OER enabled constructionist pedagogy

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Quick Background

- Born in Slovenia

- High School at the United World College of the Adriatic in Italy

- BA in Political Science and Economics in Canada

- MA and Ph.D. in Economics in the US

- Currently work for the State University of New York (SUNY)
  - SUNY is the largest comprehensive system of higher education in the United States with 64 campuses
  - College at Old Westbury – liberal arts colleges that is nationally recognized as one of the top institutions for promoting racial and cultural diversity and energetically endorsing its mission statement of social justice.

Involvement with OER

- I use OER in all of my classes:
  - Intro to Microeconomics
  - Intro to Macroeconomics - including fully online
  - Health Economics – Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL)
  - Labor Economics - fully online
  - Food and Wine Economics

- OER content creation for Lumen Learning textbooks

- Creative Commons Certificate for Educators

- Chair of the faculty committee for OER at SUNY Old Westbury

- Member of Advisory Council on OER for SUNY
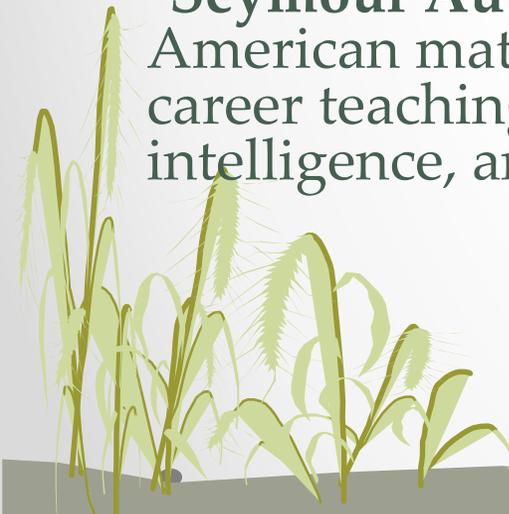
ConstructiVism vs ConstructioNism

- **Constructivism, the cognitive theory**, was invented by Jean Piaget. His idea was that knowledge is constructed by the learner.

- **Constructivism, the educational philosophy**, but it says that each students constructs their own, unique meaning for everything that is learned. This isn't the same as what Piaget said.

- **Constructionism** is more of an educational method which is based on the constructivist learning theory, invented by Seymour Papert.
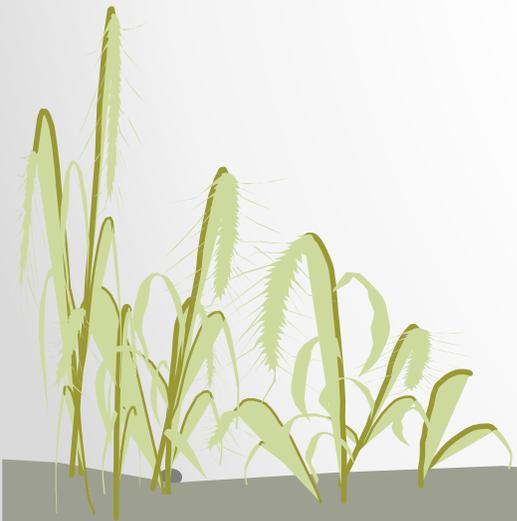
We learn by doing things

- We learn best when we're "actively engaged in constructing something that has personal meaning to [us] – be it a poem, a robot, a sandcastle, or a computer program."
- -Seymour Papert*

*Seymour Aubrey Papert was a South African-born American mathematician, computer scientist, and educator, who spent most of his career teaching and researching at MIT. He was one of the pioneers of artificial intelligence, and of the constructionist movement in education.
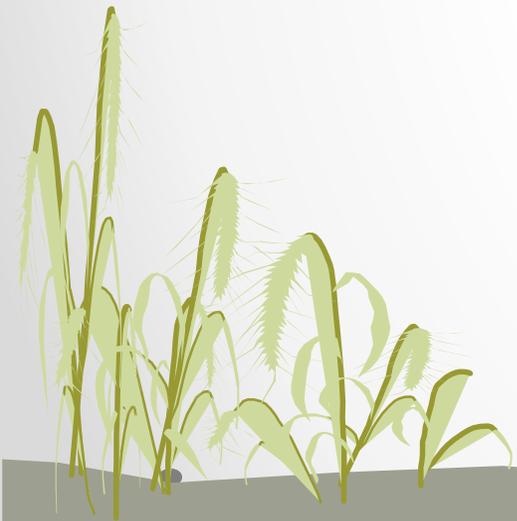
We learn by doing things

- "Learning" happens especially felicitously in a context where the learner is consciously engaged in constructing a public entity."
- -Seymour Papert

Type of assignments

- Move from knowledge "consumers" to knowledge "creators"
- From disposable assignments destined for the recycled bin
- Towards renewable assignments where your work adds value to the world.

YOUR WORK MATTERS!

Your Work Matters

- As you participate in this course you will have the opportunity to create a wide range of learning artifacts.

- Because these artifacts are at the core of your learning experience, it is critically important that you own these artifacts and have ongoing access to and control over them. Consequently, all of the learning artifacts that you create for this course will be stored in a digital space that you control rather than a course management system.

- If you're going to invest the time and effort to create these artifacts, make sure that they live much longer than the duration of any one course and that they benefit many more people that just you.

The Campfire

- The proper way to view this course is as a "place" for people to congregate, tinker a bit and build some learning artifacts, share, critique, and improve each others' artifacts, and generally enter into relationships of sharing and learning.

What were the strengths of this course and/or instructor?

- A major strength of this course was that I learned a lot of things that were both applicable to the class and to work outside of class. This class taught me a lot about economics in food and wine. It also sharpened my skills as we used word, excel, mini-tab and google sites. This class targeted to improve our own skills as students to better prepare us for life after college and efficiently taught us about food and wine economics. Prof. Dolar was also very helpful in case anyone had questions or needed help with assignments after or outside of class.

- Professor Dolar makes sure that the work is clear

- Tied together alot of nutritional information in correlation to food and wine economics.

- she is a teacher that is straight to the point

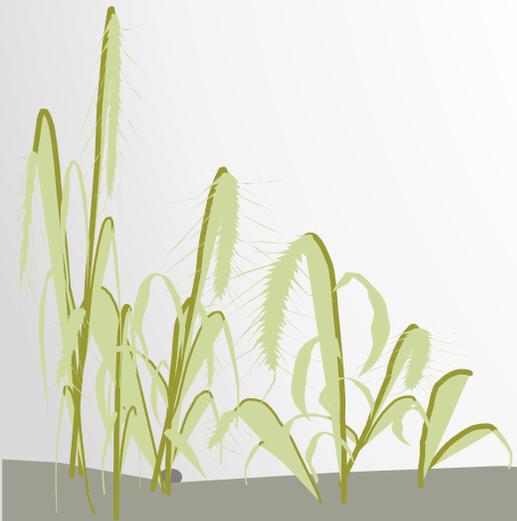- very passionate about class, learned a lot

Use this space for any additional comments

- I did not know this was a writing intensive course when I signed up for this class. My thoughts coming into this class was that it was going to be a simple economics class. However, that was not the case and I am very happy that it wasn't. I have learned more in this class than a few classes combined because of the approach of using so many different platforms to do our work. We created our own websites which helped me review better. We also used word and excel and this class improved my comfort with all of these applications. I was also introduced to mini-tab, which I did not even know about prior to taking this class. I would highly recommend this class to people who want to learn and apply their knowledge through different platforms while simultaneously sharpening their skills in such platforms.

- really enjoyed this class, professor Dolar went above and beyond in class to help us. thanks!
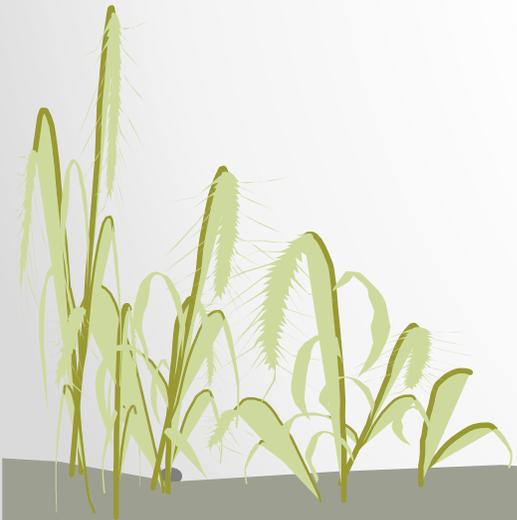
Use of the material on the WWW

- Addis Ababa Science and Technology University, Ethiopia.
- Food Economics course for food science students.

OER use in Business

- Clear contract regarding copy-right!
- Use of instructional videos for employees to learn
- Use of instructional videos to teach and instruct new employees
- Engage employees – let them create public artifacts
- Become a go-to place for instructions on a specific topic

- https://courses.lumenlearning.com/oldwestbury-wm-macroeconomics/