Extending Community: Stories, Culture & Technology in the Language Classroom

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Public Radio

Personal
Cultural
Universal

} Stories

BBC  ABC  npr  PRI  SABC  PACIFICA
Information design } Web
then: one-way → now: interactive
Remind you of anything?
What do you want?
Technology means to an end learning by doing
Final cut
The Greatest Man in My Life
Najat Albarakati
(UMBC Digital Collection)
what is a blended classroom?

- Topical forums
- Reflections
- Learning journals
- Process writing
- Information sharing
• Topical forums
• Reflections
• Learning journals
• Process writing
• Information sharing
The Front Door

blackboard? moodle? youtube?
drupal?
wiki? wordpress? facebook?
joomla? googlesites?
blogger.com?

... or all of the above?
ESL Pachuca
A Preliminary Case Study
[wordpress.com]
- organizing principle
- frequent interaction
- regular use
- autonomy and ownership
Used inventively, interactive media have the potential to bring about deep, multifaceted learning.
Google Maps Project
GoogleMaps Project

Thanks to Sean Conley
Just **think** of all the ways you can adapt & extend this exercise — online and off!
Personal digital narrative as a tool for learning language and culture?
yes
provides meaningful, authentic material
inspires thoughtful & deep communication
supports multiple intelligences
(Sean's experiment)
language objectives can range from grammar to genre analysis
provides continuity between classes
but
requires teacher to become more tech-savvy
... and to find the time to explore new territory
represents a huge expenditure of time
requires access to computers & other costly technology
and did I tell you about the huge investment of time?
On the Handout

LEARNING TO LOVE YOU MORE

Miranda July

StoryCorps
do-it-yourself interviews
• culture → language learning?
• classroom → online community?
• questions? comments?