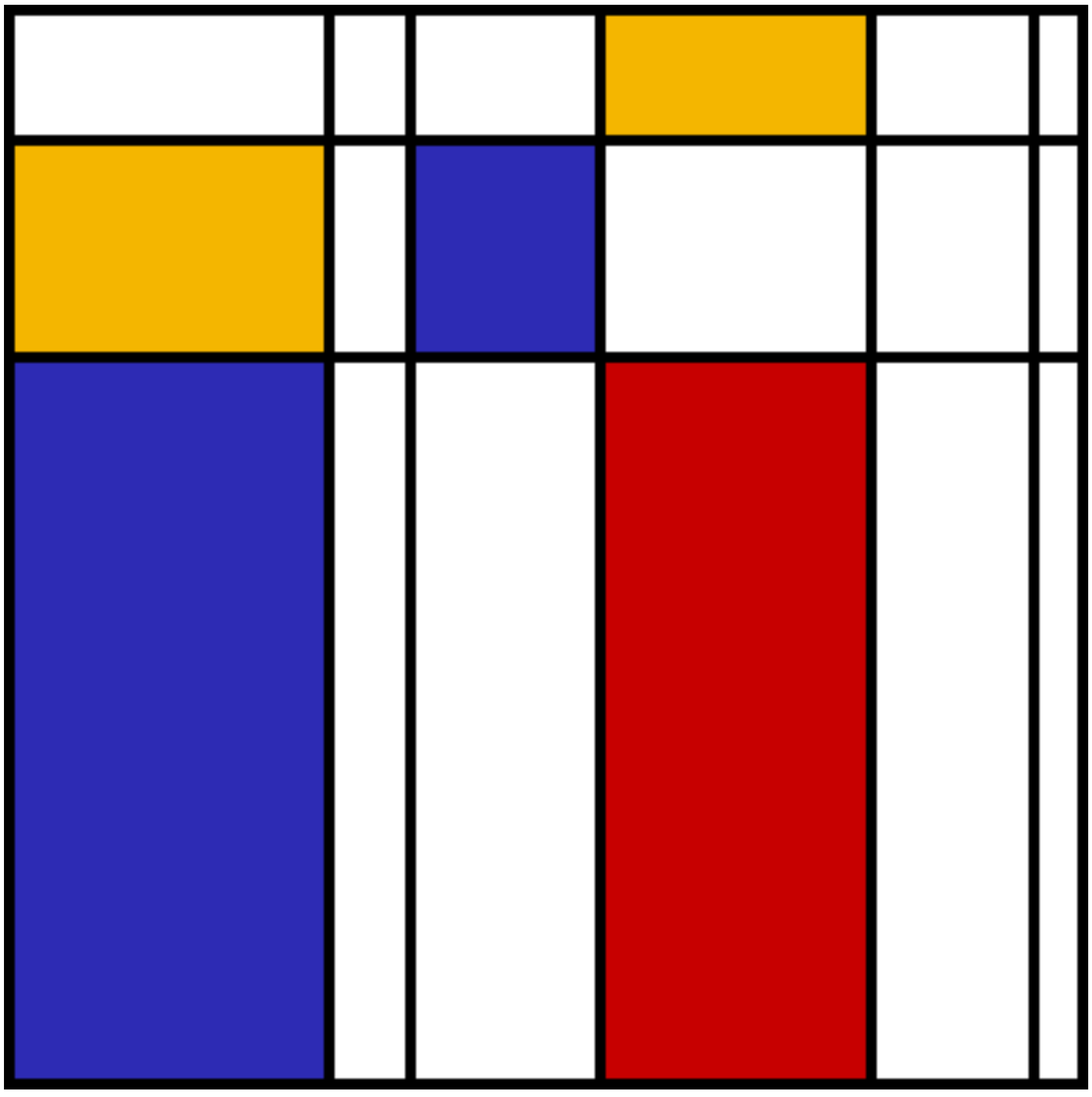
Extrinsic kills intrinsic



http://selfdeterminationtheory.org/

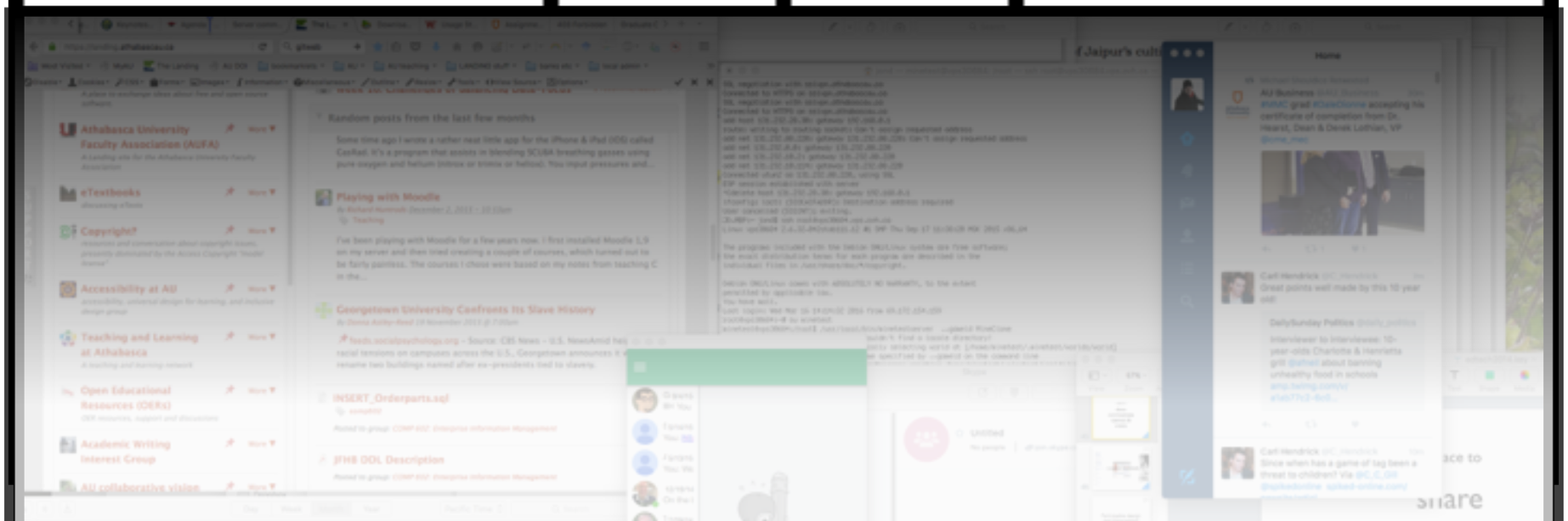
educational systems are **systematically demotivating** *because* of physical, non-negotiable boundaries

By Titian - https://www.museodelprado.es/imagen/alta_resolucion/P00426.jpghttps://www.museodelprado.es/en/the-collection/online-gallery/on-line-gallery/obra/sisyphus/, Public Domain, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=3860214

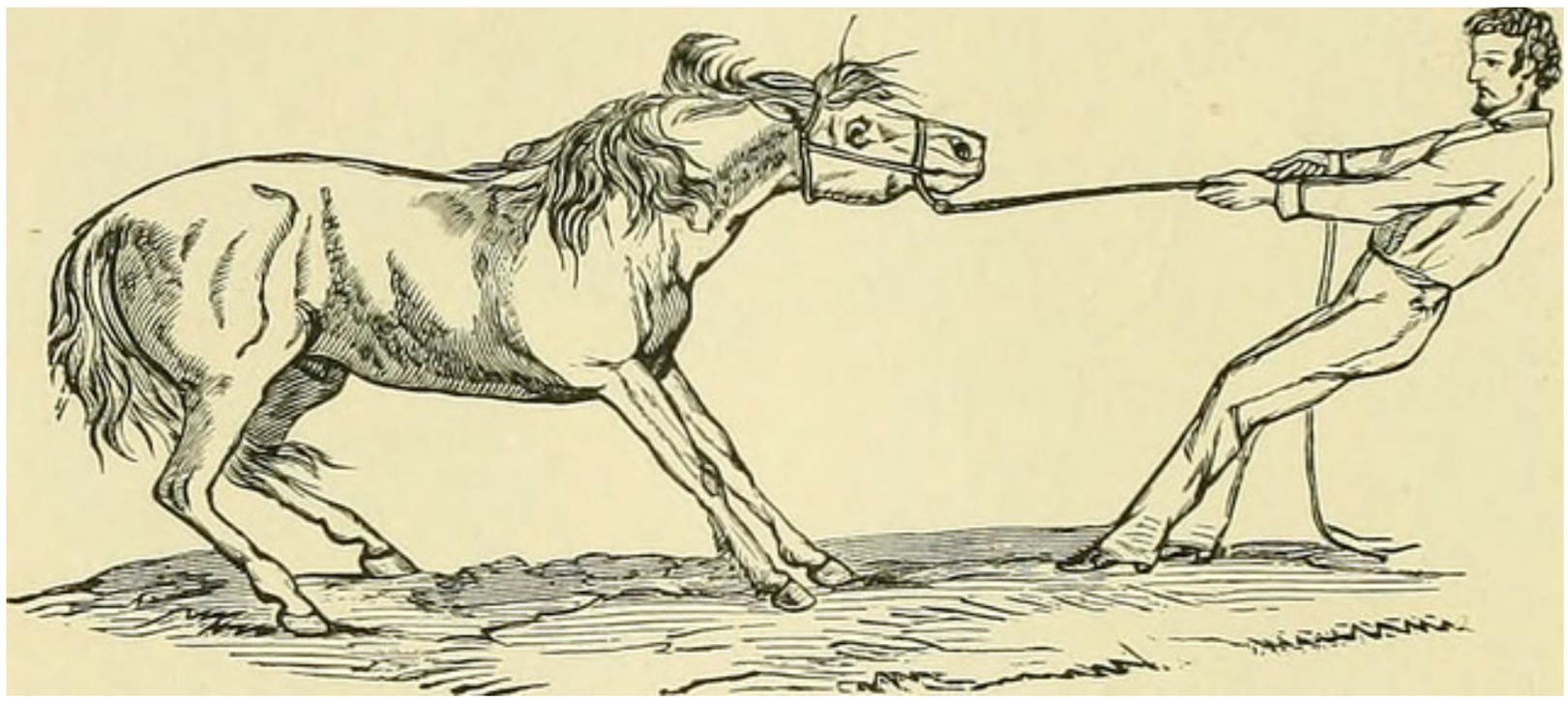


Virtual boundaries

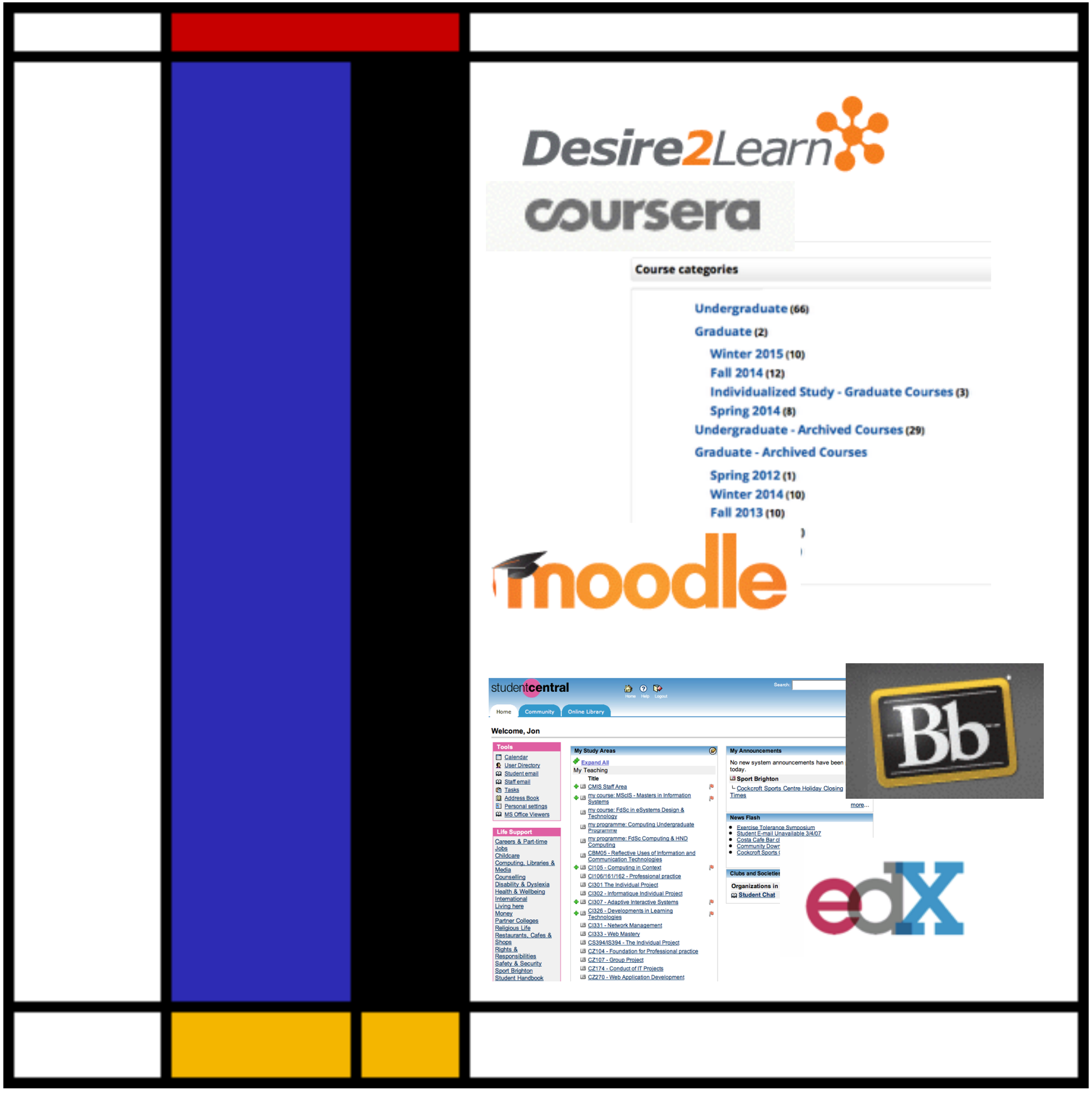
algorithmic	Virtual boundaries	Virtual boundaries	fuzzy
metaphorical			overlapping
permeable			open



Why do we not ban cellphones in online classrooms?



And yet…


Desire2Learn
coursera
Course categories
Undergraduate (66)
Graduate (2)
Winter 2015 (10)
Fall 2014 (12)
Individualized Study - Graduate Courses (3)
Spring 2014 (8)
Undergraduate - Archived Courses (29)
Graduate - Archived Courses
Spring 2012 (1)
Winter 2014 (10)
Fall 2013 (10)
moodle
studentcentral
Home
Community
Online Library
Welcome, Jon
Tools
Calendar
User Directory
Student email
Staff email
Tasks
Address Book
Personal settings
MS Office Viewers
Life Support
Careers & Part-time Jobs
Childcare
Computing, Libraries & Media
Counselling
Disability & Dyslexia
Health & Wellbeing
International
Living here
Money
Partner Colleges
Religious Life
Restaurants, Cafes & Shops
Rights & Responsibilities
Safety & Security
Sport Brighton
Student Handbook
My Study Areas
Expand All
My Teaching
Title
CMIS Staff Area
my course: MScIS - Masters in Information Systems
my course: FdSc in eSystems Design & Technology
my programme: Computing Undergraduate Programme
my programme: FdSc Computing & HND Computing
CBM05 - Reflective Uses of Information and Communication Technologies
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CI331 - Network Management
CI333 - Web Mastery
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CZ174 - Conduct of IT Projects
CZ270 - Web Application Development
My Announcements
No new system announcements have been today.
Sport Brighton
Cockcroft Sports Centre Holiday Closing Times
more...
News Flash
Exercise Tolerance Symposium
Student E-mail Unavailable 3/4/07
Costa Cafe Bar cl
Community Dowr
Cockcroft Sports
Clubs and Societies
Organizations in
Student Chat
Bb
edX

The most interesting thing about MOOCs

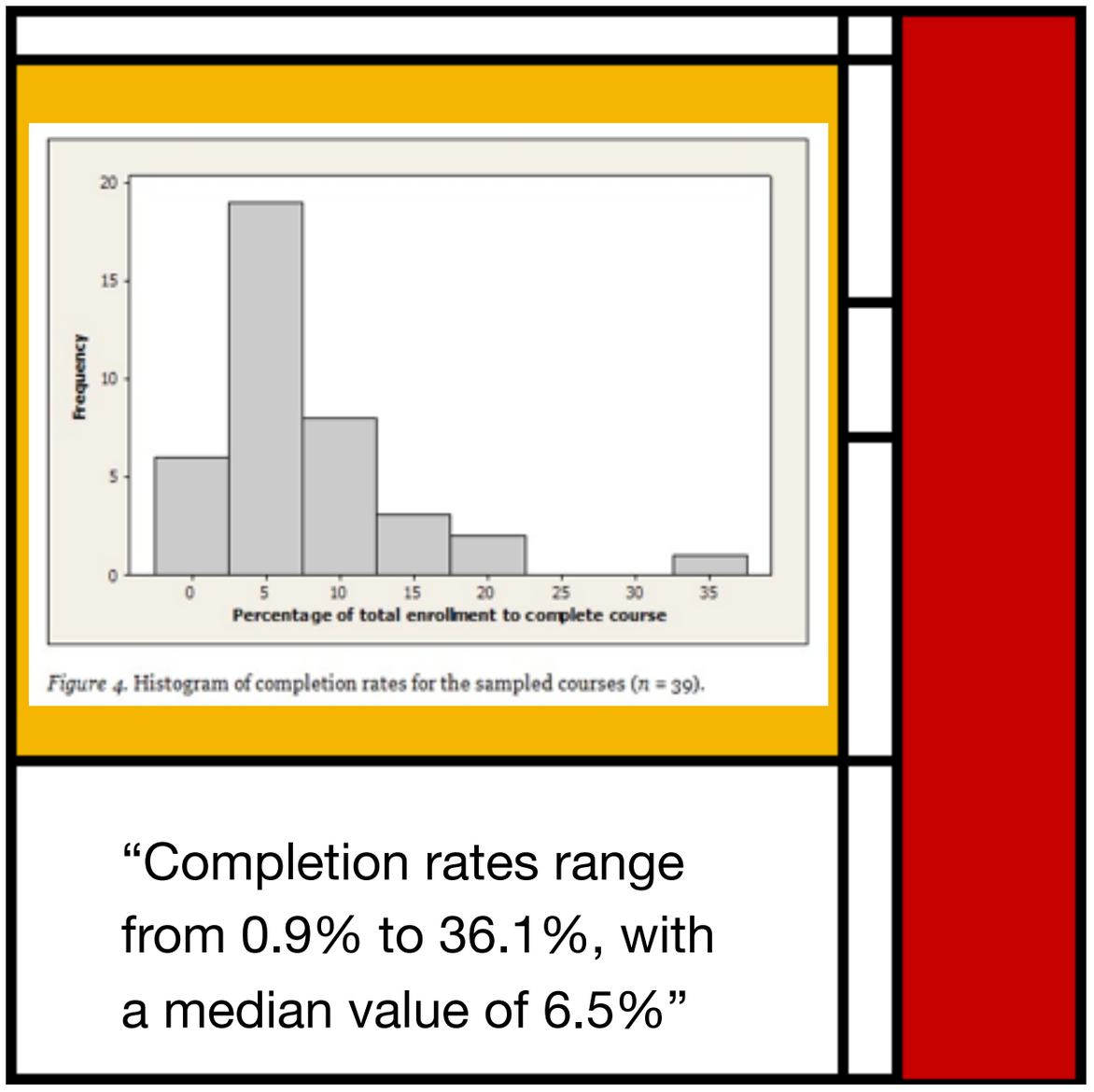
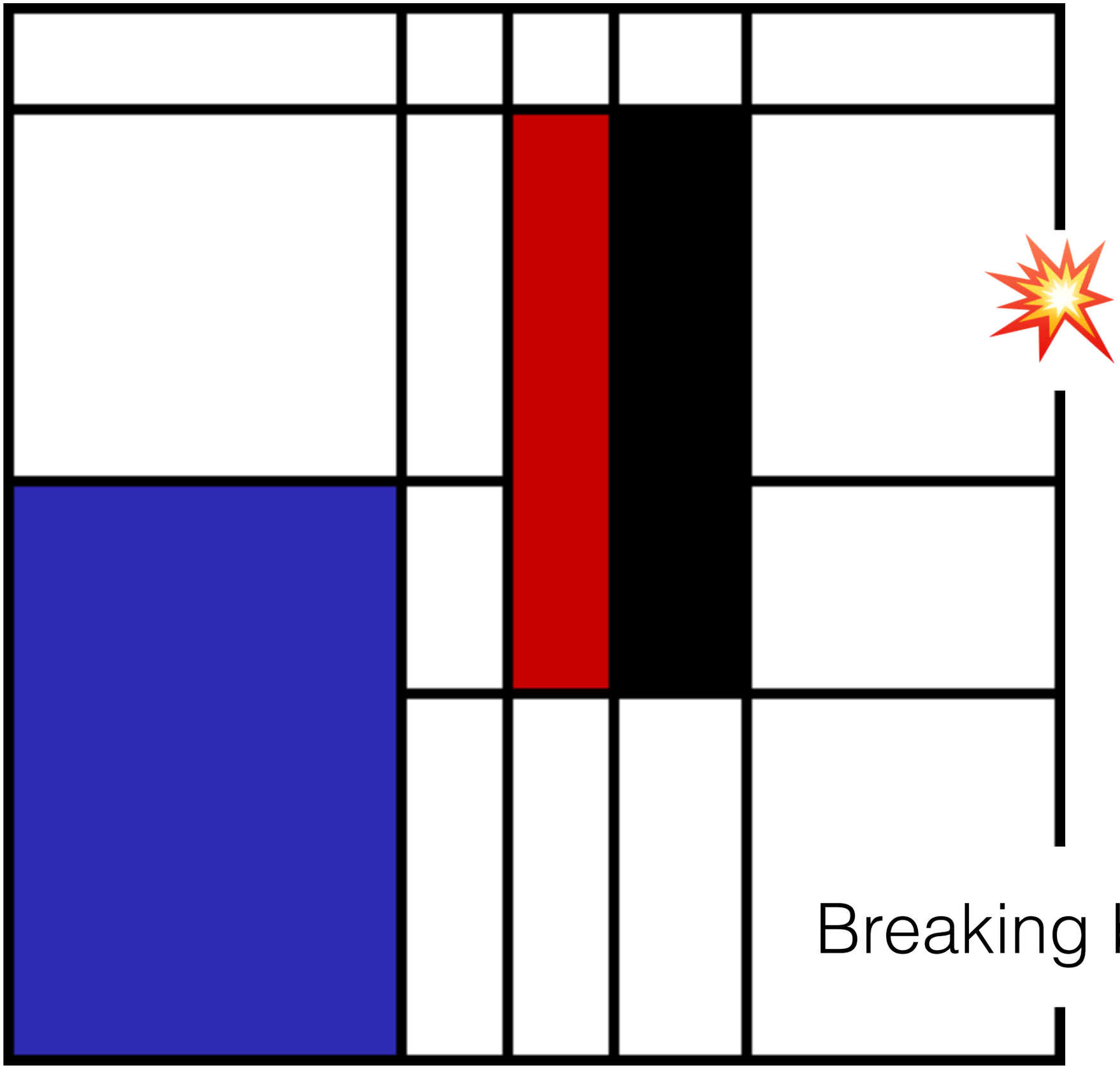


Figure 4. Histogram of completion rates for the sampled courses (n = 39).

"Completion rates range from 0.9% to 36.1%, with a median value of 6.5%"

Katy Jordan, 2014: http://www.irrodl.org/index.php/irrodl/article/view/1651/2774



Breaking boundaries

The two most successful learning technologies in a thousand years?

Breaking boundaries

edX

StumbleUpon

mathoverflow

facebook

Skills & Expertise

Most endorsed for...

57 E-Learning

47 Distance Learning

19 Moodle

18 Educational Technology

15 Lecturing

13 Univer

9 Teach

8 Higher

LinkedIn

Google scholar

Google Canada

elgg

Quora

coursera

WhatsApp

friendfeed

LPSS

KHANACADEMY

Slashdot

mozilla OpenBadges

Badges

OpenEd Researcher

moodle

Google+

stackoverflow

TIN CAN API

Realized by Rustici Software

Pinterest

WIKIPEDIA The Free Encyclopedia

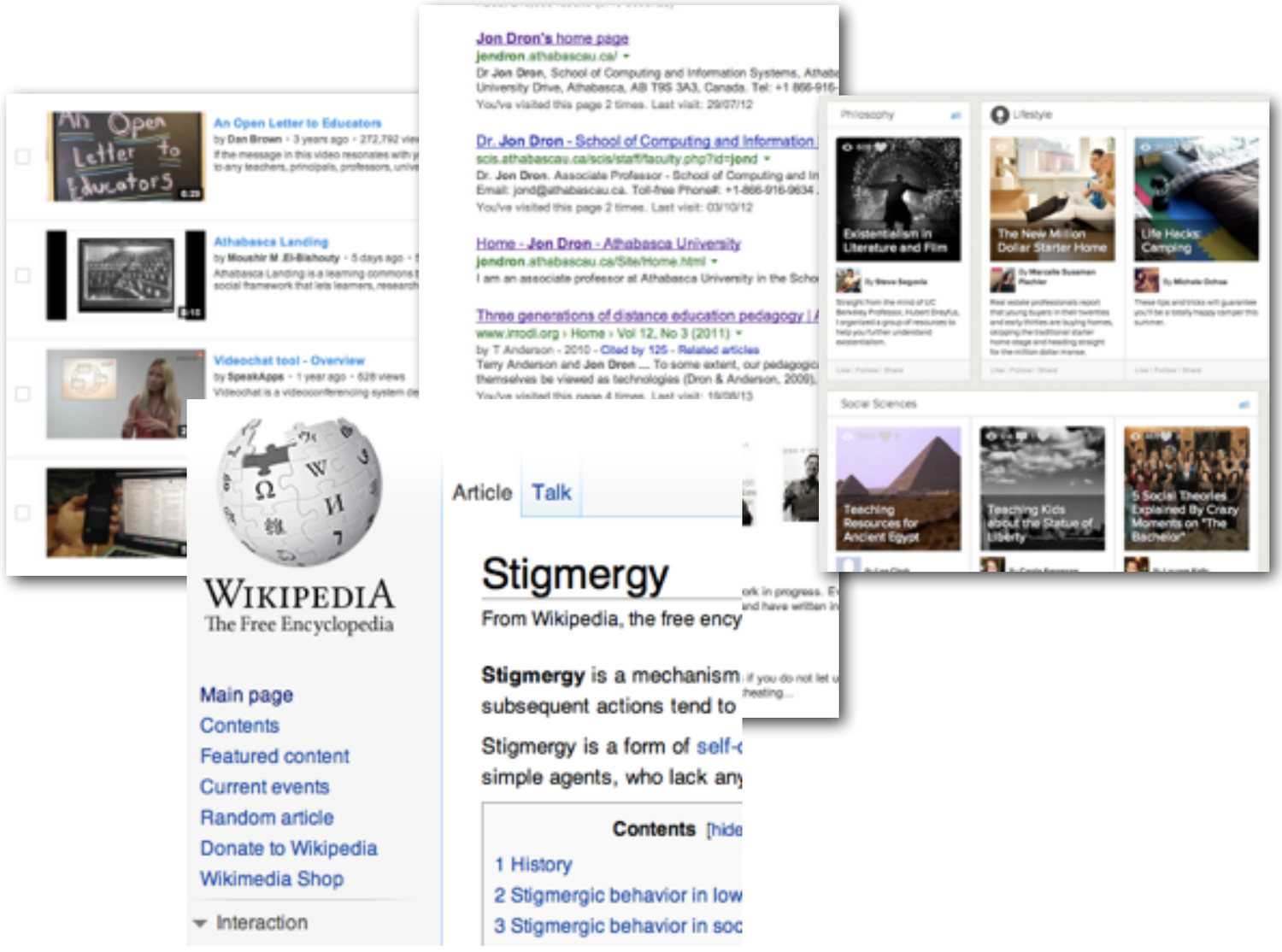
tumblr.

Western Governors University

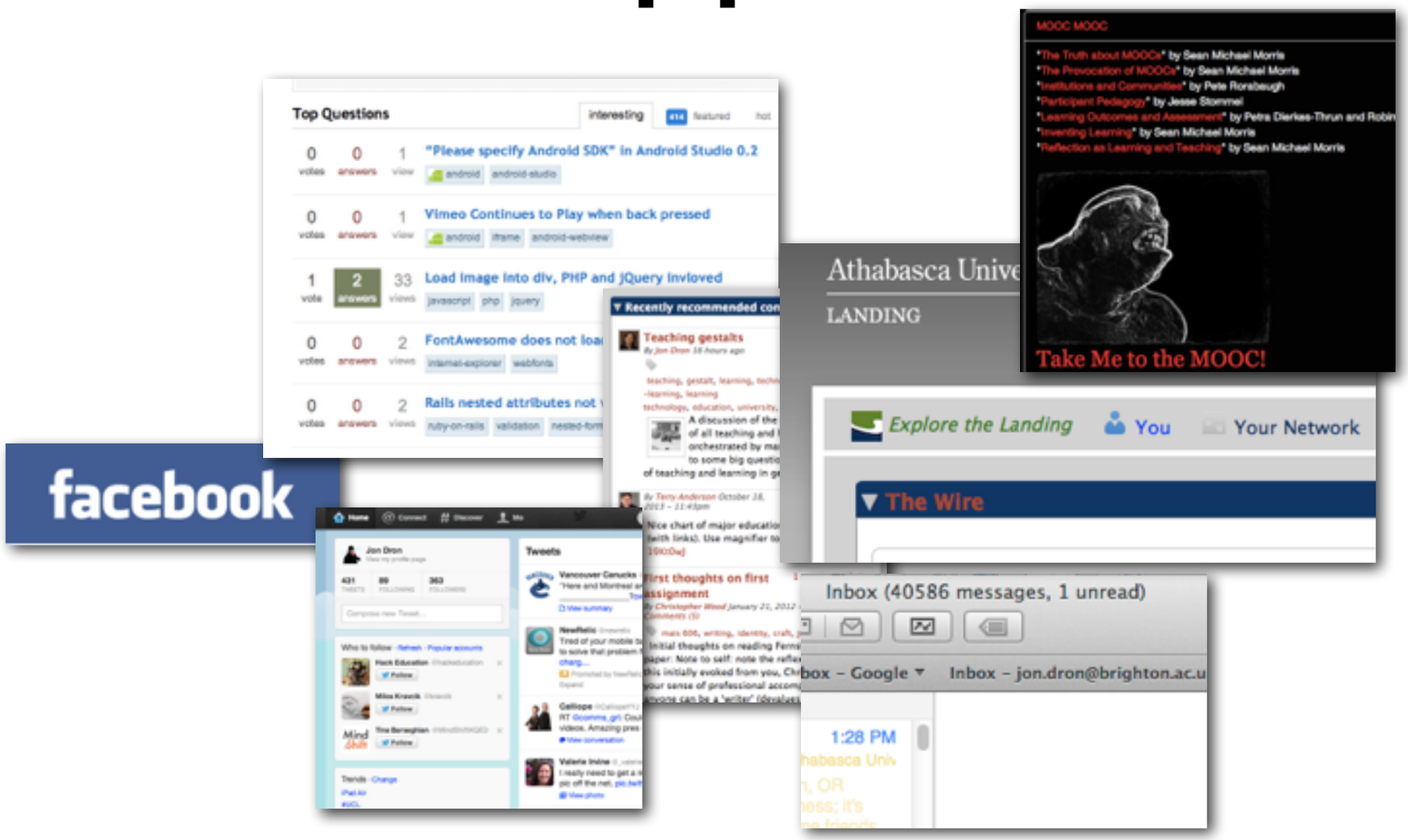
ONLINE. ACCELERATED. AFFORDABLE. ACCREDITED.

WikiEducator free elearning content

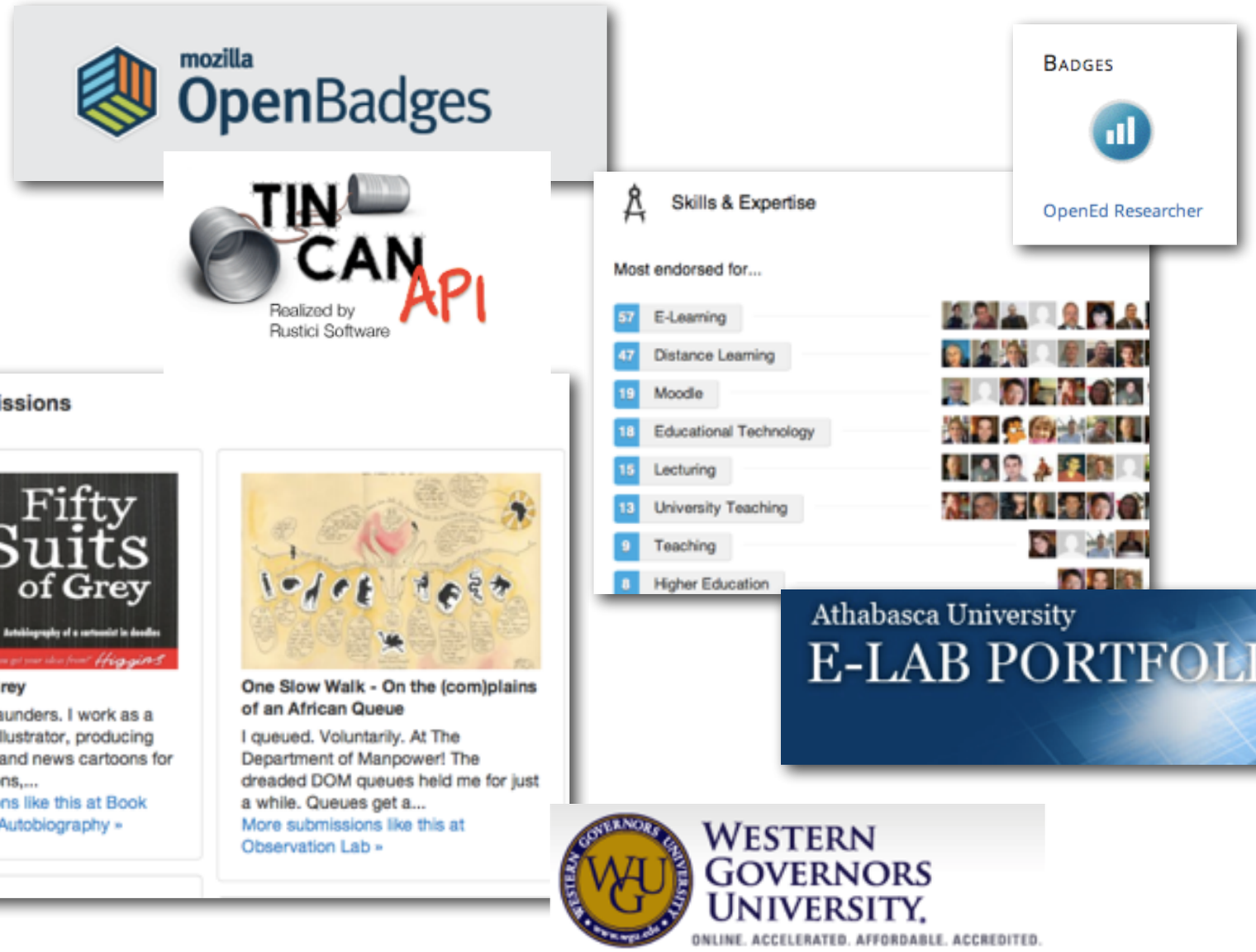
Distributed content



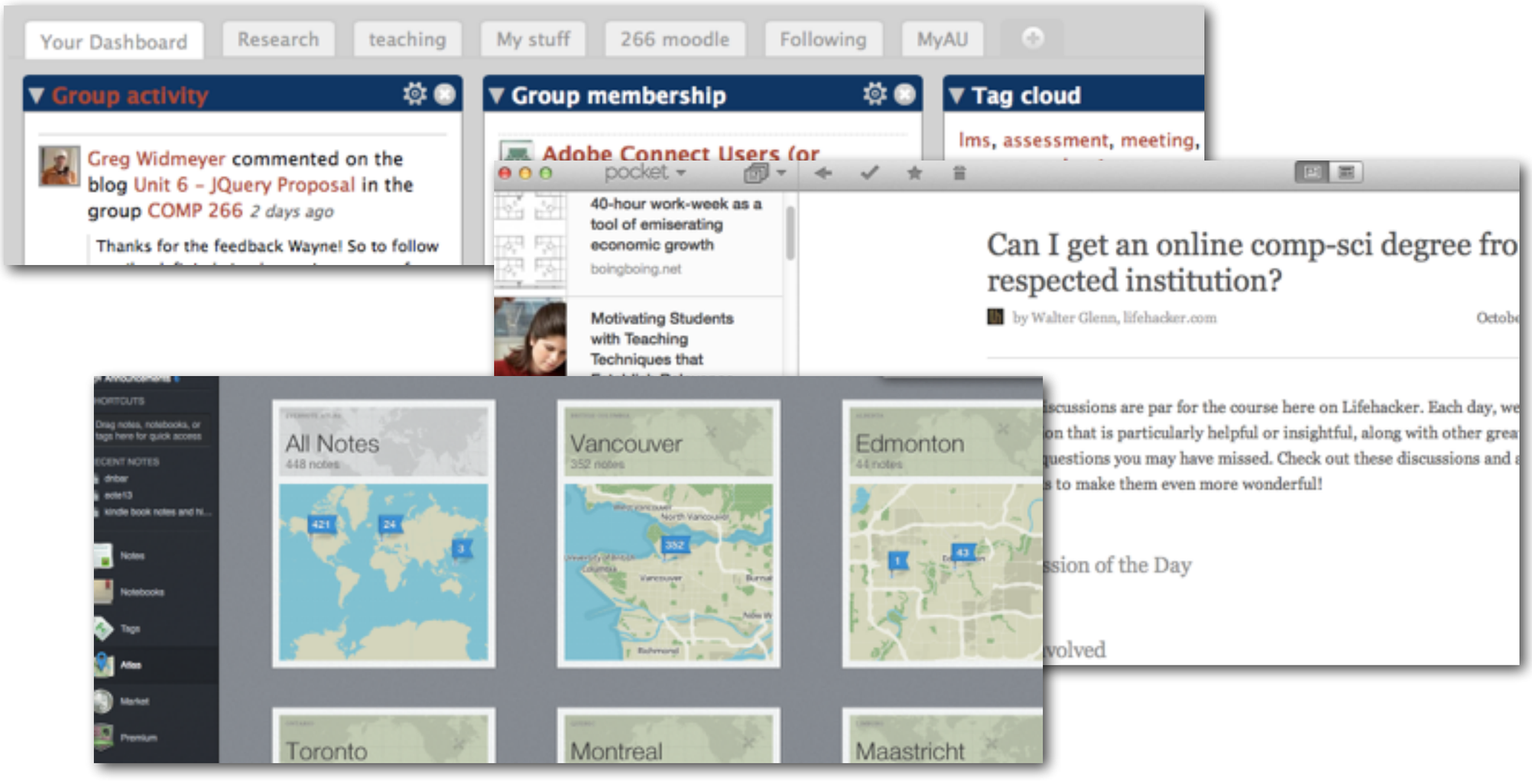
Distributed support



Distributed accreditation



Personal sense-making



Distributed cognition

Bb

edX

Desire2Learn

coursera

Why?

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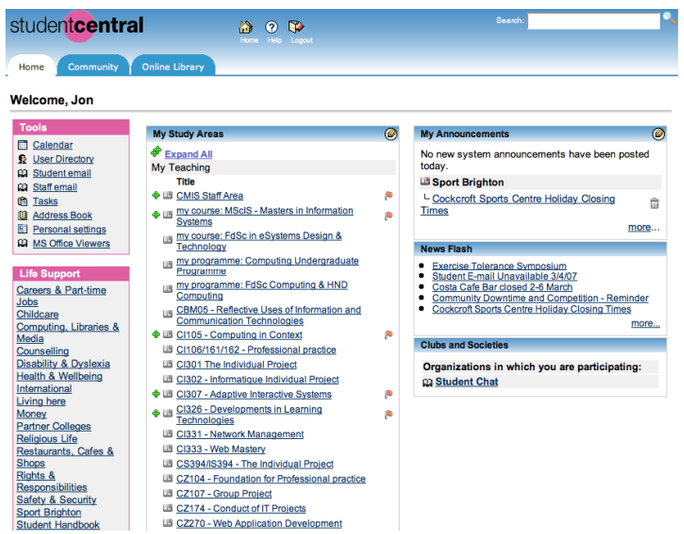
Fall 2012 (11)

moodle


studentcentral
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Careers & Part-time Jobs
Childcare
Computing, Libraries & Media
Counselling
Disability & Dyslexia
Health & Wellbeing
International
Living here
Money
Partner Colleges
Religious Life
Restaurants, Cafes & Shops
Rights & Responsibilities
Safety & Security
Sport Brighton
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No new system announcements have been posted today.
Sport Brighton
Cockcroft Sports Centre Holiday Closing Times
more...
News Flash
Exercise Tolerance Symposium
Student E-mail Unavailable 3/4/07
Costa Cafe Bar closed 2-6 March
Community Downtime and Competition - Reminder
Cockcroft Sports Centre Holiday Closing Times
more...
Clubs and Societies
Organizations in which you are participating:
Student Chat

Benefits of institutions

Learning community

The big picture, the big plan

A duty of care

Modelling ways of being

Webs of trust/authority

Concentration of gurus

Safety and support

Credentialing

Cultural continuity

1.5

Web ~~2.0~~

Athabasca Landing

a social learning commons

- Using Moodle
- COMP 466 Syllabus
- SCIS Virtual Helpdesk
- Student Manual

- COMP 466 General Conference
- News forum

- Tutor Marked Exercise 1
- Tutor Marked Exercise 2
- Tutor Marked Exercise 3
- Tutor Marked Exercise 4
- COMP 466 Course Coordinator

Week 1

- Familiarize yourself with the Study Guide.
- Complete Unit 1.

Week 2

- Complete Unit 2.

Week 3

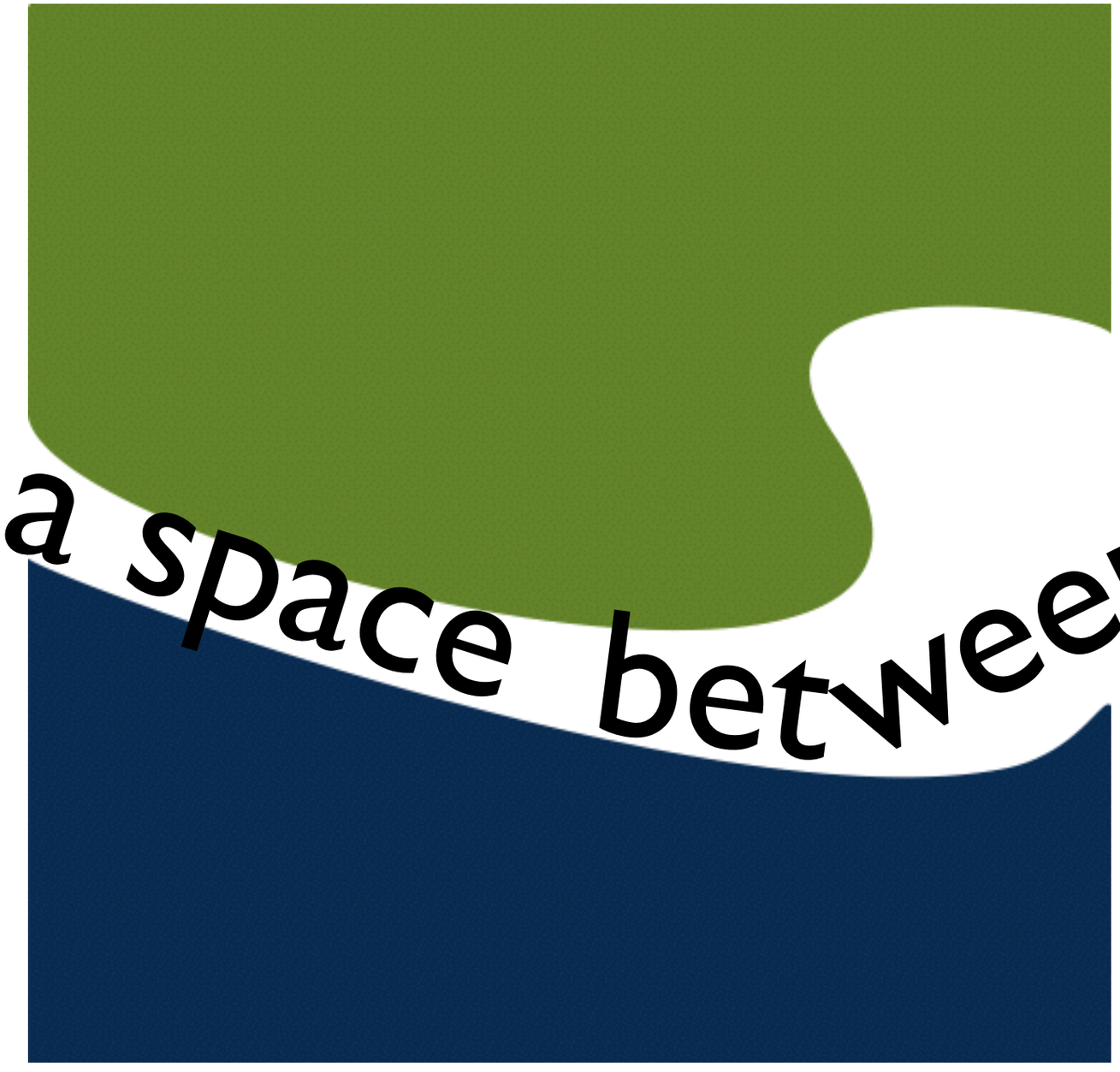
- Complete and submit TME 1.

Week 4

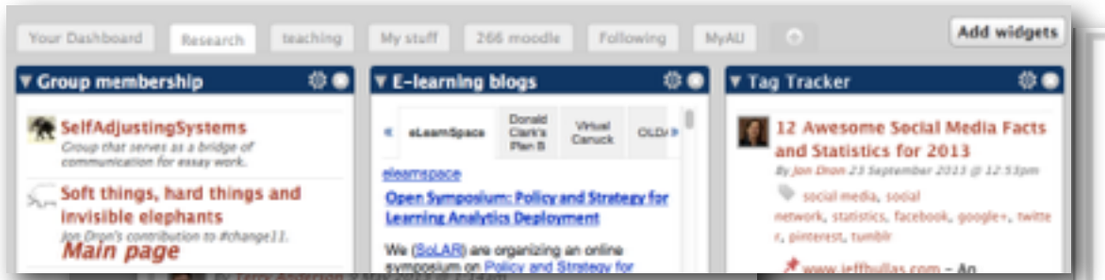
- Start working on Unit 3.

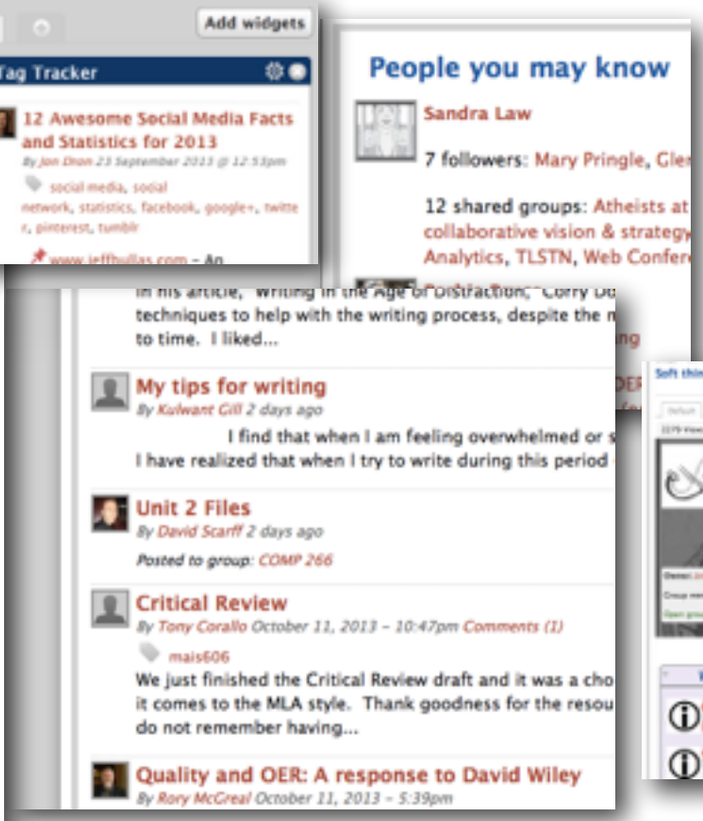
Week 5

- Complete Unit 3.



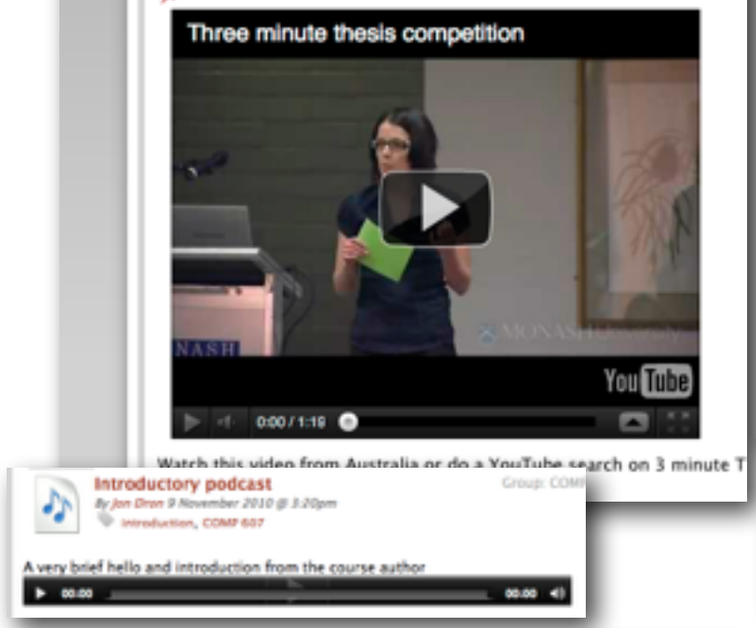
many tools

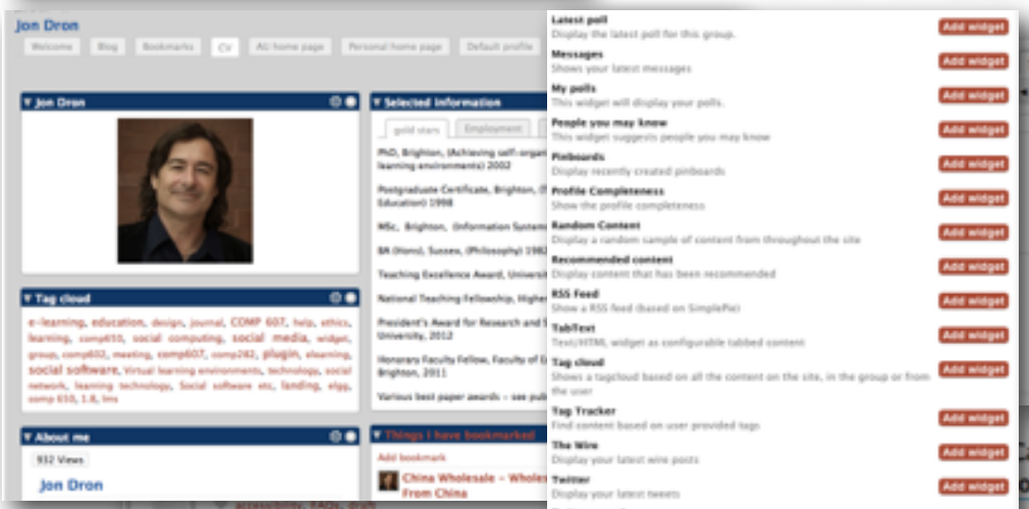

Your Dashboard
Research
teaching
My stuff
266 moodle
Following
MyAU
Add widgets
Group membership
SelfAdjustingSystems
Group that serves as a bridge of communication for essay work.
Soft things, hard things and invisible elephants
Jon Dron's contribution to #change11.
Main page
E-learning blogs
eLearnSpace
Donald Clark's Plan B
Virtual Canuck
OLDaily
elearnspace
Open Symposium: Policy and Strategy for Learning Analytics Deployment
Tag Tracker
12 Awesome Social Media Facts and Statistics for 2013
By Jon Dron 23 September 2013 @ 12:53pm
social media, social network, statistics, facebook, google+, twitter, pinterest, tumblr


People you may know
Sandra Law
7 followers: Mary Pringle, Gle
12 shared groups: Atheists at
collaborative vision & strategy
Analytics, TLSTN, Web Confer
techniques to help with the writing process, despite the
to time. I liked...
My tips for writing
By Kulwant Gill 2 days ago
I find that when I am feeling overwhelmed or
I have realized that when I try to write during this period
Unit 2 Files
By David Scarff 2 days ago
Posted to group: COMP 266
Critical Review
By Tony Corallo October 11, 2013 - 10:47pm Comments (1)
mais606
We just finished the Critical Review draft and it was a cho
it comes to the MLA style. Thank goodness for the resou
do not remember having...
Quality and OER: A response to David Wiley
By Rory McGreal October 11, 2013 - 5:39pm

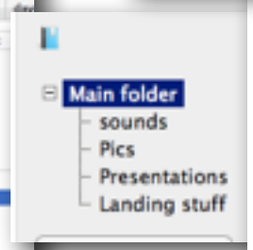
Groups > Your groups
Your groups
Academic Blogging C
Academic Blogging Circle
Academic web sites
Academic Web and network to
Accessibility at AU
accessibility and inclusive des
Site Tag Cloud
COMP602, comp650,
research, e-learning, ed
learning, e-portfolio, social
social networking,
portfolio, design,
teaching, elgg, acc
data mo
ng dia
tme5,
ational
manag
Group activity
Group blog
Group bookmarks
Group calendar
Group discussion
Group featured content
Group files
Group photos
Group pinboards
Group polls
Group recommended content
Group wikis

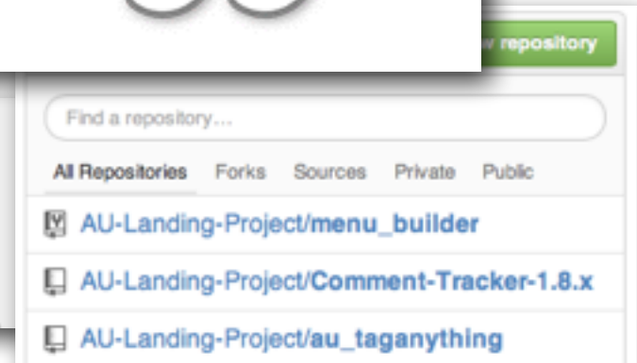
Soft things, hard things and invisible elephants
Where to look first
Overview of the main ideas
Suggested activities
Things to think about

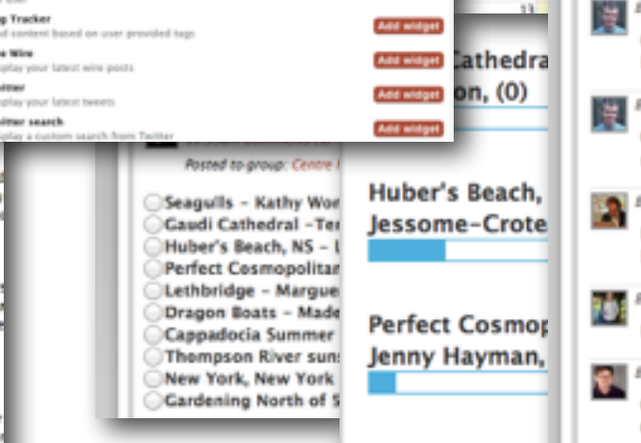

Three minute thesis competition
NASH
YouTube
0:00 / 1:19
Introductory podcast
By Jon Dron 9 November 2010 @ 3:20pm
Introduction, COMP 607
A very brief hello and introduction from the course author


Jon Dron
Tag cloud
About me
Jon Dron
Latest poll
Messages
My polls
People you may know
Pinboards
Profile Completeness
Random Content
Recommended content
RSS Feed
TabText
Tag cloud
Tag Tracker
The Wire
Twitter
Twitter search
Add widget

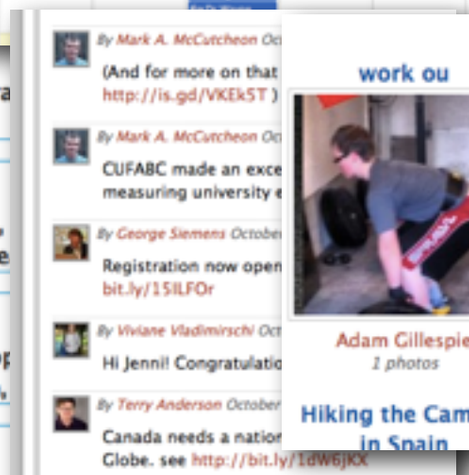
October 2013
Sun
Mon
Tue
Wed
Thu
Fri
Sat

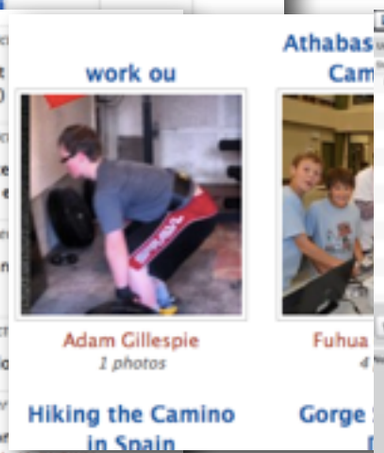

Main folder
sounds
Pics
Presentations
Landing stuff


repository
Find a repository...
All Repositories
Forks
Sources
Private
Public
AU-Landing-Project/menu_builder
AU-Landing-Project/Comment-Tracker-1.8.x
AU-Landing-Project/au_taganything

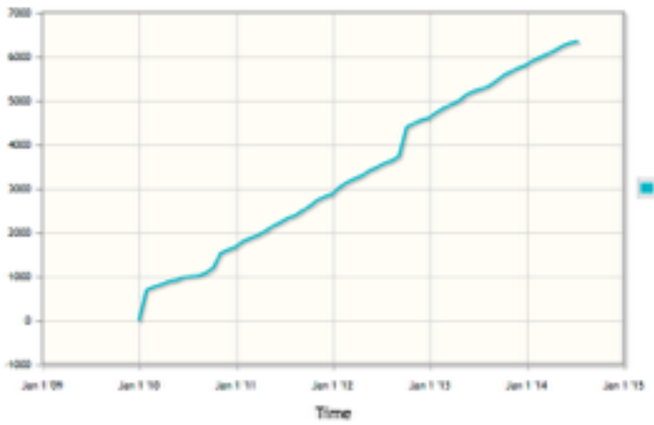

Posted to group: Accessibility at AU
Drafts of FAQs that are intended to remove the confusion around
environment more generally. Please provide feedback on these q
are they clear, would a link to additional resources help or just c
1. What's wrong with using tables for layout?
Although it is possible to use tables for layout of elements (cours
recommended. You should try to format courses using css. If a l
is formatted in a way that makes it easily understandble by some
with layout tables and how to create accessible tables.
2. How do html heading levels help students navigate courses?
People who use screen readers (e.g. blind, visually impaired, lear
determine where they are on a course site. The screen reader an
content.

Seagulls - Kathy Wo
Gaudi Cathedral -Te
Huber's Beach, NS -
Perfect Cosmopolitan
Lethbridge - Margue
Dragon Boats - Made
Cappadocia Summer
Thompson River sun
New York, New York
Gardening North of S
Huber's Beach,
Jessome-Crote
Perfect Cosmop
Jenny Hayman,
Lethbridge - Ma


By Mark A. McCutcheon
(And for more on that
http://is.gd/VKEk5T)
By Mark A. McCutcheon
CUFABC made an exce
measuring university
By George Siemens
Registration now open
bit.ly/15ILFOr
By Viviane Vladimirschi
Hi Jenni! Congratulatio
By Terry Anderson
Canada needs a natio
Globe. see http://bit.ly/1dW6JKX


work ou
Adam Gillespie
1 photos
Hiking the Camino
in Spain

Athabas
Cam
Fuhua
Gorge
Webinar demo
Big blue button



8,000 users

17,000 blog posts

13,000 shared files

8,000 wiki pages

some successes

>20,000 unique visitors a month (>2,000 internal)

500 groups

3,000 discussions

6,600 shared bookmarks

4,500 microblog posts

thinking in systems

suggesting

revealing boundaries

inspiring

filtering

recommending

finding

listening

Teaching in Web 1.5

watching

seeking, not setting, direction

designing for cooperation

modelling

accommodating

being a co-traveller

letting go

supporting

Takeaways

- physical boundaries determine pedagogies

- virtual boundaries are different

- online, we *should* not and *cannot* be in control

we *must* support:

- social value and meaning

- control and autonomy

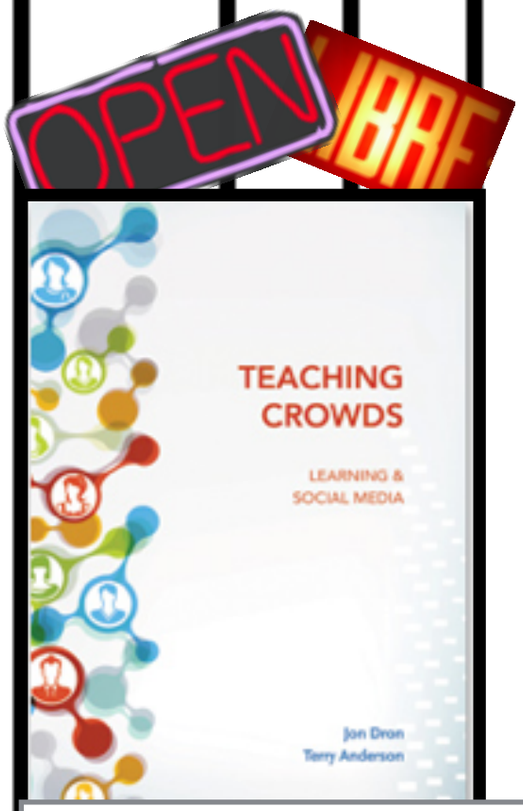
- challenge and the desire for competence

http://jondron.ca

@jondron

jond@athabascau.ca

Thank you



http://teachingcrowds.ca

https://landing.athabascau.ca/

Acknowledgement: Mondrian-ish images via http://jefworks.github.io/mondrian-generator/