The MovieClassroom

From MovieClassroom

Presentation to the SERC New Tools Workshop (http://serc.carleton.edu/NAGTWorkshops/tools08/index.html). This presentation can also be found at http://lurbano-5.memphis.edu/MovieClassroom/index.php/The_MovieClassroom

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Basic principles

I am not the perfect instructor

The origin of the MovieClassroom is based on the idea that while I as an instructor have a great depth of knowledge about the subject I'm teaching that still does not mean I can effectively communicate those ideas to students.

Different students learn differently

Each student comes in with their own baggage of preconceptions that may be wrong and the instructor has to correct these erroneous ideas, creating a new conception of the way the world works (Waite et al., 2007).

- But how do you do this for 150 individuals.

Let students teach their peers

Some students in this large class will learn well from my teaching style, so what if I can get them to teach their peers. This provides a number of benefits,

1. Students learn best when they have to teach (which is one reason collaborative learning can work).
2. When students teach they can use metaphors and language that resonates with their socio-cultural peers. Learning introductory geoscience can be taught of as learning a new language, where students with an aptitude for the language teach their peers (Gee, 2003).

Taking ownership of learning by creating a public record

By creating educational media students also take responsibility for their work, and develop a strong sense of ownership (O'Neill and Barton, 2005).

- Most students are more than happy to make their work public.

Wikis and Movies
We have two projects designed to capture student experience and learning for the greater good.

1. GeoClasses Wiki (http://lurbano-5.memphis.edu/Classes/)
   - Student Projects (http://lurbano-5.memphis.edu/Classes/index.php/Student_Projects) page. Eg.

2. The MovieClassroom
   - Open source/LAMP: Documentation
   - Documentation
   - Applications and Analysis
   - MovieClassroom 2.0 (http://lurbano-5.memphis.edu/MovieClassroom/movielab/)
   - Bibliography

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