Connected Minds, Emerging Cultures: Cybercultures in Online Learning (Perspectives in Instructional Technology and Distance Educat)

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A volume in Perspectives in Instructional Technology and Distance Education Series Editors: Charles Schlosser and Michael Simonson Nova Southeastern University As the title indicates, this book highlights the shifting and emergent features that represent life online, specifically in and around the territory of e-learning. Cybercultures in themselves are complex conglomerations of ideas, philosophies, concepts, and theories, some of which are fiercely contradictory. As a construct, "cyberculture" is a result of sustained attempts by diverse groups of people to make sense of multifarious activities, linguistic codes, and practices in complicated and ever-changing settings. It is an impossibly convoluted field. Any valid understanding of cyberculture can only be gained from living within it, and as Bell suggests, it is "made up of people, machines and stories in everyday life." Although this book contains a mix of perspectives, as the chapters progress, readers should detect some common threads. Technology-mediated activities are featured throughout, each evoking its particular cultural nuances and, as Derrick de Kerckhove (1997) has eloquently argued, technology acts as the skin of culture. All the authors are passionate about their subjects, every one engages critically with his or her topics, and each is fully committed to the belief that e-learning is a vitally important component in the future of education. All of the authors believe that digital learning environments will contribute massively to the success of the information society we now inhabit. Each is intent on exploration of the touchstone of "any time, any place" learning where temporal and spatial contexts cease to become barriers to learning, and where the boundaries are blurring between the formal and informal. This book is divided into four sections. In Part I, which has been titled "Digital Subcultures," we begin an exploration of "culture" and attempt to locate the learner within a number of digital subcultures that have arisen around new and emerging technologies such as mobile and handheld devices, collaborative online spaces, and podcasting. The chapters in this section represent attempts by the authors to demonstrate that there are many subdivisions present on the Web, and that online learners cannot and should not

be represented as one vast amorphous mass of "Internet" users.

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Editorial Review

About the Author
Steve Wheeler was born in 1957 in NZ. He was given the option at age 18 of becoming a Catholic priest or a policeman - he chose the latter. He has served in the military, and since 1987 has worked as a bronze sculptor, knifesmith and swordsmith. He lives with his wife and children in Hawkes Bay.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kim Armstrong:

Book will be written, printed, or descriptive for everything. You can understand everything you want by a guide. Book has a different type. We all know that that book is important factor to bring us around the world. Beside that you can your reading skill was fluently. A guide Connected Minds, Emerging Cultures: Cybercultures in Online Learning (Perspectives in Instructional Technology and Distance Educat) will make you to possibly be smarter. You can feel considerably more confidence if you can know about everything. But some of you think which open or reading the book make you bored. It is far from make you fun. Why they are often thought like that? Have you in search of best book or appropriate book with you?

Philip Kirkpatrick:

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Lidia Mejia:

Playing with family inside a park, coming to see the marine world or hanging out with pals is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, after that why you don't try factor that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition of information. Even you love Connected Minds, Emerging Cultures: Cybercultures in Online Learning (Perspectives in Instructional Technology and Distance Educat), you are able to enjoy both. It is excellent combination right, you still need to miss it? What kind of hangout

type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout people. What? Still don't obtain it, oh come on its named reading friends.

Alexander Ray:

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