

# WEBS6203

## Interdisciplinary Thinking

### W1 Introduction

Su White

<http://www.edshare.soton.ac.uk/13329/>

These slides cover activities throughout the first week's three meetings

# Who should be here today 😊

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# How this module is structured

- An exercise in Interdisciplinary thinking
- Developing and evolving your understanding
- Rehearsing arguments
- Exploring ideas
- Explore and research topic areas
- Identify a web science research question which can be considered from two distinct disciplinary perspectives
- Decide on a comparative study

## Weekly focus

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 1  | Introductions and scoping  |
| 2  | Clarification and beginnings                                     |
| 3  | Process lecture  |
| 4  | Independent study: Blogging and surgeries                        |
| 5  | Independent study: Blogging and surgeries                        |
| 6  | Independent study: Blogging and surgeries                        |
| 7  | Focus on hand ins: Revisit specification for posters and reports |
| 8  | Poster surgery   |
| 9  | Poster pitches and poster hand in                                |
| 10 | Independent study: Peer review and revisions                     |
| 11 | Q&A  |

## Vacation 1-3

- |    |                                     |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| 12 | Last minute surgery, report hand in |
|----|-------------------------------------|

**Exam period**

# How you will demonstrate your learning

## Poster

- Communicate key points in visually compelling manner

## Report

- Provide a structured overview of your chosen areas

reading

thinking

blogging

discussing

reviewing

reflecting

revising

# What is our interdisciplinarity?

For the people in this room today

- Academic disciplines
- Fields of study
- What academic perspectives shape each of our understandings of the world?
- What do we each consider to be our 'home' discipline (s)?
- What are the values, beliefs and working methods to which we each cleave?



# Class exercise: apologies for yet another introductory round

- Small groups
- Ask about disciplinary stories
- Tell the class what you learnt

“This is my friend <xxxx>

They have a background in <xxxx>

They explained that the values and principles of their predominant field of study are .....

think

pair

share

# Feedback round

“This is my friend <xxxx>

They have a background in  
<xxxx>

They explained that the  
values and principles of their  
predominant field of study  
are .....



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# Use ECS notes as your reference point

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**Southampton**  
School of Electronics  
and Computer Science


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## WEBS6203: Interdisciplinary Thinking (2014-2015)

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 **Dr Su White**  
Module Leader

 **Prof Seth Bullock**  
Lecturer

 **Dr Mark J Weal**  
Moderator

[Create/View Assignments](#) (staff only)

No messages yet.

Southampton campuses, Semester 1.

### What you will do

Develop your understanding of interdisciplinary by addressing a research question from two disciplinary perspectives.

Synthesise your understandings of the two topics, explaining the way in which this could be investigated as a piece of Web Science.

- You will produce a report presenting your research, arguments and conclusions
- You will produce a poster which presents an overview of your work in a compelling and visually appealing manner

This is an individual research activity however you are encouraged to work collaboratively with your peers

- discussing work in progress
- presenting emerging ideas and understandings via a module blog
- conducting a peer review prior to the final deadline
- presenting a summary of your peer review observations to the group

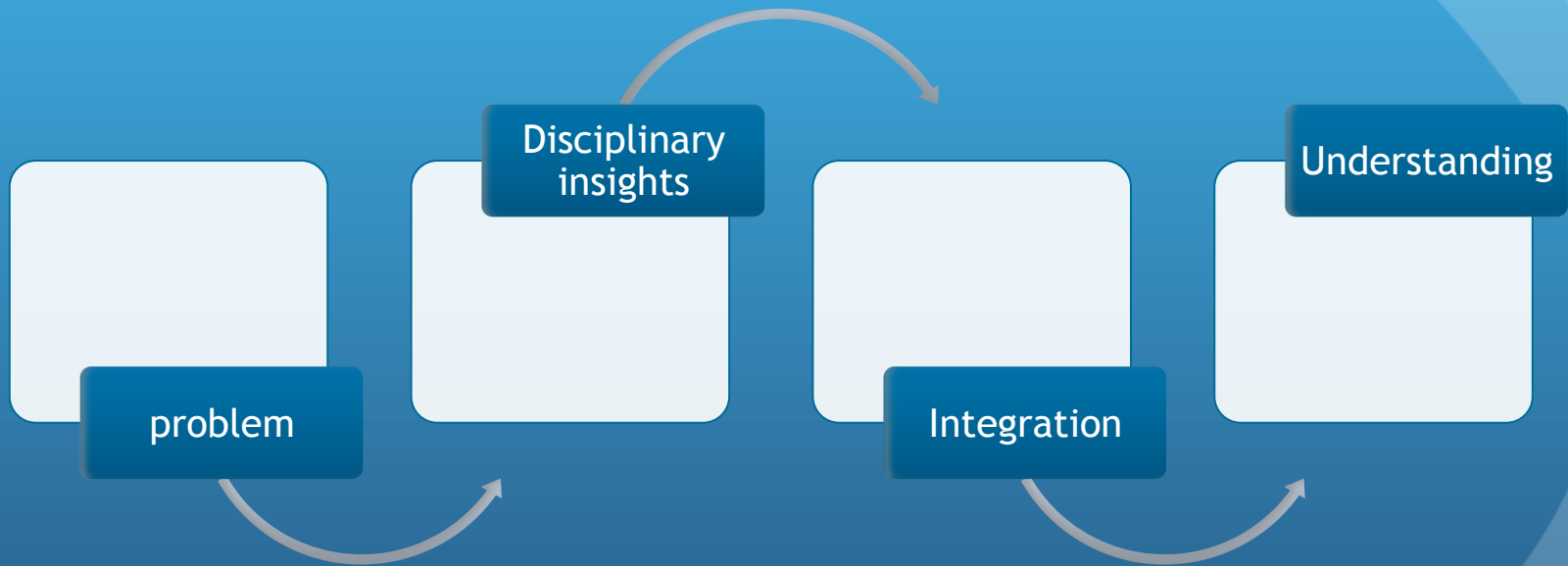
You are encouraged to create living curations of your work using tools such as Mendeley, Pinterest, or ScoopIt

URI: <http://id.ecs.soton.ac.uk/module/WEBS6203/2014-2015> | [Open Linked Data for this Module](#)

# What we expect you to do

- **1. DEFINE** problems, issues, topics or questions that warrant interdisciplinary examination
- **2. PRESENT** a clear rationale for taking interdisciplinary approach including the advantages to be gained
- **3. IDENTIFY** relevant disciplines
- **4. CONDUCT** a literature review (what is known on the topic from each of the disciplines)
- **5. DEVELOP** a command of each relevant discipline set out the analytical structure central to each discipline, identify key underlying assumptions, and methods of evaluation.
- **6. STUDY** the problem and generate insights including predictions from each of the relevant disciplines - in isolation!!
- **7. IDENTIFY** conflicts between and/or areas of complementary between the insights offered from each discipline
- **8. CREATE** common ground by developing a cohesive framework of analysis that incorporates insights from the relevant disciplines in a systematic manner
- **9. COMBINE** disciplinary insights to construct new more integrated understanding of the problem

# The flow of activities





# Selecting your topic:

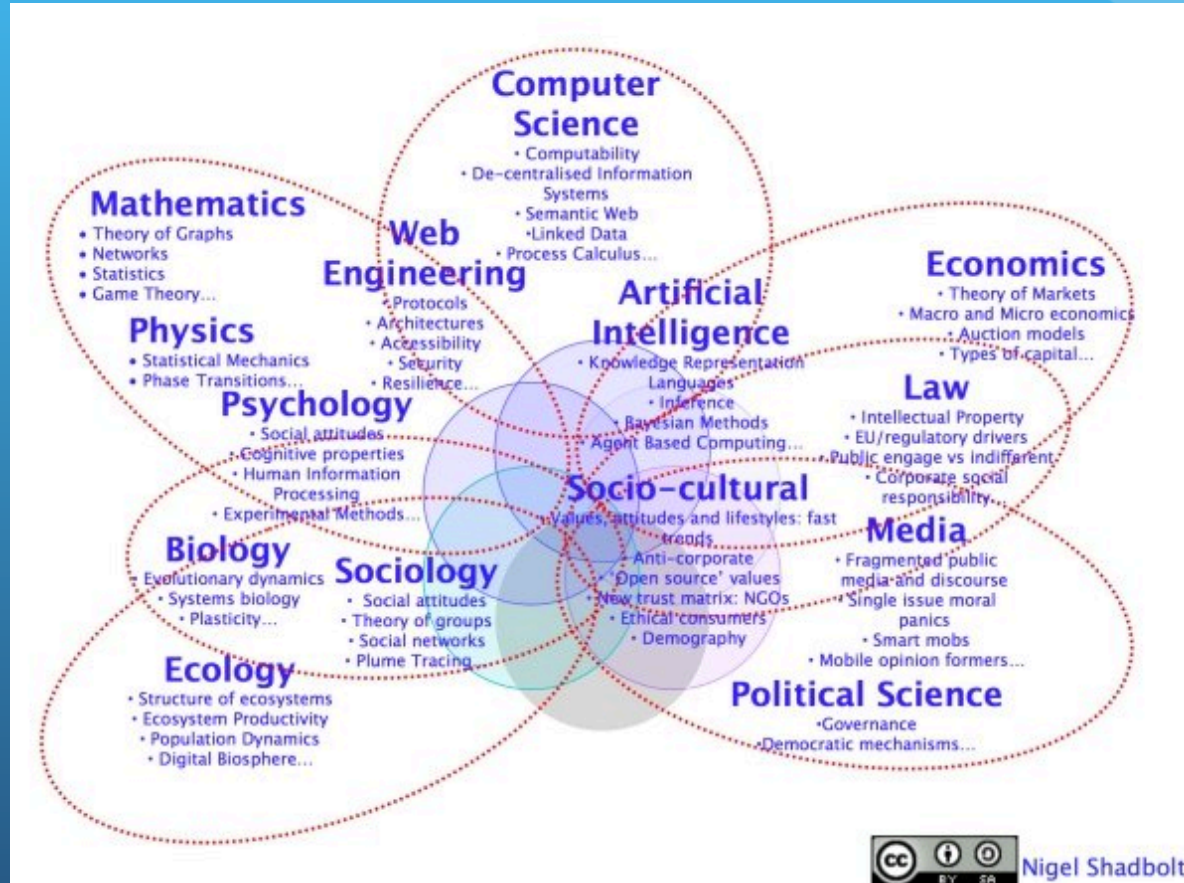
## What to do next

- Think about your target contributory topics
- Look into their foundational concepts
- Consult textbooks (university library)
- Look at programme specification (online, this university and others)
- Watch a few video lectures -e.g. YouTube, iTunesU
- Talk to your fellow students
- Reflect on your other lecture content
- Look at proceedings from previous web science conferences
- Establish some shared working methods

# Look at the posters

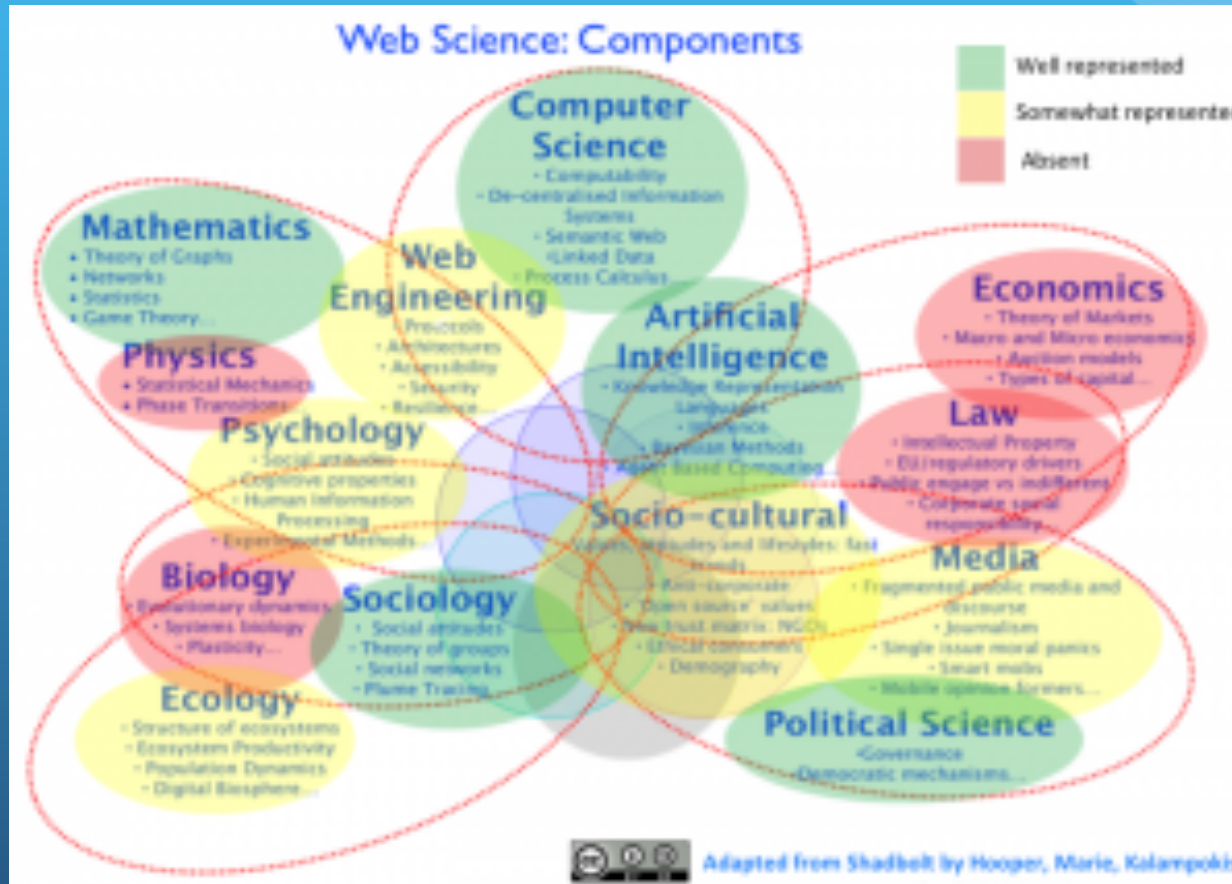
- In new groups
- Identify contributory disciplines

# An idea of web science you may have seen...





# Another...



- Hooper, Clare J., Georgeta Bordea, and Paul Buitelaar. "Web Science and the Two (Hundred) Cultures: Representation of Disciplines Publishing in Web Science." (2013).