EDUCATION WITHOUT STATES

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overview

• briefest possible history of the relationships between higher education, government, markets, civil society and private life in 20\textsuperscript{th}-century modernity

• description of how digitally mediated instruction disrupts these relationships

• implications of this disruption for education science, business, national government, citizenship, and the self
What is a university?


Stevens, in progress, “Systemic Change in Higher Education,” Annual Review of Sociology
During 2012-2014 we convened EDF as a hub for discussion of critical questions about education's digital future. A full generation has been living and learning online, yet...
digitally mediated instruction =

instruction conveyed and experienced *through* digital media – not just supported by it.
state

market

civil sphere

private sphere
higher education

state

civil society

market

private sphere

nationally and historically variable; see Loss 2012 & Lowen 1997 foUS Cold War
Coursera et al.
LinkedIn et al.
Pearson et al.
Gates, Lumina
Coursera et al.
Mozilla Badges, Univ. of the People
Implications (1)

• for science:
  – huge opportunity worldwide
  – very large questions about data standards, sharing, governance
  – we can expect a full-scale reorganization/reconceptualization of the human sciences
implications (2)

• for business:
  – huge opportunities worldwide
  – very large questions about regulation, consumer protection, and the rightful relation between education business and education as public good
implications (3)

• for government:

  – rapidity of data accretion and science in private sector makes it impossible for any government to regulate/control on its own

  – digitally mediated instruction is fundamentally transnational, requiring new scientific and governance structures
implications (4)

- for citizenship and the self:
  - the self may no longer be a national subject
  - self as portfolio of capacities, experiences, credentials
  - self as more fluid and changeable than ever before
  - may be harder to engender fealty to national & regional projects
THANK YOU

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