

Personal Learning Environments, Personal Development Planning & Lifelong Learning

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Students are transients within the university system, most staying for three years.

Google

Google's share of all searches is over 87% and continues to climb
([ref](#))



WIKIPEDIA

VLE

A software system designed to help teachers by facilitating the management of educational content, their students, especially by helping teachers and learners with course administration.

CONTROL

[\(ref\)](#)

PLE

Systems that help learners take control of and manage their own learning. This includes providing support for learners to set their own learning goals, manage their learning, manage both content and process, and communicate with others in the process of learning.

LEARNING

[\(ref\)](#)

VLE



Authentication

([OpenID](#), [Shibboleth](#), [OpenSocial](#) ?)

Convenience (*wrapper*)

Support

Reliability (?)

Student progress

PLE



Current tools

(*video conferencing, social networking, collaborative writing, etc*)

Better tools

Personalization

(*choice: staff and students*)

Cost

Avoids software sedimentation -
small pieces loosely joined

Disintermediation -
cutting out the middleman

([Martin Weller](#))

VLE

Inflexible

Walled Garden

Closed

Control

Excludes

Expensive

(how much does your institution spend on its VLE and what could you buy with that money?)

PLE

Flexibility:

- Tiny: limited to a project
- Elongated: lifelong
- Deep: mental models
- Infinite: reflective

Not a content management system

Engagement

Provides context and meaning

Cost

Encouraging students to develop their own personal learning, research and networking space, will equip them with sustainable lifelong learning skills that can persist beyond their university careers and the confines of institutional learning management systems.

<http://pleuol.wetpaint.com/>

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ePortfolios

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying a WetPaint ePortfolio. The header is dark red with the name "Joanna Hughes" in white. Below the header is a navigation bar with links: Home, Discussion Forum, What's New, Photo Gallery, Members, To-Dos, Invite, and My Profile. A search box is on the left. The main content area has a title "Joanna Hughes Home" and a profile picture of a woman with dark hair. Below the picture is a bio: "Hi, I'm Joanna Hughes and this is my ePortfolio. I'm a fictional student in the School of Biological Sciences at the University of Leicester." The left sidebar contains a "WIKI PAGES" menu with links to Home, Modules, Reflections, My student experience, My career plans, My C.V., Computer stuff, Leicester stuff, and Fun stuff. There are also links for "RECENT SITE ACTIVITY" and "TOP CONTRIBUTORS".

<http://joannahughes.wetpaint.com/>

Blackboard, PebblePad

The screenshot shows a WordPress ePortfolio page. The header is blue with navigation links: ABOUT, COMPUTER STUFF, FUN STUFF, LEICESTER, MY CAREER PLANS, MY STUDENT EXPERIENCE, and REFLECTIONS. The main content area has a title "JOANNA HUGHES - EPORTFOLIO" and a bio: "Hi, I'm Joanna Hughes and this is my ePortfolio. I'm a fictional student in the School of Biological Sciences at the University of Leicester." Below the bio is a list of links: Marks, Feedback, Reflections, My student experience, My career plans, My C.V., Computer stuff, Leicester stuff, and Fun stuff. There is a profile picture of a woman with dark hair. On the right side, there is a search box and two green boxes: "pages" with links to about, computer stuff, fun stuff, leicester, my career plans, my student experience, and reflections; and "category cloud" with links to Chemistry, Feedback, and Marks Module.

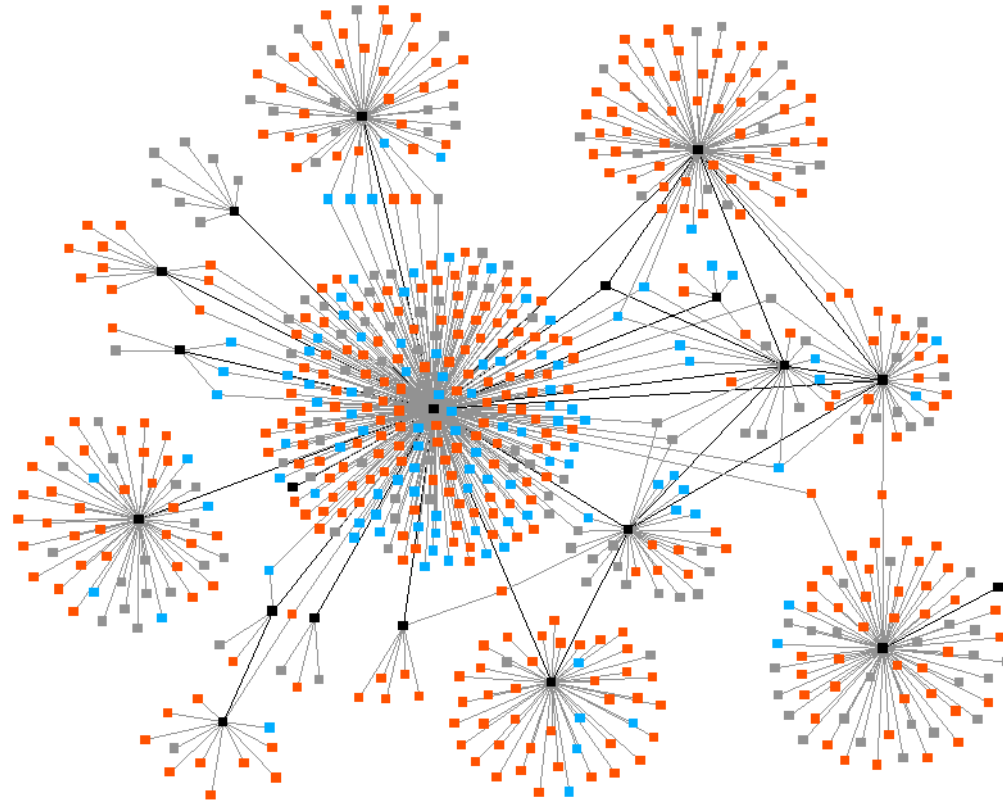
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Small world networks

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Small-world_network



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