INF5790: Technology-Enhanced Learning

Theme: Studies of virtual learning environments

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Article presented by Nima

• Littleton, K. and Whitelock, D. (2004). Guiding the creation of knowledge and understanding in a virtual learning environment. CyberPsychology & Behavior, 7(2), pp. 173-181.

Article presented by Anders

• Teoh, J. (2009). Pre-Service Teachers in Second Life: The Dichotomy with the Net Generation. In Tettegah, S. and Calogne, C. (Eds). Identity, Learning and Support in Virtual Environments. Rotterdam: Sense Publishers, pp. 65-84.

Common themes

- Two different approaches to categorizing data. The first article identifies analytic categories based on previous work (Mercer) and extends it (starts "top down"), and the second paper develops the categories based on self-organizing the empirical material (starts "bottom up"). Strengths and weaknesses of the two approaches to data analysis were discussed in class
- Two examples of distance education technologies, from the conventional (discussion forum) to the unconventional (Second Life)