Sadler, Randall

Virtual Worlds for Language Learning
From Theory to Practice

Telecollaboration in Education. Vol. 2
Edited by Melinda Dooly and Robert O’Dowd

Print: ISBN 978-3-0343-0573-0 pb. (Softcover)
SFR 53.00 / €* 47.20 / €** 48.60 / £ 35.00 / US$ 57.95

eBook: ISBN 978-3-0351-0406-6
SFR 55.85 / €* 52.54 / €** 52.98 / £ 35.00 / US$ 57.95

Order online: www.peterlang.com

Book synopsis

This book focuses on one area in the field of Computer-Mediated Communication that has recently exploded in popularity – Virtual Worlds. Virtual Worlds are online multiplayer three-dimensional environments where avatars represent their real world counterparts. In particular, this text explores the potential for these environments to be used for language learning and telecollaboration. After providing an introduction and history of the area, this volume examines learning theories – both old and new – that apply to the use of Virtual Worlds and language learning. The book also examines some of the most popular Virtual Worlds currently available, including a discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of each. The Virtual World of Second Life is explored in depth, including research examining how users of this world are using language there, and how they are using it to enhance their second language skills.

Contents


About the author(s)/editor(s)

Randall Sadler is an Associate Professor of Linguistics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he teaches courses on CMC and Language Learning (CMCLL), Virtual Worlds and Language Learning (VWLL) and Teaching of L2 Reading and Writing. His research focus covers these same areas. He is also the co-owner of the EduNation Islands, located in the Virtual World Second Life, where he may often be found in the guise of his avatar, Randall Renoir.

Reviews

«I enjoyed reading this book and discovering general facts about virtual worlds. I would recommend it to a wide audience because it presents different topics and lends itself to a variety of uses.» (Cristina Oddone, British Journal of Educational Technology 44, 2013/6)