

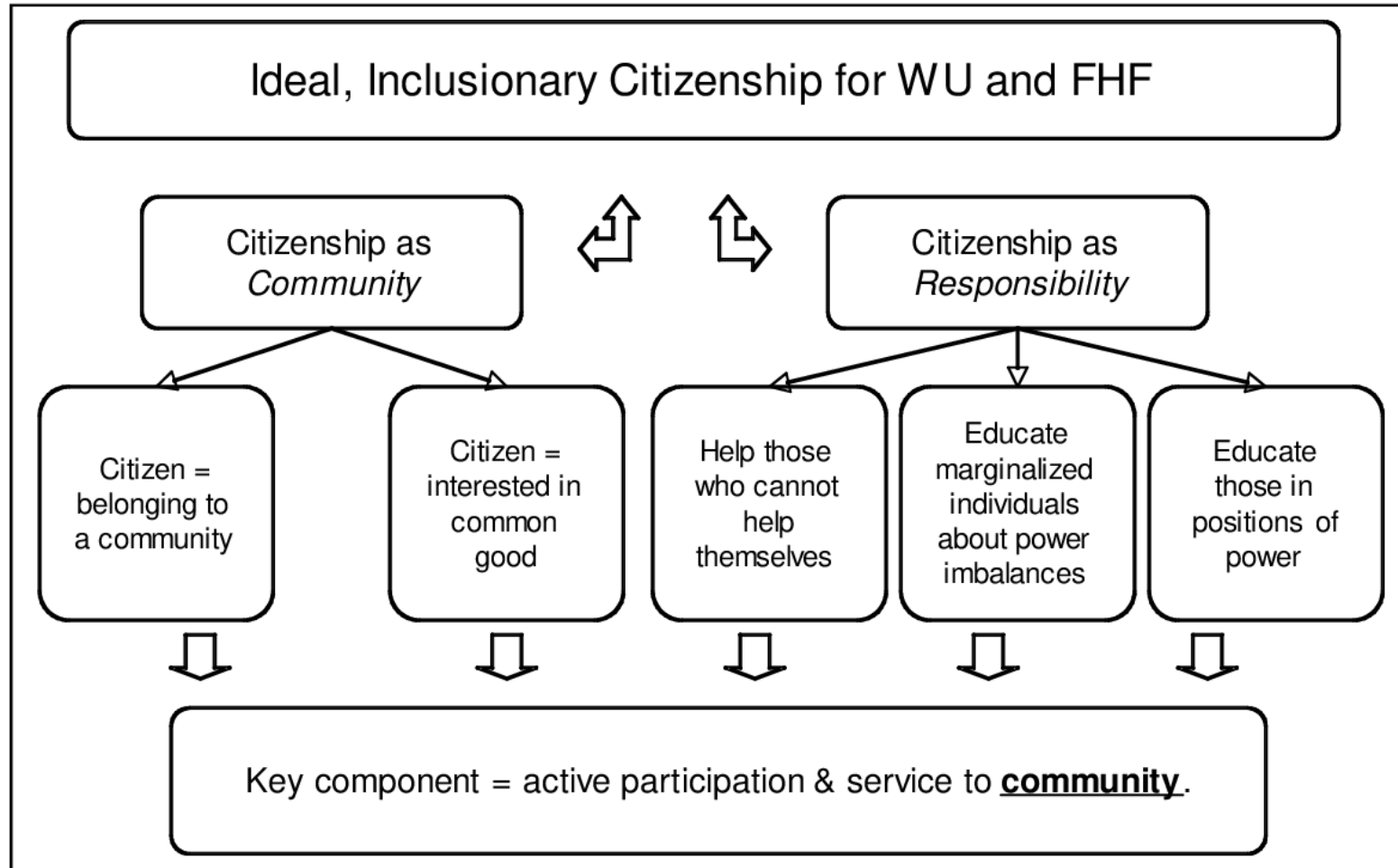
A group of people, including children and adults, are seated in a room, possibly a classroom or community center. They are holding small Canadian flags. The scene is dimly lit, with a focus on the people and their actions. The text is overlaid on the center of the image.

Citizenship

Stephen Downes

December 24, 2021

Community and Responsibility



Stacia L. Kock, 2011, <https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/TOWARDS-INCLUSION%3A-EXPANDING-AND-CHALLENGING-Kock/769716d26f0fb251cbe8f082d05cd39906385da5>

Political and Economic Participation...

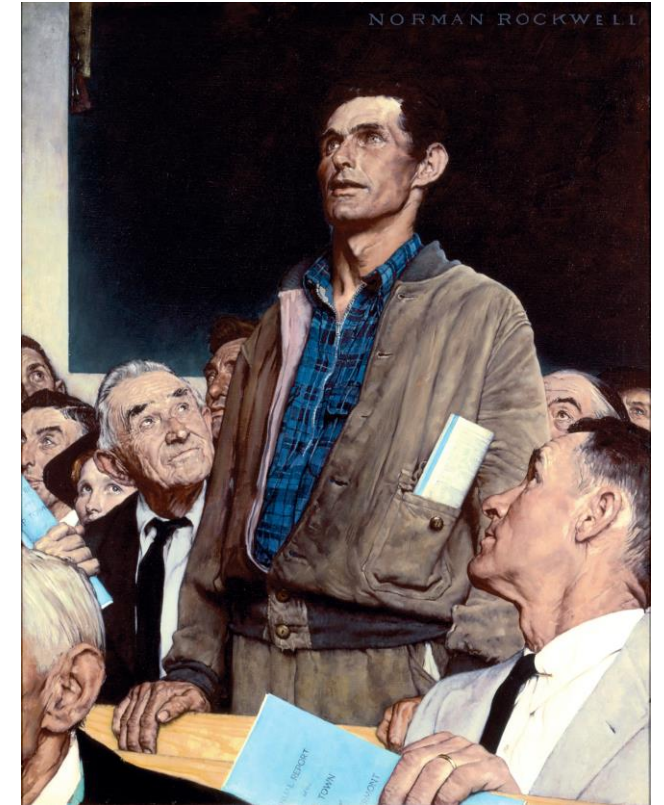
- Lockean liberalism: “pursue the good life and be free from unreasonable government interference”
 - Prior belief, described by de Tocqueville, that all are “born equal”
 - Based on competition, with presumption of fairness
- Republicanism: widespread participation of citizenry
 - Basis of participation is a duty toward the community
 - Jefferson: public education necessary to develop the means and the skill

Mossberger, Tolbert & McNeal, 2008. *Digital Citizenship*. MIT. pp. 6-7

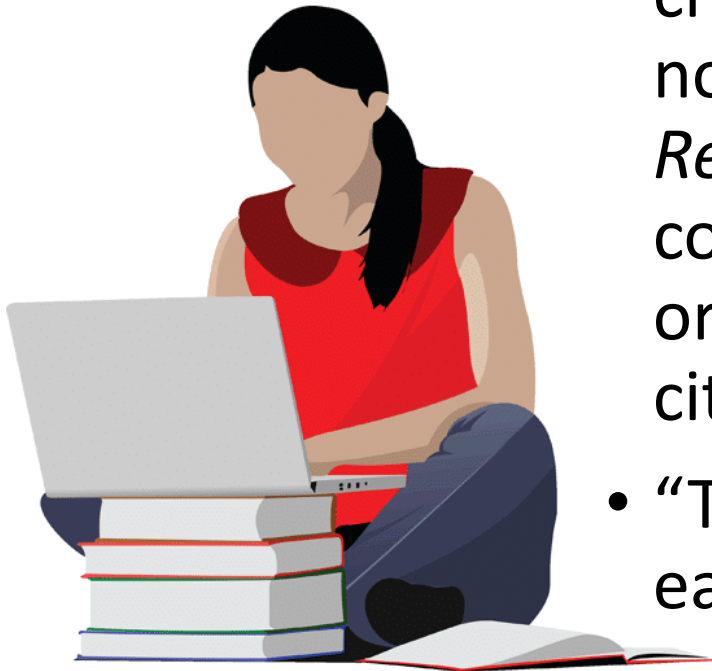
Title Image: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/citizenship-tests-immigration-pandemic-covid19-1.5815945>

The Digital Nation

- Wired, 1997: The Digital Citizen and Birth of a Digital Nation, Jon Katz
 - “blends the humanism of liberalism with the economic vitality of conservatism.”
 - “reject both the interventionist dogma of the left and the intolerant ideology of the right”
 - “embrace rationalism, revere civil liberties and free-market economics”
- BuzzFeed, 2019: We were promised community, civics, and convenience. Instead, we found ourselves dislocated, distrustful, and disengaged.



The Idea of Citizenship



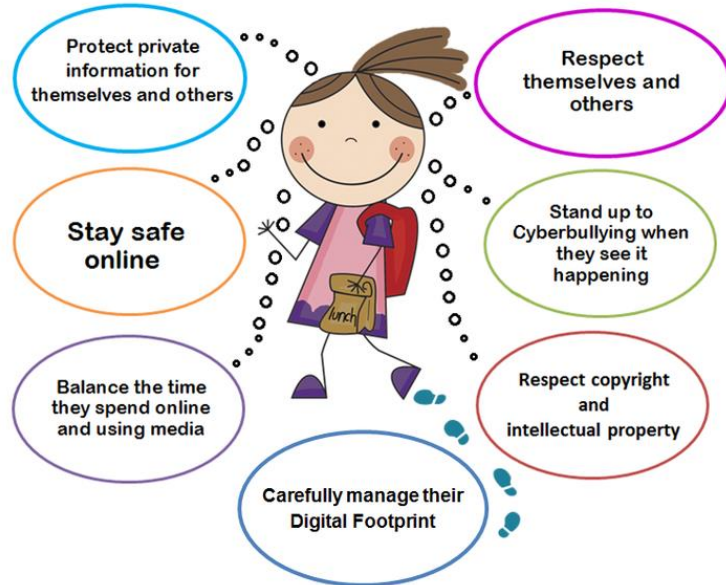
- “Citizenship as an idea of its own is both crucial and crucially misunderstood, often reduced to political notions (*Be heard–Vote!*) or those ecological (*Always Recycle!*). Consider how infrequently many adults consider how the work they do, the things they buy, or the food they eat affects national or global citizenship.
- “This is all big picture thinking that is, somehow, easy to miss.”

<https://www.teachthought.com/the-future-of-learning/digital-leadership-2/>

Image: <https://giteshtrivedi.wordpress.com/2019/01/30/politics-or-citizenship-learning-in-school/>

Digital Citizenship...

All Good Digital Citizens:



Terry Heick:

- Citizenship: “consists of self-knowledge, interaction, and intimate knowledge of a place, its people, and its cultural history.”
- Digital Citizenship: “Self-monitored participation that reflects conscious interdependence with all (visible and less visible) community members... (and) The quality of habits, actions, and consumption patterns that impact the ecology of digital content and communities.”

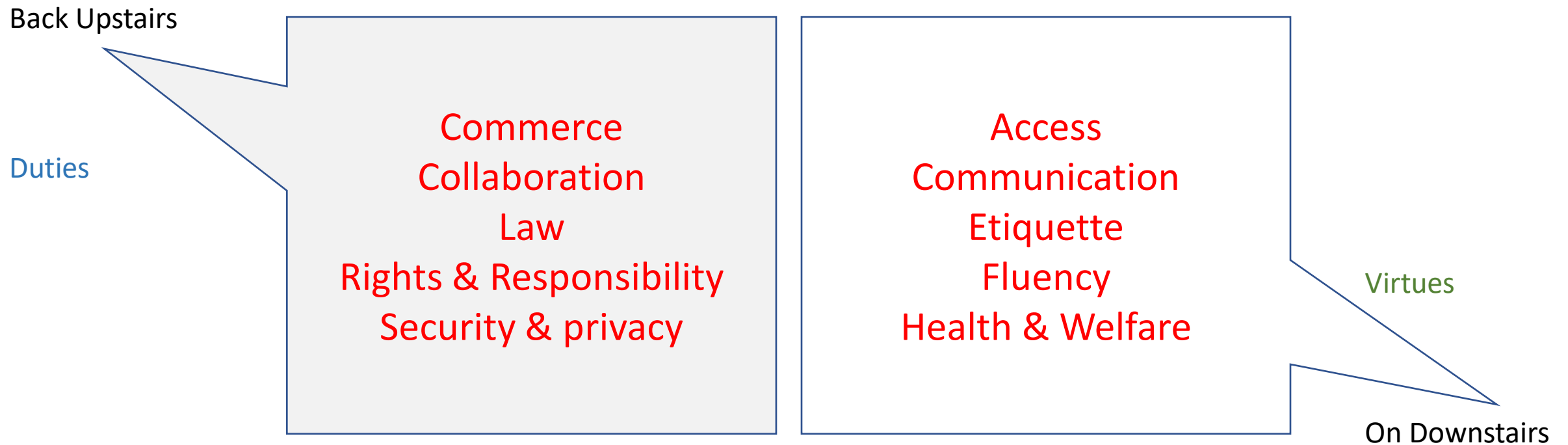
<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/citizenship>

<https://www.teachthought.com/the-future-of-learning/definition-digital-citizenship/>

<https://www.virtuallibrary.info/digital-citizenship.html>

Upstairs Downstairs

Mike Ribble: nine themes of digital citizenship



Ribble, Mike. *Digital citizenship in schools: Nine elements all students should know*. International Society for Technology in Education, 2015.

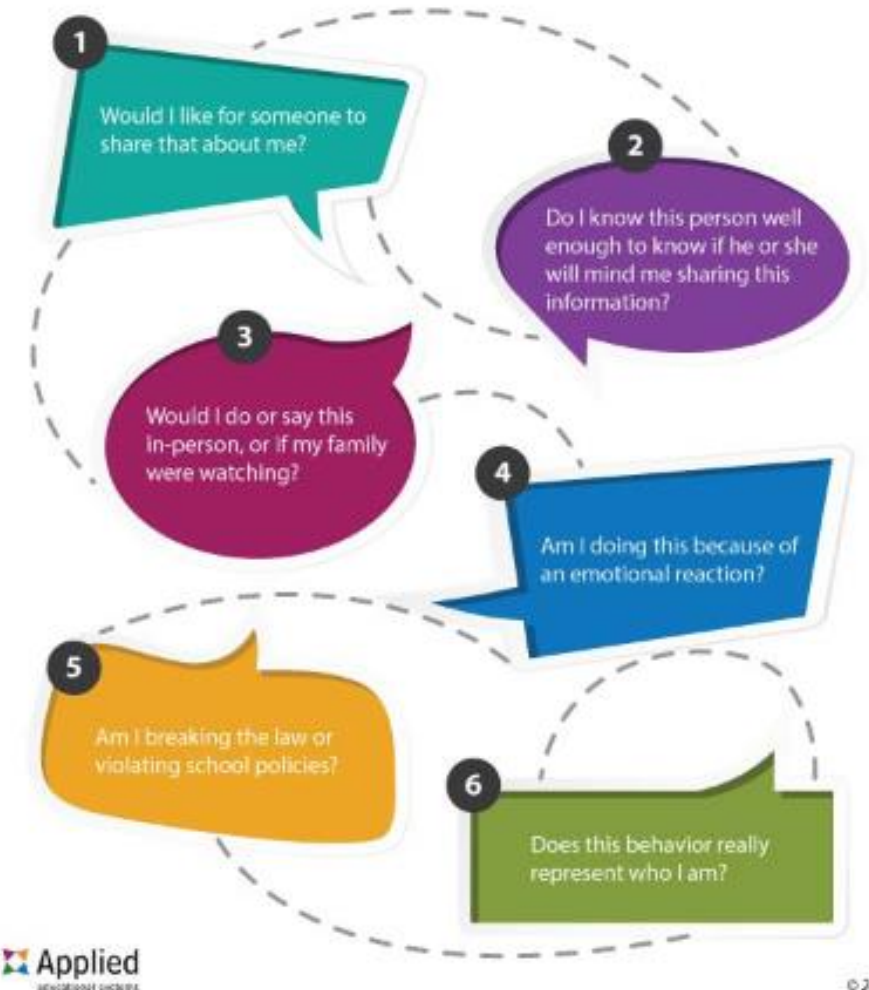
<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1018088.pdf>

Teaching Digital Citizenship

Pulling in the direction of **duties** and **virtues**...

- For example, seven key concepts from Chris Zook:
 - Empathy
 - How the Internet works
 - Understanding user data
 - Practicing digital literacy
 - Acknowledging the digital divide
 - Practicing digital wellness
 - Securing digital devices

<https://www.aeseducation.com/blog/what-is-digital-citizenship>



Teaching Digital Citizenship

Pulling in the direction of **duties** and **virtues**...

- For example, areas of focus from Common Sense Education
 - Media balance and well-being
 - Privacy and security
 - Digital footprint and identity
 - Relationship and communication
 - Cyberbullying, drama, hate speech
 - News and media literacy



<https://www.commonsense.org/education/digital-citizenship/curriculum?grades=3%2C4%2C5>

Ethical Digital Citizens (as Duties)

- What is an ethical digital citizen...?
 - Take Care of Technology Equipment
 - Explore Appropriate and Safe Sites
 - Copyright Law, Fair Use...
 - Help Prevent Cyberbullying
 - Self-image Is Important
 - Make Use of Netiquette
 - Always Give Credit to Original Source
 - Remember to Be Effective, Thoughtful, and Ethical Digital Creators
 - Think



Ethical Digital Citizens (as Virtues)



Jason Ohler:

- “Schools have already started unofficially addressing digital character education in the form of acceptable Internet use agreements that specify virtual behavior standards for students.”
- “We need to create formal digital citizenship programs that deal with character education in the digital age deeply, directly, and comprehensively.”

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/00228958.2011.10516720?journalCode=ukdr20>

<http://sshspd.pbworks.com/w/file/fetch/59899315/Character%20Education%20in%20the%20Digital%20Age.pdf>

What Constitutes the Digital Citizen?



- If a defining characteristic of a nation is that it embraces diversity of opinion, then you cannot define membership in that nation according to the opinions held by its citizens.
- By analogy: Americans identify with "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness". That is, most Americans, if asked, would embrace these values. However, embracing these values is not what defines an American. Rather, what defines an American is being born in the United States (or having legally immigrated).

From Digital Citizenship to Digital Leadership

Moving from Digital Citizenship to Digital Leadership

Digital Citizenship: Using the Internet and Social Media in a responsible and ethical way

Digital Leadership: Using the Internet and Social Media to improve the lives, well-being and circumstances of others - George Couros

I am a responsible Digital Citizen.

I use the internet and Social Media...



I am an inspirational Digital Leader.

I use the internet and Social Media...



1. To share appropriate stories, images, videos and ideas with friends and family.

2. I have a positive digital footprint.

3. I give due credit when I share an idea, image or video.

4. I treat others the way I would like to be treated.

5. I report inappropriate online behaviour.



1. To learn and share learning.

2. To empower others with no voice.

3. To address societal inequality.

4. To promote important causes.

5. To be a more positive influence in the lives of others.



How to make the transition? Find a passion and start influencing others to make a positive change!



<https://www.teachthought.com/the-future-of-learning/digital-leadership-2/>

By @sylvia duckworth & @JCasey Todd

Participatory Culture

- Henry Jenkins

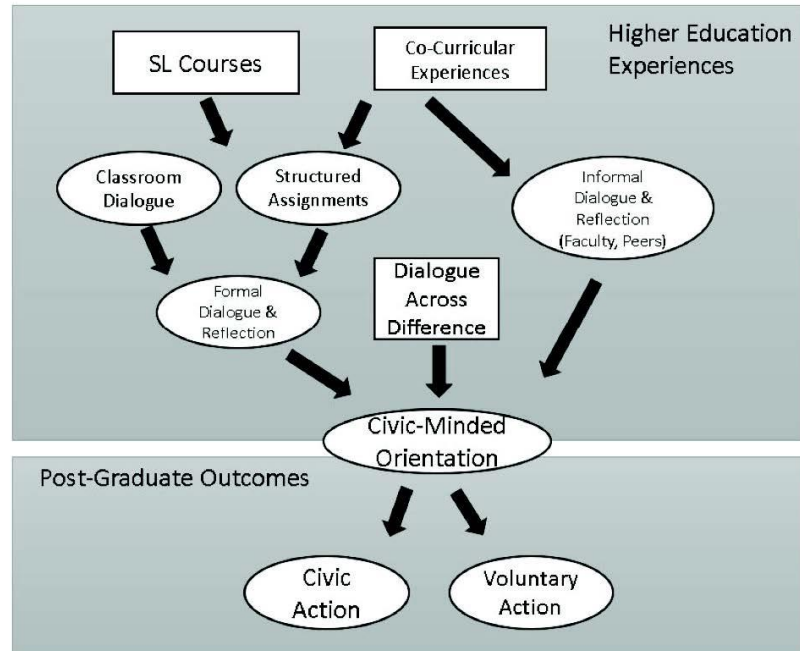


- relatively low barriers to artistic expression and civic engagement,
- strong support for creating and sharing creations with others,
- some type of informal mentorship whereby what is known by the most experienced is passed along to novices,
- members who believe that their contributions matter, and
- members who feel some degree of social connection with one another (at the least, they care what other people think about what they have created).

<https://library.oapen.org/handle/20.500.12657/26083>

Participatory culture shifts the focus of literacy from individual expression to community involvement.

Refining Objectives...



- “argues for a narrower focus on (1) respectful behavior online and (2) online civic engagement.”
- “Both online respect and civic engagement were negatively related to online harassment perpetration and positively related to helpful bystander behaviors, after controlling for other variables.”

Jones & Mitchel, 2016 <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/1461444815577797>

Image: <https://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/t/text/text->

[idx?cc=mjcsloa;c=mjcsloa;c=mjcsloa;idno=3239521.0023.105;g=mjcslg;rgn=main;view=text;xc=1](https://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/t/text/text-idx?cc=mjcsloa;c=mjcsloa;c=mjcsloa;idno=3239521.0023.105;g=mjcslg;rgn=main;view=text;xc=1)

Digital Citizenship+

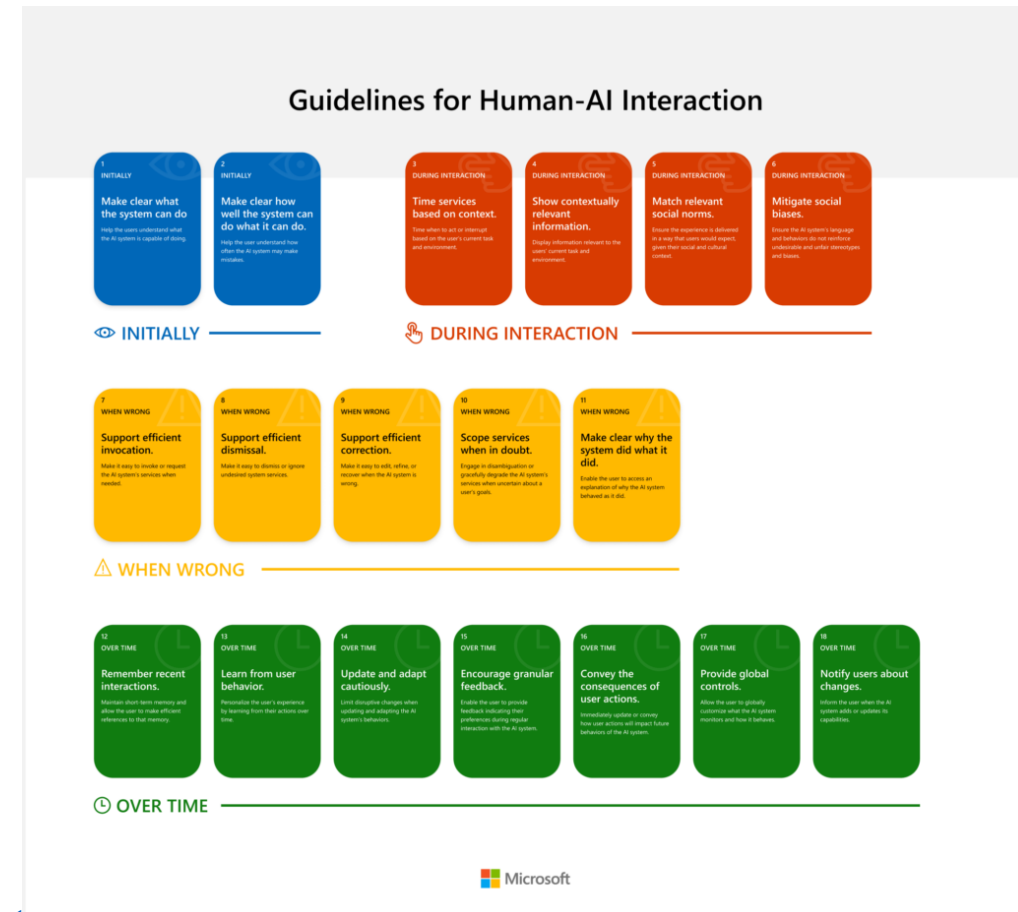
Digital Citizenship+ is defined as “the skills needed for youth to fully participate academically, socially, ethically, politically, and economically in our rapidly evolving digital world.”



<https://cyberbullying.org/digital-citizenship-research>

Human-AI Interaction

- The concept of ethical AI is going to come down to something like describing AI as an ethical citizen
- We have a *tendency* to describe this in terms of virtues and duties
- But ultimately, it comes down to how well AI and humans can *interact* with each other



Microsoft: Guidelines for Human-AI Interaction - <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/research/project/guidelines-for-human-ai-interaction/> Report: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/research/publication/guidelines-for-human-ai-interaction/>