Collaborating for Success! Building a Digital Learning Object Repository

Shannon L. Dew  
*Florida State College at Jacksonville*, shannon.dew@fscj.edu

Barbara Markham  
*Florida State College at Jacksonville*, barbara.markham@fscj.edu

Sharon Uskokovich  
*Florida State College at Jacksonville*, s.uskokovich@fscj.edu

Ronald L. Carr, Ph. D.  
*Florida State College at Jacksonville*, ron.carr@fscj.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/gaintlit

Part of the Curriculum and Instruction Commons, and the Information Literacy Commons

**Recommended Citation**

https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/gaintlit/2016/2016/22

This presentation (open access) is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences & Events at Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. It has been accepted for inclusion in Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu.
COLLABORATING FOR SUCCESS!
Building a Learning Object Repository
Presenters

Dr. Ronald L Carr, e-Learning Instructional Designer
Shannon Dew, Director of Online Library Services
Barbara Markham, Faculty Librarian
Sharon Uskokovich, Faculty Librarian
Agenda

• Introduction
• Background of Project
• Collaboration Between the Center for e-Learning and the Library
• Learning Objects
• Learning Object Repository
• Next Steps
Florida State College at Jacksonville

About FSCJ Libraries

• 4 campuses and 3 centers
• 7 libraries and 6 full-time librarians
• College and State University Consortium
• Shared ILS and Discovery Tool
• 180+ Research Databases
• Print collection holdings: 152,668
• Media collection holdings: 15,664
• Electronic book holdings: 35,937
• Libguides: 130
Library Partnership

Learning Objects at FSCJ

- 200+ courses with over 2000 learning objects
- Work with a team
- Subject Matter Experts
- Reliable resources for faculty and students
Library Partnership

Why Librarians?

- Point-of-contact for faculty
- Skilled professionals
- Library science cataloging principles
- Organization of information
Library Partnership

Why Blackboard Open Content?

- FSCJ already owns through LMS
- Ability to upload learning objects with metadata and tagging
- Easily adds content to Blackboard courses
- Contains educational content from other institutions and organizations
- Can be “open” to all users or just for FSCJ
Learning Objects in the Instructional Design Process
FSCJ Online Center for eLearning

It’s a Partnership

- Instructional Designers
- Faculty members are Subject Matter Experts (SMEs)
- Multimedia Designers
- Web Developers
- Librarians
Instructional Designer (ID)

- Project Manager
- Scheduler
- Proofreader and Editor
- Alpha and Beta Tester
Overall CeL Process

Best Practices

- **Planning** – initial meeting(s) and project planning.
- **Analysis** – goal setting, content analysis, & assessments.
- **Design** – calendar of activities and course syllabus.
- **Development** – introduction & objectives, lecture content, & course building.
- **Implementation** – instructor materials.
- **Evaluation** – formative & summative evaluation, mid-point and final course review.
CeL Course Advantages

ADA compliant
- Follows Accessibility Standards for 504 and 508 (ADA Compliant)
- Videos are captioned and transcribed.

Cross-platform
- Works across any browser on any platform

Copyright Compliant
- Meets copyright restrictions

Learning Outcomes
- Meets college prescribed Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

Visually Engaging
- Custom graphics showcases content

Usability
- Consistent and user-friendly navigation across all courses
Learning Object (LO)

Characteristics of LOs
- Learning objective-based content or activity
- Succinct
- Metatagged for shareability
- Independent to be available as-needed
Learning Object (LO)

In general, learning objects:
- Are **self-contained** – each learning object can be consumed independently
- Are **reusable** – a single learning object may potentially be used in multiple contexts for multiple purposes
- Can be **aggregated** – learning objects can be grouped into larger collections, allowing for their inclusion within a traditional course structure
- Are **tagged with metadata** – every learning object has descriptive information allowing it to be easily found by a search -- which facilitates the object being used by others.
Learning Object (LO)

Learning objects allow for learning that is:

Just enough – if you need only part of a course, you can use the learning objects you need

Just in time – learning objects are searchable, you can instantly find and take the content you need

Just for you – learning objects allow for easy customization of courses
Example of Learning Object (LO)
Interactive Tutorial – FloridaStudents.Org
Florida State University – Learning Systems Institute
Example of Learning Object (LO)

Simulation – Binary Threshold Level Selection

Florida State University – National High Magnetic Laboratory

https://micro.magnet.fsu.edu/primer/java/digitalimaging/processing/automaticthreshold/index.html
Example of Learning Object (LO)

Quizlet – Plagiarism Resource Site

Bates College– Learning Systems Institute

http://abacus.bates.edu/cbb/quiz/index.html
Learning Objects at FSCJ

- Learning objective-based content or activity
- Lecture content
- Textbook equivalent

The PowerPoint Problem
Accessibility

Visual Design
Is the type large enough
Is their enough white space
Are the columns too wide to read easily
Does the background contrast the foreground enough.

In the Code
Each graphic needs an alt tag
Anchor elements get enhanced
Easy nav links from beginning of page skip to content
Link from nav to content
All roads lead to the content.

ARIA Roles
Accessible Rich Internet Applications
Roles define the function of an element
example (ul role="navigation")

Valid Semantic HTML
Largest positive impact
Small amount of effort
Screen Readers understand the content
End user can leverage built in tools easier
Use simple tags for content, Header, Paragraph, List tags.
Usability

Learning Styles

The old saying that knowledge is power is very true when it comes to knowing yourself and how you learn. If you understand your preferred way of learning and develop the study strategies that can maximize those preferences, you will increase your likelihood of success in your college coursework and in life (O’Toole, 2008).

Knowing the types of information you need, the way you best perceive this information, and how you process information to make sense of it equips you to request what you need from instructors. That puts you in control of your education. Students without this understanding find themselves frustrated because they cannot articulate what they need. Sometimes they doubt their abilities because they are experiencing difficulty in a particular course where a professor may have a very different style (Felder & Spurlin, 2005).

There are three important things to keep in mind with respect to learning styles.

First
A person does not have just one learning style but uses a variety of styles relative to preferences:
- There is no one best learning style

Second
On any given measurement of learning styles:
- Through practice, a person can learn other ways of perceiving and

Third
Learning styles are learned:
- There is no one best learning style

Learning style means your personal preference for the way you take in, organize, and process information. Learning style can be applied to any type of media from books to virtual reality (Chwen & Seong, 2005).

Learning style means your personal preference for the way you take in, organize, and process information. Learning style can be applied to any type of media from books to virtual reality (Chwen & Seong, 2005).

Knowledge of the types of information you need, the way you best perceive this information, and how you process information to make sense of it equips you to request what you need from instructors. That puts you in control of your education. Students without this understanding find themselves frustrated because they cannot articulate what they need. Sometimes they doubt their abilities because they are experiencing difficulty in a particular course where a professor may have a very different style (Felder & Spurlin, 2005).
What is happiness?

We'll begin our look at the field of Positive Psychology by exploring the concept of happiness. Before you watch this short video, think about these questions:

- How do you define happiness?
- Is it something inside or outside of your control?
- Is it possible to make yourself happier?
- What are the elements that control our happiness?

Think about it

- Did your answers to any of the questions above change as a result of watching the video?
- What do you think are the elements of happiness that we can control?


Video

The Learning Object can play any kind of media with user controls. Media is captioned and transcribed.
CeL Demo Learning Object - Mark 2

Introduction

Our Mission

Here at the Center for eLearning we are in the business of making courses for the Web. We have a team of instructional designers that work with subject matter experts to build the content for each course. Understandably, content is often delivered to us in a format that cannot be rendered using a web browser. For example, Powerpoint files, Word files, photoshop files, and such.

As a reaction to that we put all of our content into our web based learning object. This ensures all of our content complies with existing web standards, is accessible, and is delivered in a format that can be consumed by any device.

Responsive Design

We do our best here at the Center for eLearning to make sure that our content is consumable by each student who experiences our courses. We also want to make sure that it looks good, and is as future proof as possible. With that in mind, our goal for the learning object was a lofty one... device agnosticism.

To achieve our goal we turned to a responsive design development pattern. With a little forethought this has allowed us to deliver to our core audience, remain device agnostic, and retain all of our accessibility all in one fall swoop. Now, the same bit of code works across most devices, both mobile and desktop, and is resolution independent. Try it... take your browser window and resize it. Our design adapts & adjusts based on the width of your browser window. During the design process we make little tweaks to the typography, and sizes of things so the content looks good, and is consumable, at any device resolution.
What does it mean to be a world religion? Before we can answer that question, some background as to what religion is and how to define it is necessary.

The word religion comes from two Latin terms *re*, meaning "again", and *ligio*, meaning "connect" or "join". Literally, therefore, religion means to connect or join together again. This makes sense if religion is viewed through the lens of sociology. Since Emile Durkheim first conceived the study of sociology in the early twentieth century, sociologists have noted that one primary purpose of religion is to formulate group identity. Indeed, when we think of the aspects of religion, we do not think of it as a belief espoused only by individuals, but as the convictions shared by large communities of believers.
1 | Motions of Objects

There are several basic motions of bodies. Rotation is the spinning of an object around its axis. Earth rotates once approximately every 24 hours, whereas Jupiter rotates once approximately every 10 hours.

At any moment, half of the Earth is illuminated by the Sun, because of the fact that most of our light comes from the Sun. As the Earth rotates from west to east, your location moves from the dark (night) hemisphere into the illuminated (day) hemisphere and back again. The diurnal (daily) motion of the stars, the Sun, and the Moon is a consequence of Earth’s rotation.

Another motion is Revolution; that is, one object orbiting a second. Earth revolves around the Sun approximately every 365.24 Earth Days (1 Earth year), and Jupiter revolves around the Sun approximately every 11.86 Earth Years (1 Jovian year). As the Earth revolves or orbits around the Sun, the nighttime side of the Earth (or any other body orbiting the Sun) gradually turns toward different parts of the night sky.
LO Discovery and Cataloging
Introductory Sociology: Module 10

In module 10 students will learn about government and the economy as well as health and the environment. They will study the different perspectives and organizations that are involved in these areas.
Welcome to the xpLor Dashboard!

The xpLor Dashboard is your command center for content, channels and student submissions. The Dashboard provides quick links to finding content as well as content you have created and content you have used in your courses. It can be reached at any time by clicking the xpLor logo. Tell me more...

Discover
- By grade level
- By standards alignment

Create
- Page, File, Link, Quiz, more...
- Import common cartridge

My Content
- 1,012 Published

Course Content
- CelLearningObjects_OC

Channels
- Create
- 40 Subscribed
- 40 Managed

ACTIVITY MANAGER

Submissions
- All ungraded
- Ungraded assignments
- Ungraded quizzes

Discussion Posts

Import / Export Status
CREATE

- **Page**
  - create a new page from scratch

- **File**
  - upload a file from your computer

- **Link**
  - add a link to a website

- **Quiz**
  - add a test or practice exercise

- **Assignment**
  - add a dropbox for a homework assignment

- **Discussion**
  - add a topic for a threaded discussion

IMPORT

- **Common Cartridge**
  - create a collection from a common cartridge

---

[Florida State College at Jacksonville]
Creating a Resource...

Resources can be used to author a variety of content. The content editor allows you to customize the format of your content and attach additional files and images. After creating the content, publish your resource such that other users who are approved for sharing can reuse your material under the designated copyright. Tell me more...
Welcome to the xpLor Dashboard!

The xpLor Dashboard is your command center for content, channels and student submissions. The Dashboard provides quick links to finding content as well as content you have created and content you have used in your courses. It can be reached at any time by clicking the xpLor logo. **Tell me more...**

**Discover**
- By grade level
- By standards alignment

**Create**
- Page, File, Link, Quiz, more...
- Import common cartridge

**My Content**
- 1,012 Published

**Course Content**
- CeLLearningObjects_OC

**Channels**
- Create
- 40 Subscribed
- 40 Managed

**Activity Manager**
- Submissions
  - All ungraded
  - Ungraded assignments
  - Ungraded quizzes

- Discussion Posts

- Import / Export Status
You found some content! What's next?

Choose your content.

Resources are individual pieces of content; collections can be an entire course worth of resources. Tell me more...

RESOURCES (904)

Accounting for Managers: Chapters 7 and 8
CEL Xplor - 4/29/2015
In these videos students will learn accounting for and presentation of liabilities and for owners’ liability.

World Geography – East Asia: Module 10
CEL Xplor - 6/30/2015
In this module students will learn about the cultural and physical geography of East Asia.

Humanities in the Americas - Art for the People, Life During the Great Depression: Module 12
CEL Xplor - 7/1/2015
This module discusses the art created under the Federal Arts Project which sponsored murals in public buildings. At this time social realists depicted industrial workers in their art and the German Bauhaus movement influenced American architecture.

Introduction to Business - Foundations of Business: Module 1
CEL Xplor - 7/1/2015
In this module students will learn about the principle foundations of business including: business terminology, factors of production, business ethics, micro and macroeconomics, supply and demand principles, and world markets.

Cultural Geography: Module 1
CEL Xplor - 7/1/2015
In this module students will learn about the organization of geography and the tools that geographers use to study the world. This module will help in their study of cultural geography.
Select a learning object and easily add to a course.
Each module contains a short description.

Modules are indexed by keywords and tags.
Moving Forward
Next Steps: Where Do We Go From Here?

• Design Aspects
  – Standardization of how, what and when LO’s are used
    • Learning Object Request Form
    • Procedure/policy to add tags
    • ADA compliant

• Implementation Aspects
  – Centralized training for staff and faculty
  – Promoting use
  – Faculty provided content
  – Sharing resources publicly—FSCJ copyright
    – LO Libguide
Open Educational Resources and Learning Objects: FSCJ Learning Objects

This guide is designed for FSCJ faculty to discover learning objects and other open educational resources. Faculty will also find information on adding and uploading content to share with colleagues.

Welcome!

Please use this guide to find information on how to discover and share learning objects and open educational resources.

Introducing Blackboard xPloR

What is a Learning Object?

Learning objects are digital materials with defined instructional value used to improve teaching and learning. Some examples of learning objects are:

- Websites
- Audio and video clips
- Presentations
- Tutorials
- Assignments, and assessments

The Librarians at Florida State College at Jacksonville have developed a learning object repository using a Blackboard product, xPloR.
Getting Started

Tool Availability
Is xLor not listed as a Mashup? View this tutorial on how to make xLor accessible through Blackboard

Moving Between xLor and Blackboard
This guide will show you how to move between xLor and Blackboard Learn.

Getting Started with xLor
Here are a few slides that show how to search using “FSCJ” created channels

Discovery
Here is some helpful information on how to search for learning objects in xLor.

Learning Objects in the Library

Discover, Create, and Share:
Our FSCJ librarians are available to assist you with discovering learning objects using the Blackboard xLor learning object repository. Please contact a Faculty Librarian for assistance.

Faculty Resource Centers:
Several FSCJ campuses and centers have faculty resource areas with software designed to help with the creation of learning objects. Some software programs include:
- TechSmith Camtasia Studio
- TechSmith Snagit
- Adobe After Effects
- Adobe Creative Suite Design
- Adobe Lightroom
- Apple Final Cut Pro
- Mediaspace
- Apple Quicktime

Contact the campus for more information.

Suggestions and Feedback

Provide Feedback
Select this link to provide feedback and/or suggestions for improvement of the learning object repository.

Learning Object Repository Request

Request to Add
Select this link to request to have learning objects that you developed added to xLor. Please fill in as much information as possible. If the learning object is a file from your computer, a librarian will contact you for more information.
Name: Please enter your name

Email Address: Please enter your email address

Title of Learning Object

Suggested course(s) in which it could be used

Type of Object
- File from your computer
- Link to a website
- Organized collection of learning objects
- Video

Web Address (if applicable)

**Please note that you will receive a separate email request for access to upload a file or presentation not available online**

Summary: Provide a brief description of your learning object. Include a statement explaining the benefit to the student and possible uses.

Keywords: Please list a few keywords associated with your learning object that will help faculty discover it when searching

Learning Outcomes: Which learning outcomes are aligned with this learning object (refer to the course outlines for the course)?

Submit
Take Away

- **Considerations**
  - Consider LO’s as a way of reducing reliance on textbooks
  - Consider removing/replacing PowerPoint in online courses
  - Consider LO repository design alternatives
LO Repository Design Alternatives
Learning Management Systems

- Canvas Commons is a learning object repository that allows Canvas users to share learning resources.

- Commons is available in all Free for Teacher (FFT) accounts. Free for Teacher users are limited to finding, importing, and sharing public resources.
Learning Management Systems

- Desire2Learn is a course management system
- A Learning Object Repository (LOR) can be set up in Desire2Learn (Brightspace)
  - Brightspace Learning Repository
- Lansing Community College Library LOR
LibGuides

Learning Objects
helping to improve teaching and learning through digital materials

Featured Tools

Web Conferencing Tools

• Adobe Connect
College Webpages

CAL POLY POMONA | A Legacy of W.K. Kellogg

Engaging experiences through instructional design + multimedia.

Weave Technique
College of Agriculture

An interactive simulation demonstrating the differences between plain, twill, and satin weaves. It gives the user a microscopic representation of what the weaves look like up close.

Click here to view object!

Newest Learning Objects

Keyword Cloud
atom, theory, mirror; bond; gene; ion; electron; chemistry; microscope; library; lens; fashion; extraction; shells; low; RNA; DNA; molecule; merchandising; engineering; median; voter; theorem; photosynthesis; design; linkage; disequilibrium; hooke's law; magnifying glass; proteins; physics; biology; momentum; evolution; apparel; science; energy; pendulum; principal; ray; diagram.

Cal Poly Pomona Multimedia Learning Objects
College Webpages

Texas A & M University Open Educational Resources
Website Builders

- If you're a current student or faculty member of a partnering school, you can receive 50% off your first year of Squarespace.

- Squarespace Education Toolset
Website Builders

NEWSLETTER

ANNUAL REPORT

Laramie Rivers Conservation District
Timepoint Ensemble

Florida State College at Jacksonville™
Website Builders

- Intuitive site-building interface & a free version
- A gallery of third-party widgets
- Online storage for your site assets
- WixEd
Website Builders

WordPress.com
- Hosts your site
- Free version is very basic and has limited customization
- Not on your campus domain ($$$)

WordPress.org
- Download open source software and host yourself
- Unlimited customization
- On your campus domain
- May need programmer support
Website Builders
Website Builders

**Google Sites**

- Website builder & host
- Basic internal sites
- Not ideal as a main client facing website
- Free*
- Examples—
  - [School Libraries using Google Sites](#)
  - [Virtual Learning Commons](#)

**Weebly**

- Website builder & host
- Weebly for Education is a special version for teachers and students.
- Free & paid plan options
- Examples
  - [Interactive Sites for Education](#)
  - [Stallion Library](#)
Expanding the Partnership

Achieving the Dream Grant

- FSCJ is one of 19 grantees and 38 Community Colleges
- Design two degree pathways with OER
- These degree pathway courses will be offered in all modes; Online, Hybrid, and F2F.
- The grant will help with college affordability.
Expanding the Partnership

Library’s Continued Involvement

• Library for support with locating and evaluating the OERs.
• Libraries have search and discovery systems, data storage, metadata and indexing, institutional repositories and preservation expertise
• Libraries have trusted relationships enabling the outreach, education, and instructional support.
Contact Information

Ronald L Carr, Ron.Carr@fscj.edu
Shannon Dew, Shannon.Dew@fscj.edu
Barbara Markham, Barbara.Markham@fscj.edu
Sharon Uskokovich, S.Uskokovich@fscj.edu