



Evolution via Devolution?

LEWIS & CLARK'S DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP MULTISITE, 2014-2020

JIM PROCTOR | ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES PROGRAM | LEWIS & CLARK COLLEGE

BUCKNELL DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP CONFERENCE | 17.10.07



The theme “Looking Forward, Looking Back: The Evolution of Digital Scholarship” acknowledges the changes to scholarship wrought by the introduction of digital technologies across the disciplines.

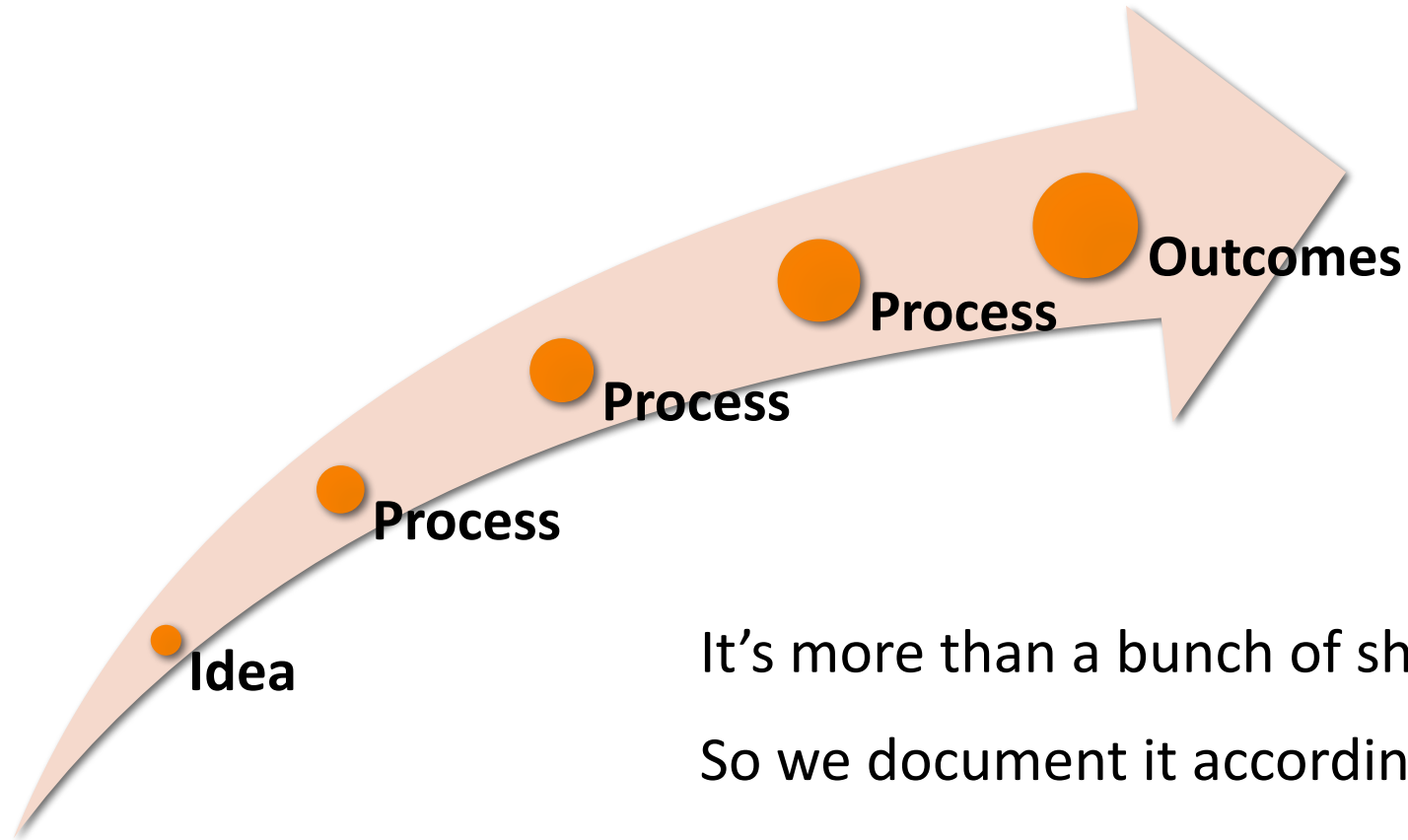
Now is an apt time to reflect upon how digital scholarship has evolved over the past decades and where it may head in the future. Scholars and teachers, poets and administrators, artists and community members, are encouraged to reflect on the past of digital scholarship and work together to build a future for digital scholarship.



I. Assumptions/Precursors



Digital Scholarship = ??



It's more than a bunch of shiny outcomes
So we document it accordingly



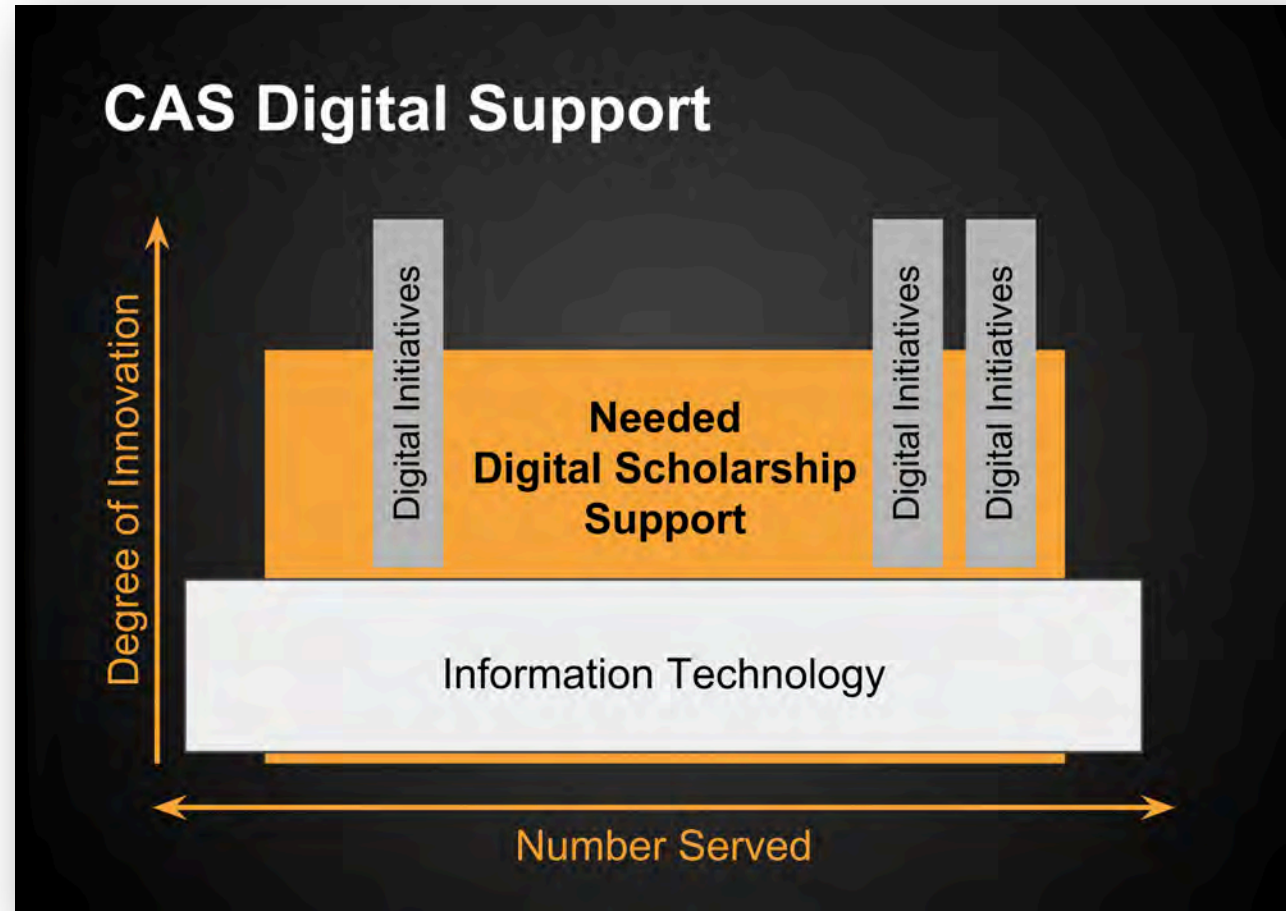
DS Multisite Precursors



See ds.lclark.edu/archive/



DS Multisite: The Niche at L&C





II. Lewis & Clark's DS Multisite



The What and the Why

The DS Multisite

The digital scholarship (DS) multisite at Lewis & Clark provides opportunities for our students to cultivate and demonstrate skills in public digital scholarship. As of 2017, there are over 250 sites on the DS multisite.

The DS multisite runs on [WordPress](#), an open-source content management system used on [over a quarter](#) of the top 10 million websites worldwide—the most widely used, [fastest growing](#) platform our students can learn. Complementing WordPress on the DS multisite are a host of contemporary [Genesis](#) themes to customize the look of sites, and a wide range of [WordPress plugins](#) to extend site functionality far beyond simple blogs—and far beyond options available on [WordPress.com](#), with which students can nonetheless connect to promote their DS content more broadly. Our students thus develop important transferable skills in digital scholarship, public digital communication, and web authoring.



Lewis & Clark Around the World

What exactly is public digital scholarship? Perhaps it is best defined from the outside in: liberal arts *scholarship* spans the sciences and humanities, for which *digital* scholarship takes a number of forms and may be directed toward a *public* audience. There are thus three innovative features of public digital scholarship: the first is the recognition of broadly common scholarly pursuits across a wide range of fields; the second involves how digital technologies accompany this range of scholarly pursuits; and the third involves how these technologies can facilitate the sharing of scholarly process and product with a variety of interested publics. Public digital scholarship is thus engaged scholarship, across multiple dimensions.

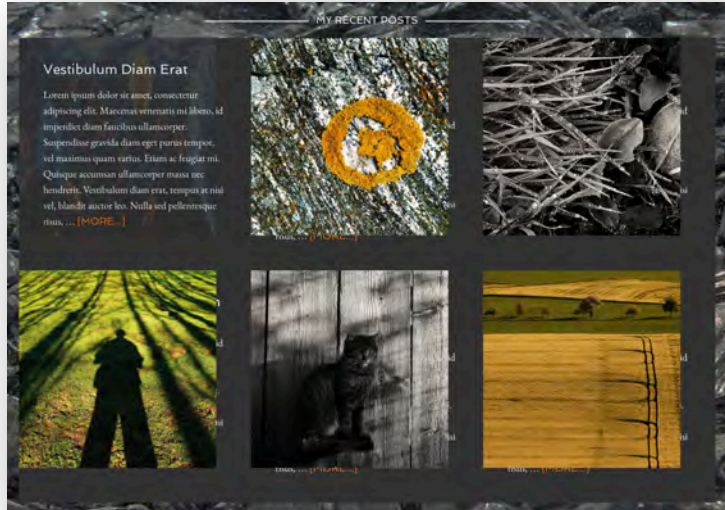
Though student work on the DS multisite involves more than simply blogging, writing is often key to public digital scholarship. [Cathy Davidson](#), a noted scholar of English, digital media, and interdisciplinarity, says in [Writing \(in Public\) Across the Curriculum](#),



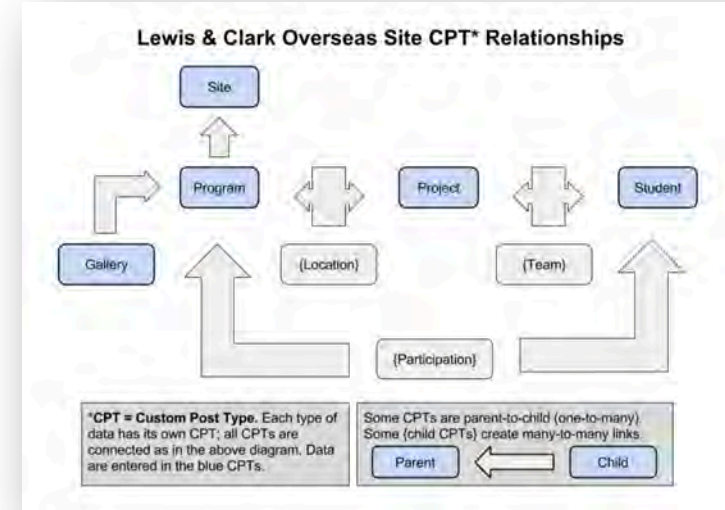
The How I: Simple to Not Simple



Blog

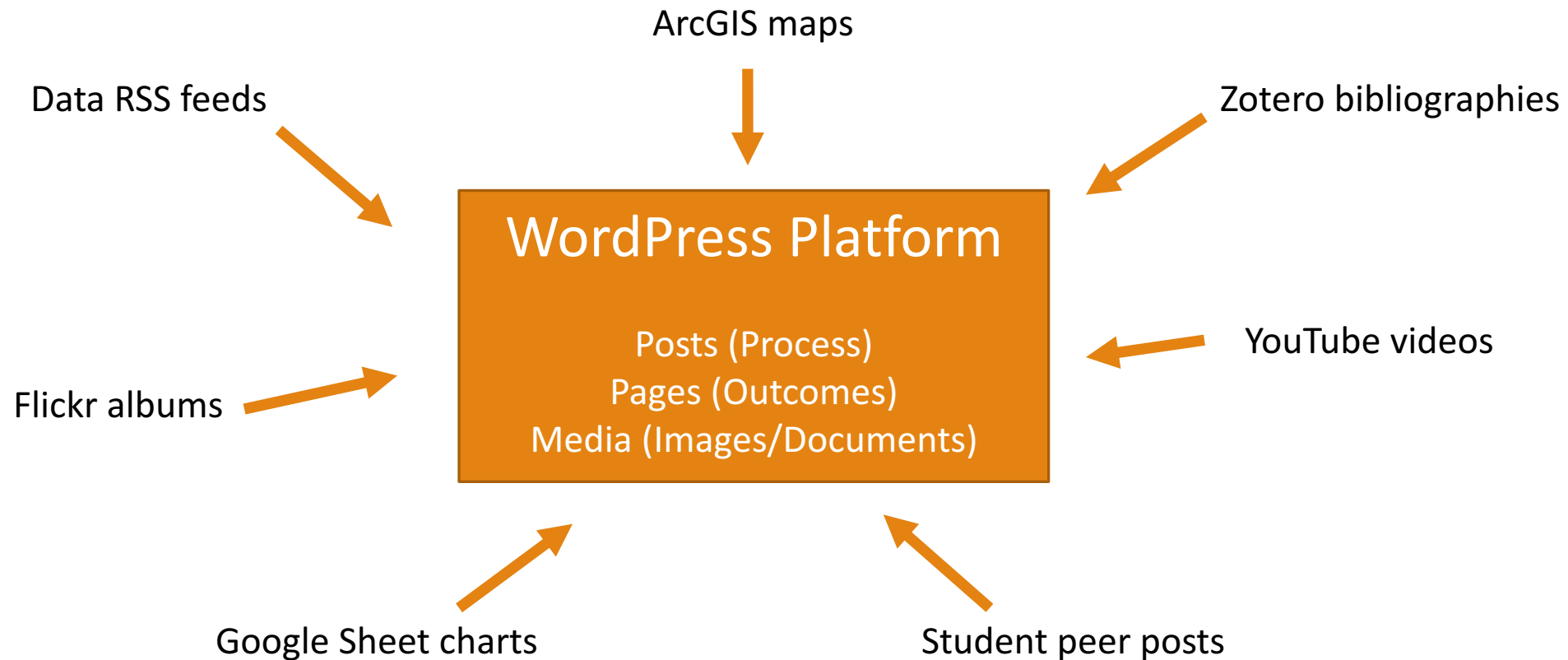


Relational CMS



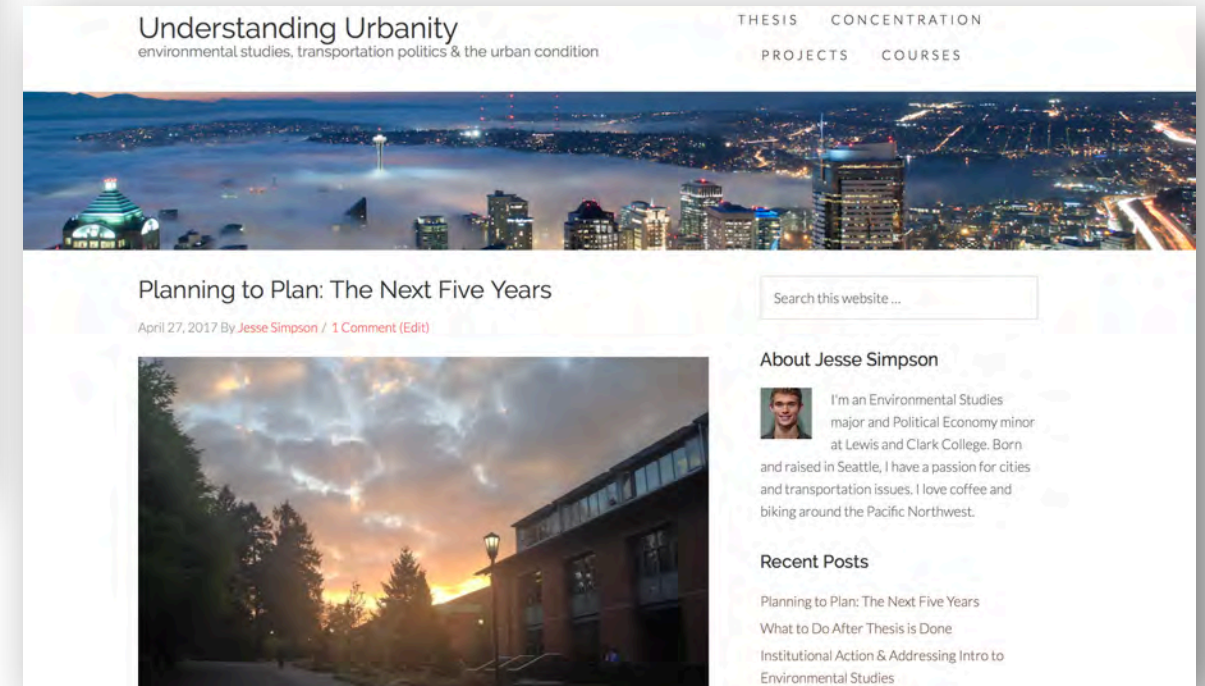
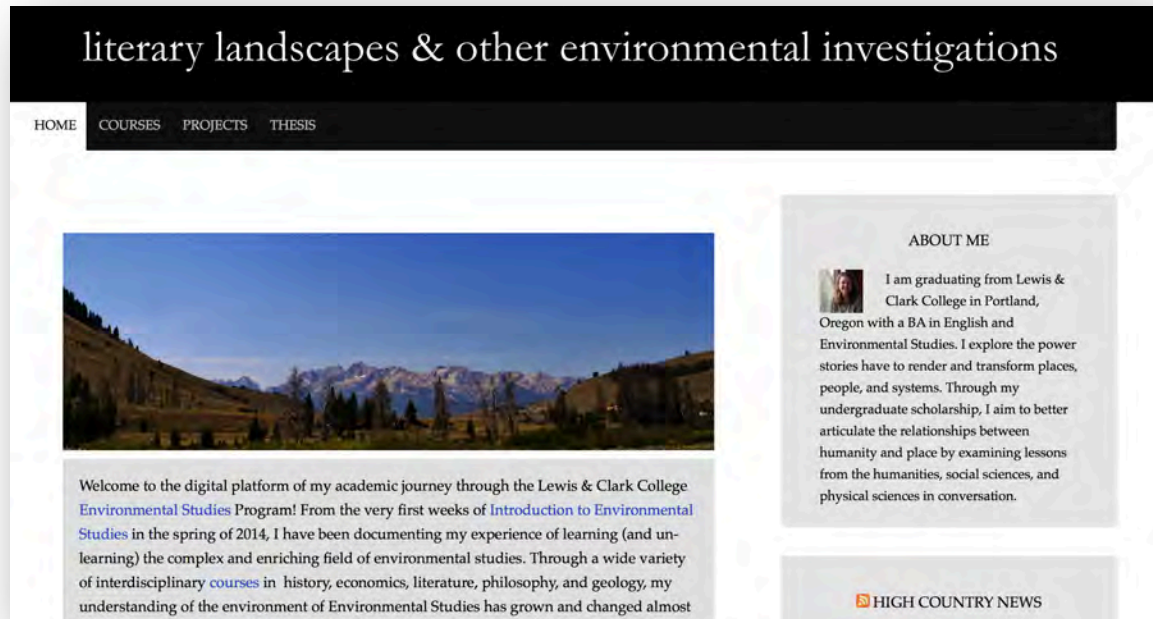


The How II: WordPress as a Platform



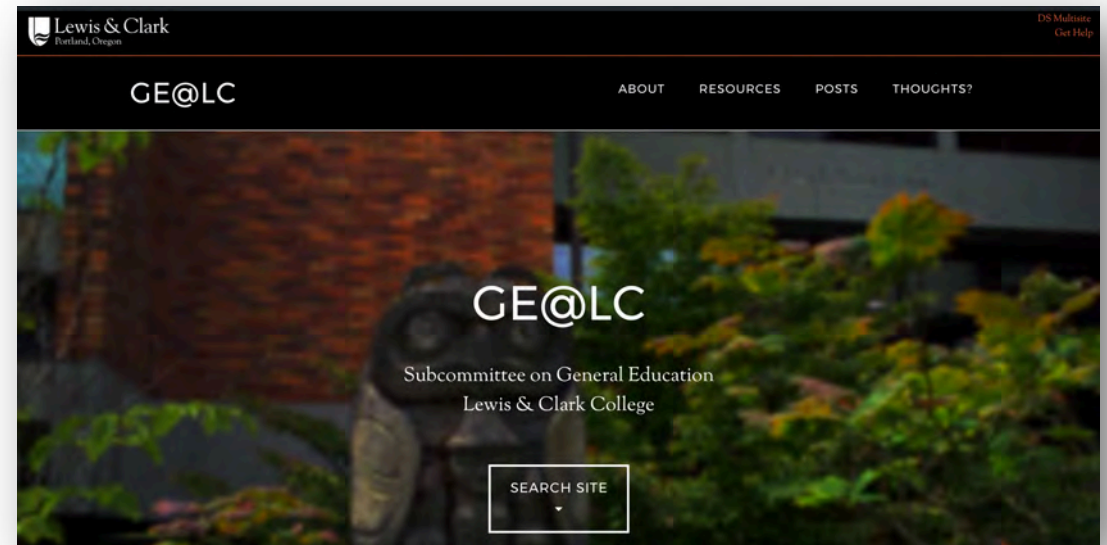
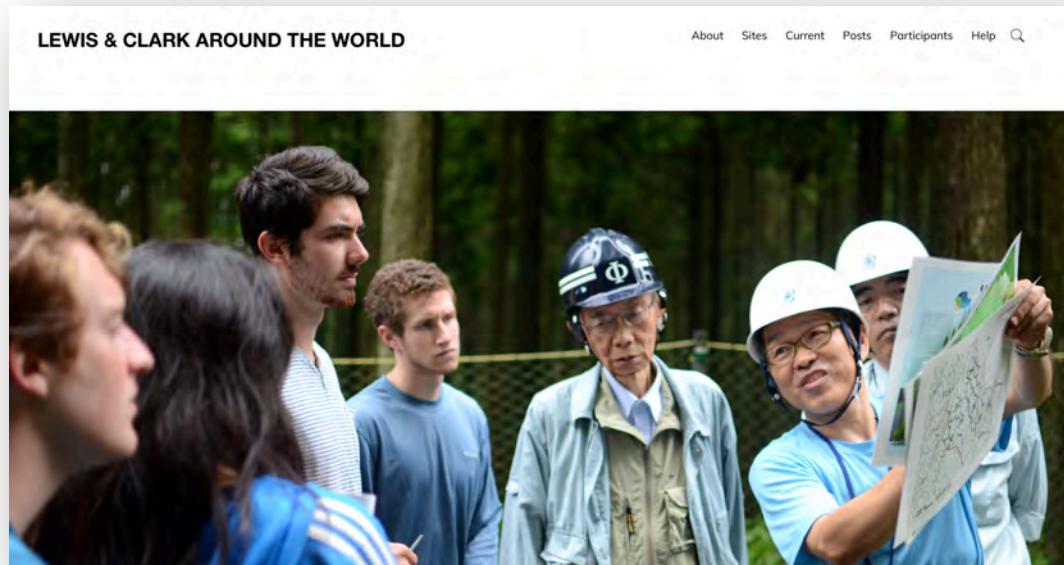


Sample Student Sites





Sample Other Sites





ENVS Program Sites

ENVS PROGRAM
Lewis & Clark Environmental Studies

ENVS Community Post Titles

Recent ENVS Posts

WELCOME TO OUR ENVS SITE

Discover fellow ENVS community members and their content, and browse important ENVS Program resources here.

ABOUT ENVX | PORTALS | ENVX EDITORS | ENVX CONTRIBUTORS | HELP | OCTOBER 5, 2017

ENVX | Environment Across Boundaries

Search the site ...

ENVX STUDENT SITES

Sometimes Overwhelming. Usually Rewarding: Exemplary Digital Scholarship Sites

Here at L&C, the Environmental Studies Program ... (more...)

Digital Scholarship Websites: A Scholarly Journal

Designing and creating a scholarly website is a ... (more...)

ENV-?: Crossing Boundaries in Environmental Studies

At Lewis & Clark, the

Situating Environment, Imagining Worlds: ENVS Honors Theses 2017

May 15, 2017 James Proctor (Edit)

We are proud of all nineteen graduating ENVS seniors this year; they were a great bunch of students to work with over the last four years, and grew tremendously during this time. We'd like to honor four graduating seniors in particular—Lex Shapiro, Jesse Simpson, Hannah Smay, and Drew Williamson—who successfully completed all requirements for honors [...]

Constructing a World-Class Tramway System: Building Identity through Innovative Urbanism in the "Glocal" City of Strasbourg, France

May 15, 2017 James Proctor (Edit)

Drew Williamson's 2017 ENVS honors thesis, "Constructing a World-Class Tramway System: Building Identity through Innovative Urbanism in the 'Glocal' City of Strasbourg, France," is available as an ENVX publication here. Here is Drew's thesis abstract: In this

WHAT IS ENVX?

ENVX is Environment Across Boundaries, primarily featuring the work of students in the Environmental Studies Program at Lewis & Clark College as scholars, curators, and editors. More info here.

SUBSCRIBE TO ENVX NEWSLETTER

The ENVX newsletter, summarizing recent content, is distributed by email once per semester to ENVS Program list members.

email address

SUBSCRIBE

EDITOR FAVORITES

Situating Environment, Imagining Worlds: ENVS Honors Theses 2017

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III. Devolutionary Necessities



Quick Survey I

Technical & training support I have for my digital scholarship needs

- ☐ Support?? (it's all up to me)
- ☐ Was great...once upon a time...
- ☐ Is great when I get it...if I get it...
- ☐ Is great! I have all I need



The Devolutionary Timeline

2011–14

- L&C ENVS Program gets (2nd) big Mellon grant
- sge.lclark.edu site launch

2014–15

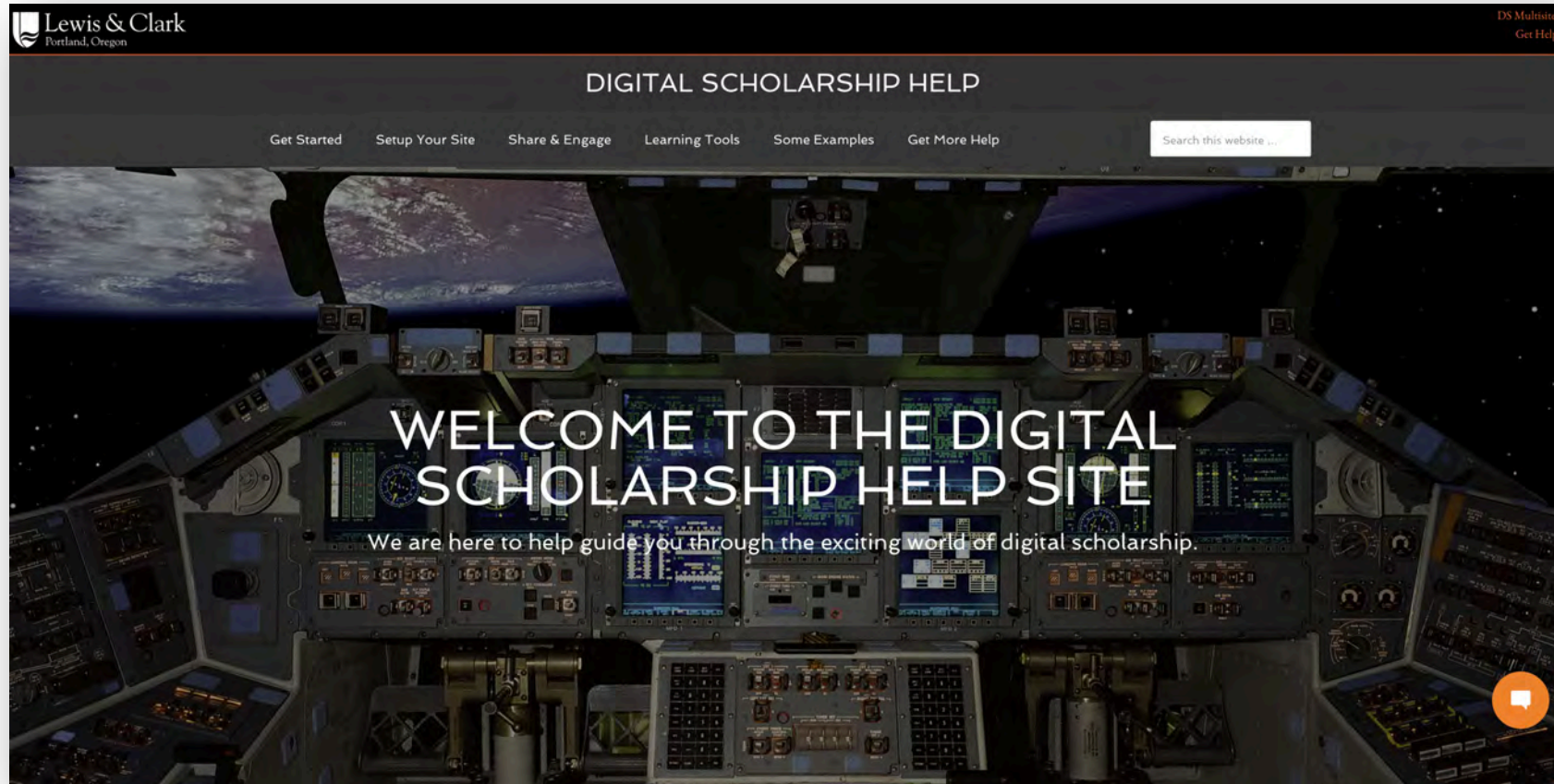
- Big Mellon grant winding down
- ds.lclark.edu multisite launch
- Yet no support outside ENVS

2015–17

- 1.0 to 0.5 staff (2015); 0.5 temporarily to 0.0 staff (2017)
- Part-time web consultant (2016–17) now gone too...ugh
- At this point it's mostly the person you're looking at



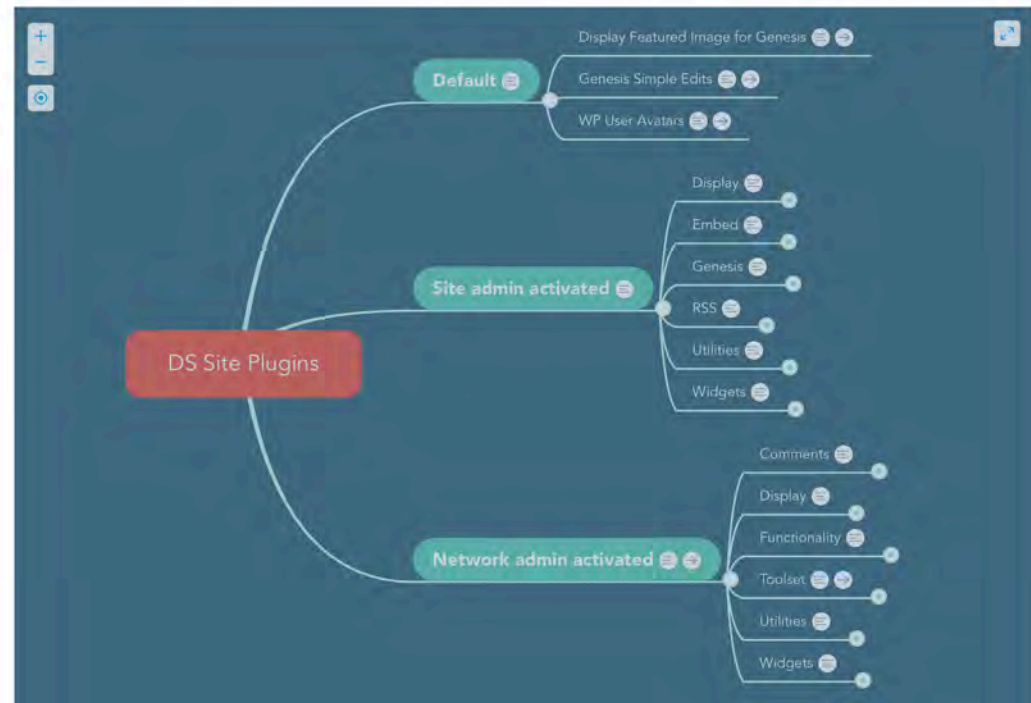
Devolutionary Strategy I: /help/ Site





/help/ Site Plugins & Themes

Below is a [MindMeister](#) mindmap of all site plugins on the DS multisite (with admin-activated plugins we recommend for starters marked via *); click any category to expand and view associated plugins. For help on installing and configuring any plugin, please [get hold of our friendly support staff!](#)



Theme layouts & list

Some Genesis themes are *full-width*; this means that content stretches across the entire width of the page. Others are *sidebar* themes, in which one or more optional panels on the side display additional content (usually from *widgets*). You'll typically start with a full-width theme for ease of use; later you may elect to change to a sidebar theme to give you greater flexibility in use of widgets. Examples of each layout are found on our [Effective Sites](#) page.

Below are the themes we currently support on the DS multisite, including whether they are full-width or sidebar themes, and whether theme edits are supported by Design Palette Pro. Click each theme name to view a Genesis demo page (and pardon the commercial slickness of these demos!). If you'd like assistance in setting up a theme to look somewhat like the Genesis demo page, please [get support](#), specifying the theme name and what you'd like to accomplish.

THEME NAME	LAYOUT TYPE	HOME PAGE TYPE	DESIGN PALETTE PRO?
Agency Pro	Sidebar	Full-Width	Yes
Altitude Pro	Sidebar	Full-Width	Yes
Ambiance Pro	Full-Width	Full-Width	Yes
Atmosphere Pro	Full-Width	Full-Width	Yes
Author Pro	Sidebar	Full-Width	Yes
Beautiful Pro	Sidebar	Sidebar	Yes
Centric Pro	Sidebar	Full-Width	Yes
Digital Pro	Sidebar	Full-Width	Yes
Education Pro	Sidebar	Full-Width	Yes



Devolutionary Strategy II: /learn/ Site

DS TRAINING SITE

WHAT ARE BADGES? DS USER LEVEL DS ADMIN LEVEL DISPLAY YOUR BADGES LOGIN

Let's Build Some Digital Muscles!

Welcome to the DS training site, where you can earn badges for cultivating a range of digital skills. Start by [reading about badges](#), then [get started!](#)


Your current badges, and a badge leaderboard, are below.

[VIEW MY BADGES](#)

SEARCH SITE

Search this website ...


DS Admin Level

 **200 Points**

Now that you've completed the User Level badge, let's earn some DS Admin Level badges. You'll get your own site, learn to customize it, and populate it with a broad array of content.

Make sure you meet all the requirements before you start!:

1. Have you earned the User Level badge? If not, [go here and come back later](#).
2. Have you gotten a new site yet, and are you logged into it? If not, [go here and come back later](#).



GET BADGES

[DS User Level](#)

[DS Admin Level](#)

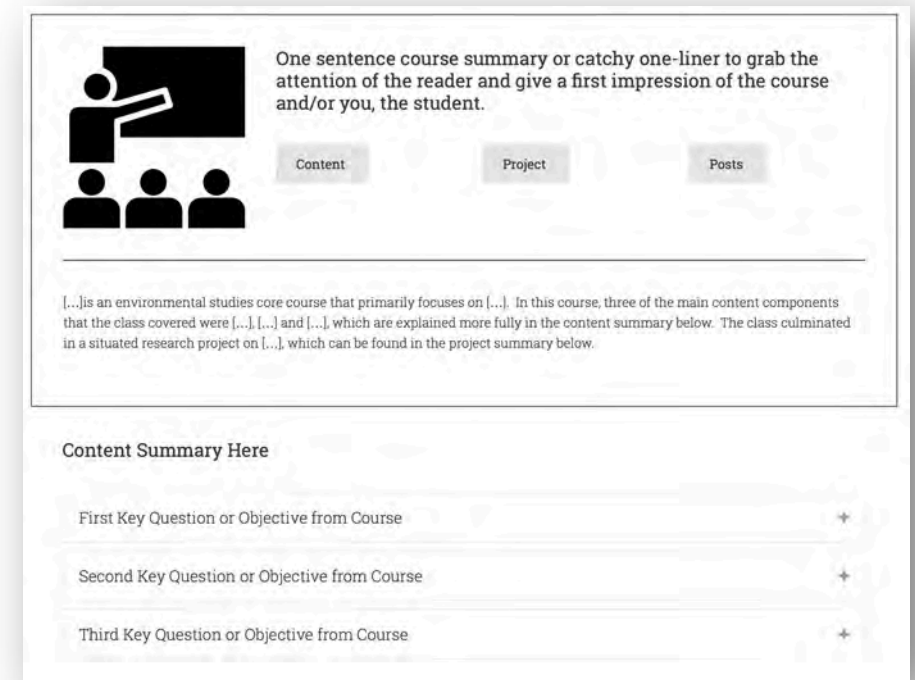
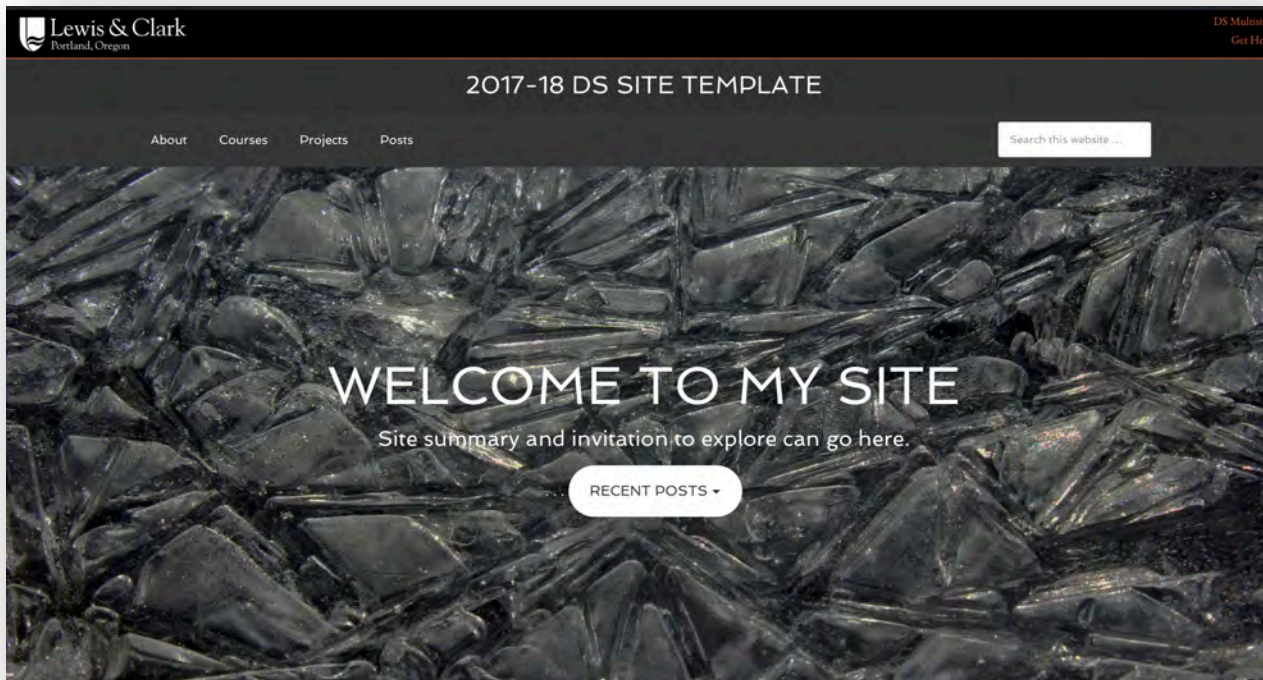
MY RECENT BADGES (LOGGED IN ONLY)

DS BADGES: TOP 25 TO DATE

#	User Name	Points	Level	Sticky
1		501	2	12
2		501	2	12
3		501	2	12
4		501	2	12
5		501	2	12
6		501	2	12
7		481	2	11



Devolutionary Strategy III: Templates





Devolutionary Strategy IV: DS Tutors

SAAB tutors

- L&C Student Academic Affairs Board peer tutors
- Expanded in 2015 to include DS skills tutoring
- DS SAAB tutors do training & mid-level support

DS SAAB tutor tasks

- One on one student support
- /learn/ site badge assessment
- Class (or overseas program orientation) sessions
- Instructor (or overseas program leader) consult's



Devolutionary Strategy V: PDX WP Geeks



Portland WP community

- Meetup: >2000 members
- Site admins to developers

Recent/upcoming events

- PDX WordCamp on L&C campus
- Student-oriented Meetups
- Possible internships
- Possible mentorships





Quick Survey II

Devolutionary strategies that do (or may) work for me

- ☐ I: Super-helpful online help
- ☐ II: Self-guided training modules
- ☐ III: Starter templates
- ☐ IV: Peer to peer mid-level training/support
- ☐ V: Community geeks
- ☐ VI: Something totally different...



IV. ds.lclark.edu in 2020?

...LET'S TALK: JPROCTOR@LCLARK.EDU