

Lau, Ken

Learning to Become a Professional in a Textually-Mediated World

A Text-Oriented Study of Placement Practices

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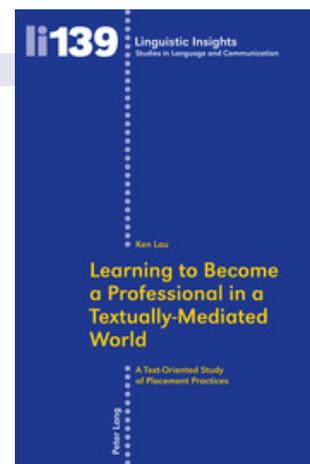
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Book synopsis

The book presents a text-based study of discourse practices in placement, a hybrid zone which re-contextualises academic knowledge and professional practices. Using Lave and Wenger's Communities of Practice as the overarching theoretical framework, the study investigates how novices learn to write like their professional counterparts. By collecting texts completed in various placement contexts and in-depth qualitative interviews with informants, the study features a multi-dimensional approach to the analysis of discourse practices in terms of text construction and text consumption. The issues of genre, feedback, identity and role associated with placement learning are brought into focus.

Contents

Contents: Rethinking Learning - Legitimate Peripheral Participation in a Community of Practice: A Conceptual Overview of Placement - Genre and Practice: Interactions of Genre-Based Practices in Placement - Moving towards Disciplinary Practices: Roles of Feedback and Revision in Placement Learning - Roles and Identities in Placement Practices.

About the author(s)/editor(s)

Ken Lau is currently Assistant Professor of the Centre for Applied English Studies at the University of Hong Kong. He has recently graduated with a PhD in Applied Linguistics from Lancaster University. His research interests include discourse analysis, identities and roles, literacy practices and communities of practice.

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