

This work has been submitted to **NECTAR**, the **Northampton Electronic Collection of Theses and Research**.

Conference or Workshop Item

Title: Using OERs and e-tivities to create a collaborative, mobile friendly, learner-centred course

Creators: Littlemore, K. and Farmer, R.

Example citation: Littlemore, K. and Farmer, R. (2013) Using OERs and e-tivities to create a collaborative, mobile friendly, learner-centred course. Paper presented to: 20th Annual Conference of the Association for Learning Technology (altc2013): Building New Cultures of Learning, University of Nottingham, 10-12 September 2013.

Version: Presented version

http://nectar.northampton.ac.uk/5776/

Using OERs and e-tivities to create a collaborative, mobile friendly, learner-centred course.

Rob Farmer & Kate Littlemore

Learning Technologist

Head of the Centre for Achievement and Performance

The University of Northampton

ALT-C 2013, Paper ID #372



Study skills for academic success

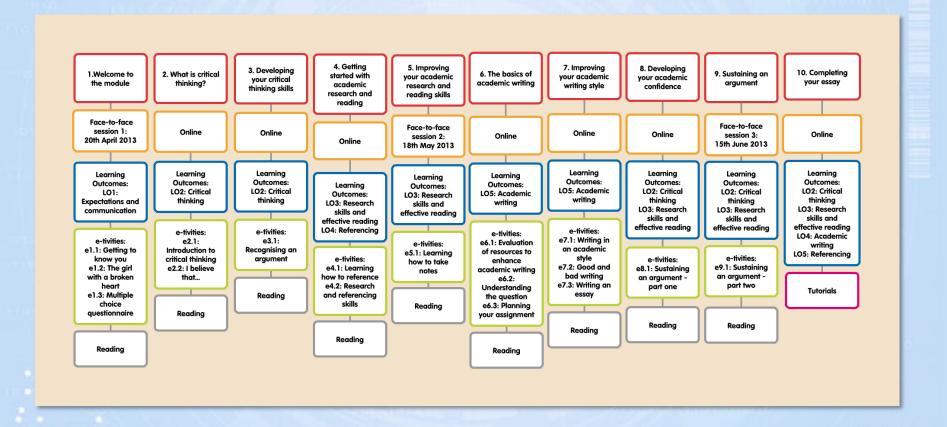
- The original course
- The aims and objectives of the Study Skills for Academic Success course
- Target audience
- Experiences of delivering the face-to-face course

Why create an online course?

- Meeting increasing demand
- Creating a sustainable, scalable course
- Flexible delivery
- Build IT competence/confidence of learners
- Begin to create more autonomous learners

- The CAleRO process
- Re-use rather than creation of learning materials
- Focus on task, not content
- Constructive alignment
- Design with openness in mind
- Create e-tivities

Course map



http://popplet.com/app/#/848543

Delivering the new course

- Experience and perceptions of staff delivering the new course:
- "It was certainly a new challenge delivering a module online but I really enjoyed it and feel more confident about the next module."
- "I was worried that I wouldn't have the same rapport with the students but that wasn't the case at all and the cohort bonded very well."



Student perceptions

Positives:

- "... it helped me learn about how to reference properly, and what I need to do in order to improve on any piece of academic work".
- "Very flexible approach which was great. Face to face sessions were very well delivered ..."
- "I felt well supported, there was always help when needed!"

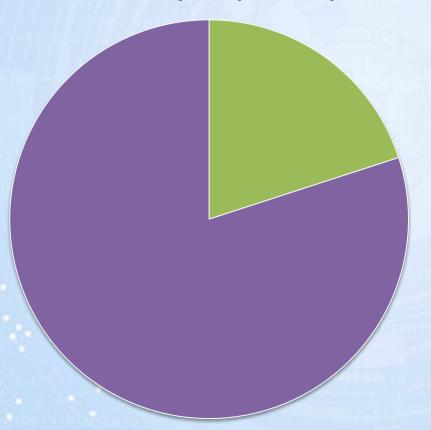


Student perceptions

- Negatives:
- "A couple of the exercises were not suitable."
- "Topic choices felt a bit random."



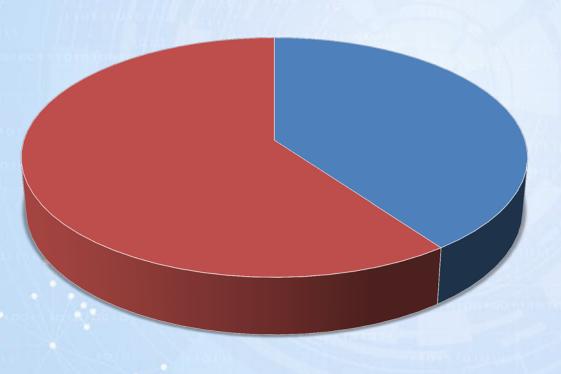
What was your prior experience of online learning?



- I am a regular online learner.
- I have taken one or two online courses before.
- I've taken a few online courses before
- I've never taken an online course before



What do you think about this type of blended course?



- I thought that the mix between online activities and face-to-face sessions was just right.
- I would have preferred fewer online activites and more face-to-face sessions.
- I would have preferred it if the course was entirely online.

If there were no face-to-face sessions, what do you think your experience would have been?



- I did enjoy the face-to-face sessions, but it would have been more convenient for me if the course was all online.
- I would probably have completed the course, but it wouldn't have been as enjoyable.
- The face-to-face sessions kept me going, and I don't think that I would have completed the course without them.



100% of students agreed that:

"Online learning is good because it means that I can fit in my learning around my work and/or family commitments."

and

"Online learning is bad because I can't easily ask questions when I'm stuck."





0% of students agreed that:

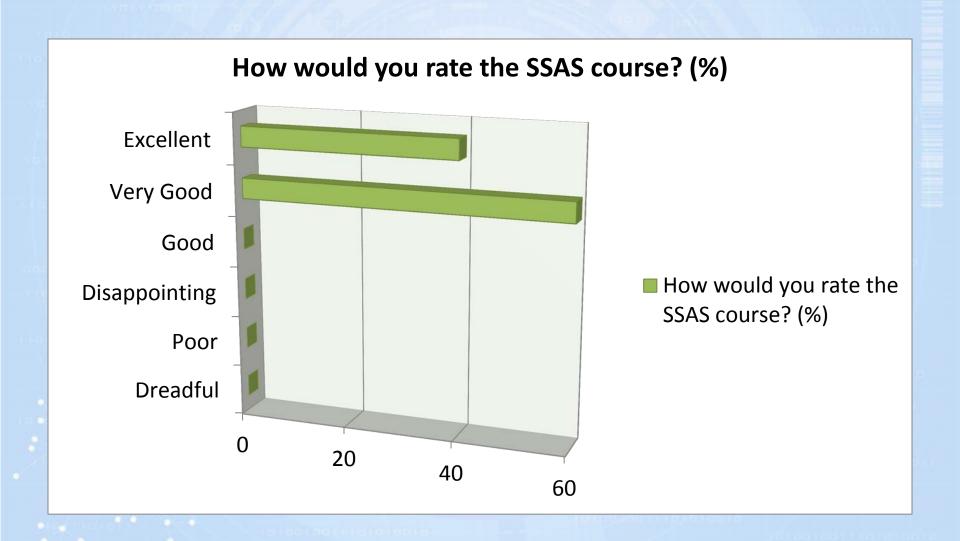
"Online learning is good because it means that I don't have to attend lectures."

and

"Online learning is bad because it means that I have to spend too much time sitting in front of a computer."

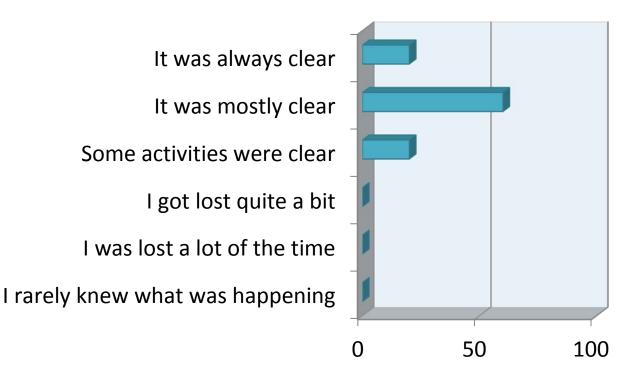


Student feedback



Student feedback

Did you feel that the course was clear and well structured? (%)



■ Did you feel that the course was clear and well...



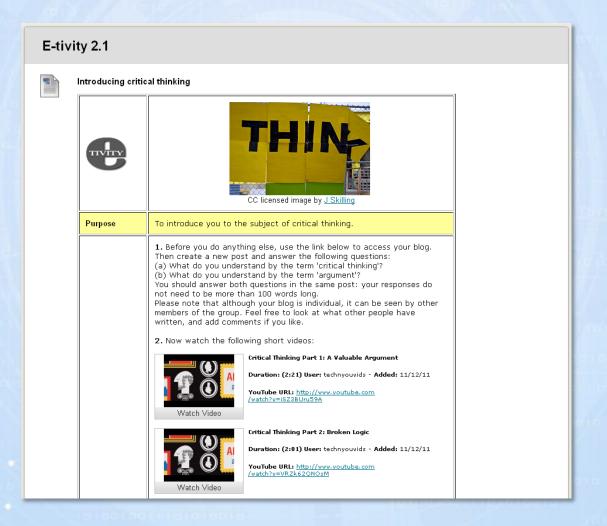
Success factors

- Clear focus on the objective from the outset
- Structure provided by CAIeRO process
- Structure provided by e-tivity template
- Focus on task design, not content creation
- Excellent team dynamic
- Realistic allocation of time and resources
- Good level of technical competence and support within the team

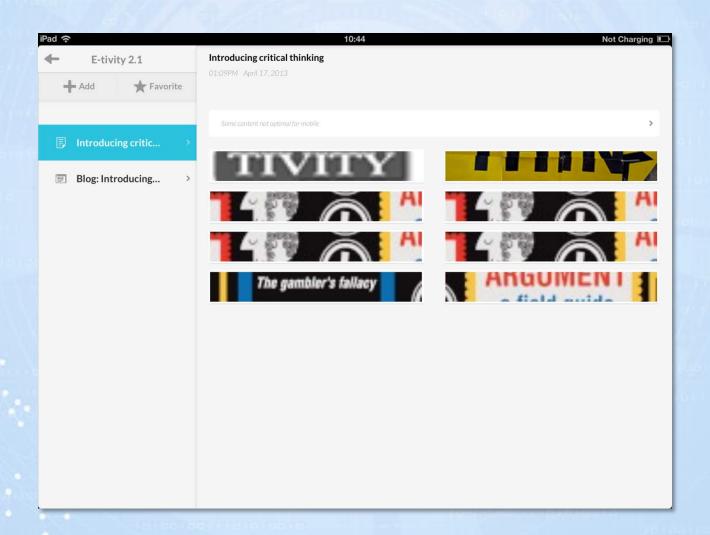
Challenges & lessons learned

- Challenge: Recreating the experience of the face-to-face sessions, which the students felt was important, in a purely online course.
- Challenge: Ensuring students feel that they can access help when they need it.
- Lesson: Design for mobile learning needs to be considered from the outset – design one version of the course that looks good on desktops and mobiles.

Mobile unfriendly e-tivity (desktop)



Mobile unfriendly e-tivity (mobile)



Mobile friendly e-tivity (desktop)

E-tivity 2.1 (iOS Compatible Version)



E-tivit





Purpos

To introduce you to the subject of critical thinking.



Tas

- 1. Before you do anything else, use the blog link at the bottom of the page to access your blog, then create a new post and answer the following questions: (a) What do you understand by the term 'critical thinking'? (b) What do you understand by the term 'argument'? You should answer both questions in the same post, and your responses do not need to be more than 100 words long. Please note that although your blog is individual, it can be seen by other members of the group. Feel free to look at what other people have written, and add comments if you like.
- 2. Now watch the following short videos:



Critical Thinking Video - 1 of 6

Critical Thinking Part 1: A Valuable Argument

Desktop/laptop users - click on the link above to view the video (opens in new window) iNorthampton/Blackboard Mobile Learn users - video opens automatically

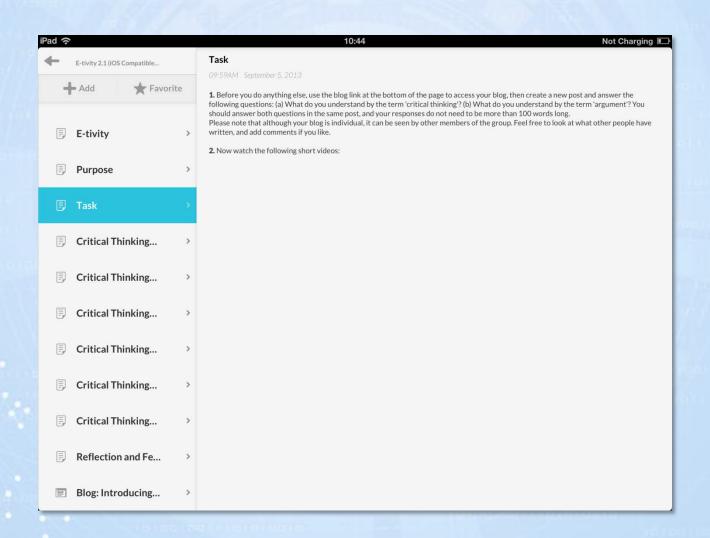


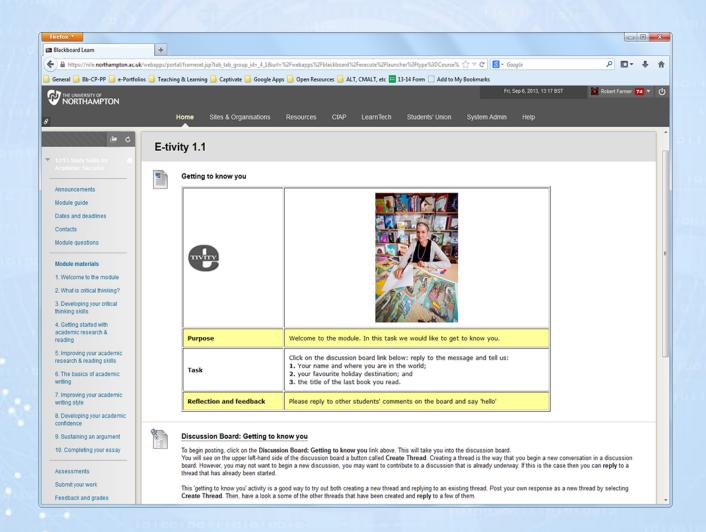
Critical Thinking Video - 2 of 6

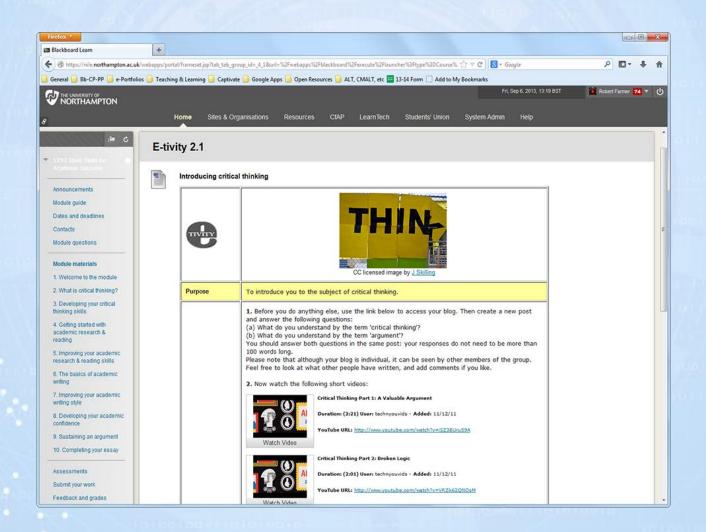
Critical Thinking Part 2: Broken Logic

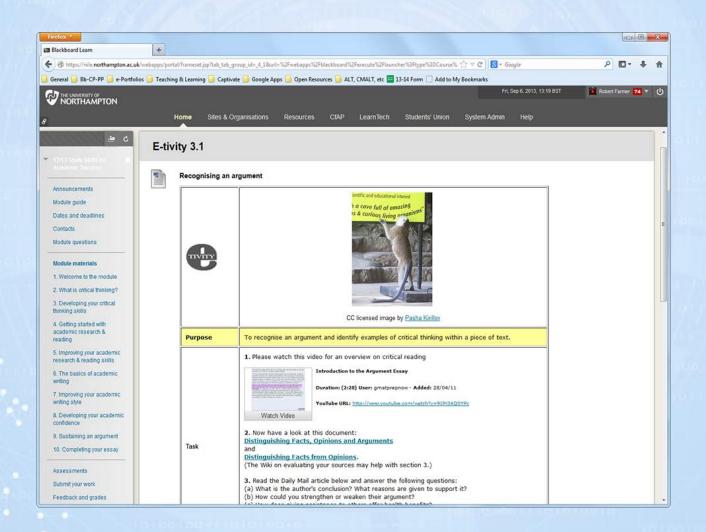
Desktop/laptop users - click on the link above to view the video (opens in new window) iNorthampton/Blackboard Mobile Learn users - video opens automatically

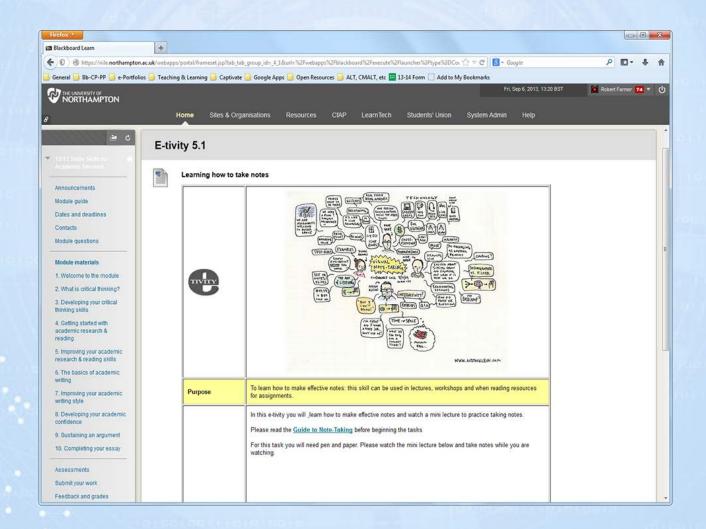
Mobile friendly e-tivity (mobile)

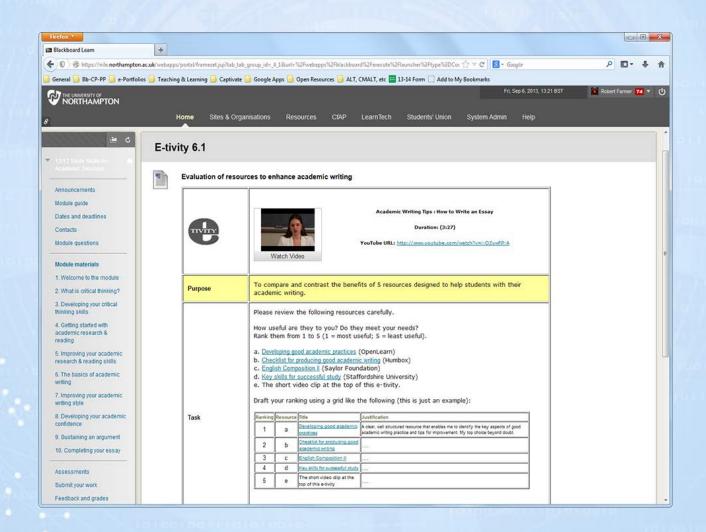


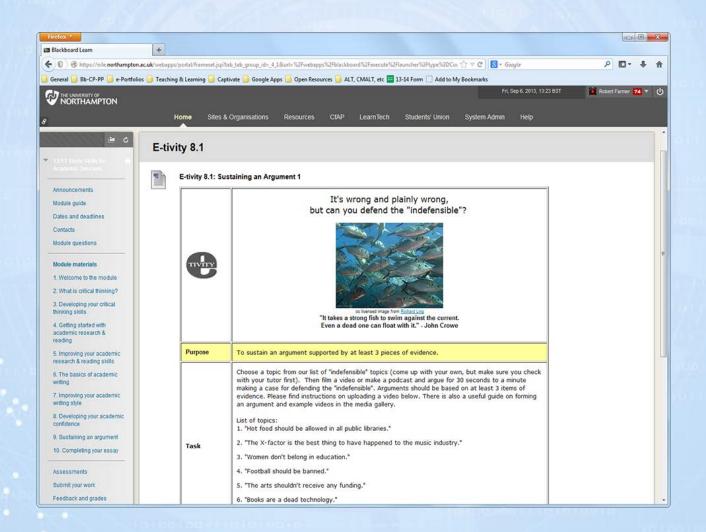


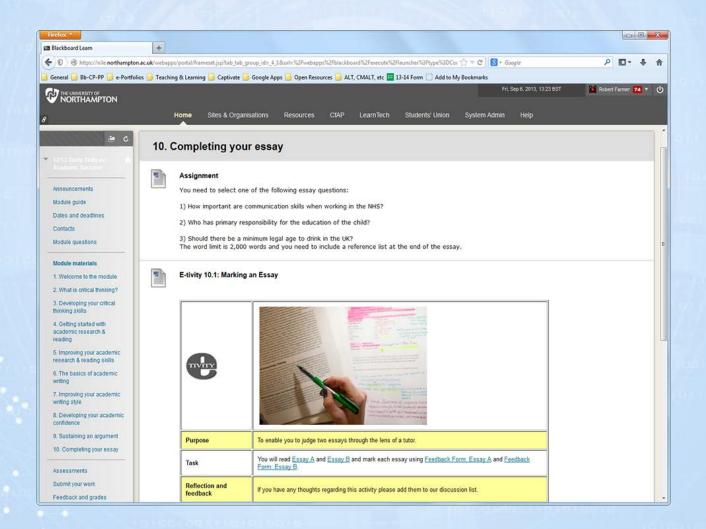


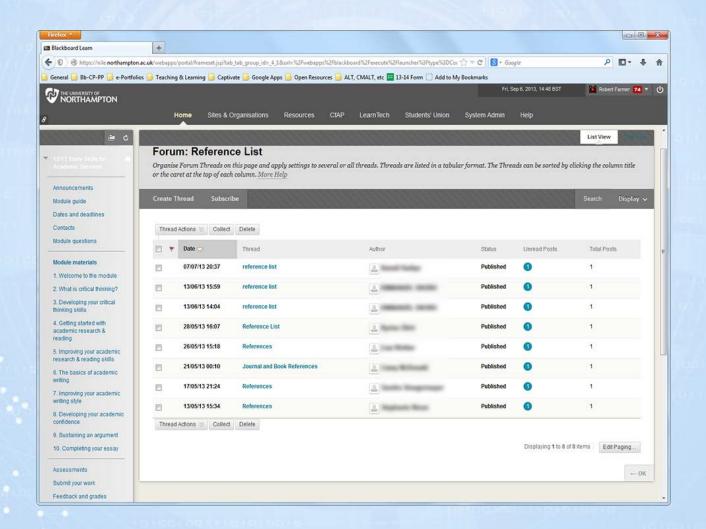


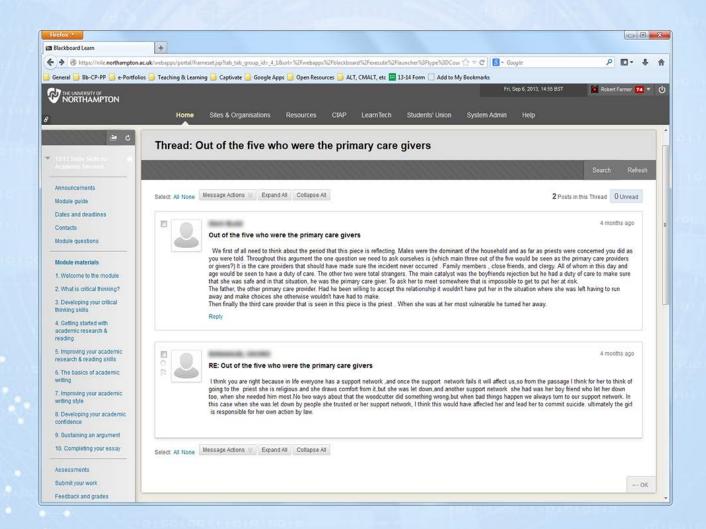
















Future plans

- Phase 1: Blended course (completed)
- Phase 2: Fully online course (Oct. 2014)
- Phase 3: Internally available SOOC (Jan. 2014)
- Phase 4: Full external SOOC (Sept. 2014)

SOOC



Useful links & further reading

- Armellini, A., E-tivities: Stories from the Front Line:
 http://www.gillysalmon.com/1/post/2013/09/e-tivities-stories-from-the-front-line-ale-armellini.html
- Salmon, G., Foresight and Choices for Learning Futures: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1fPV7UNv5tU
- Salmon, G., E-Moderating: The Key to Online Teaching and Learning, Abingdon, Routledge
- Salmon, G., All Things in Moderation: http://www.atimod.com
- University of Northampton, CAleRO Background and Description: https://nile.northampton.ac.uk/bbcswebdav/pid-481278-dt-content-rid-151705 1/xid-151705
- University of Northampton, The Staff Experience of CAleRO: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GvLRHJsjDSc
- University of Northampton, The Student Experience of CAleRO: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fss6OYrhanQ