‘HELP PLZ’: Navigating Minecraft as a digital education space with postgraduate students

Stuart Nicol @nicolvision and Phil Sheail @philshe with thanks to Noreen Dunnett @comcultgirl

MSc in Digital Education #mscde #uoeltconf18
MSc in Digital Education

World-class Masters programme that will challenge your thinking about education and technological change

Delivered fully online
Although this is a distance-learning course, you won’t be alone: you will have the opportunity to work closely with your fellow students and tutors in a properly supported, collaborative and vibrant online learning environment.

Critical and practical
The MSc in Digital Education gives professionals in higher and further education and training and development the practical skills and critical insight they need in this fast-moving and richly diverse field.

Research-based teaching
The MSc programme is delivered by experienced teachers who are also active researchers in the field. Our programme is linked to the work of the Centre for Research in Digital Education.
An Introduction to Digital Environments for Learning

Starting off (week 0) - Toggle
Minecraft: playing across all 12 weeks - Toggle
Constructing community (week 1) - Toggle
Technology and the teacher (week 2) - Toggle
Critical perspectives (weeks 3 and 4) - Toggle
Sanctuary (week 5) - Toggle
Spaces (weeks 6 and 7) - Toggle
Open everything (weeks 8 and 9) - Toggle
Why Minecraft and why on the MSc Digital Education?

- *Not* a replacement for Second Life
- Limited use in Higher Education
- A creative and collaborative ‘sandbox’
- Deliberately different & low stakes
- And not without challenges ...
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEM 1</th>
<th>SEM 2</th>
<th>SEM 1</th>
<th>SEM 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Innovation project</td>
<td><strong>March 2016</strong></td>
<td><strong>2016/17</strong></td>
<td><strong>2017/18</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MinecraftEd - closes</td>
<td><strong>April 2016</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minecraft Education Edition launch</td>
<td><strong>November 2016</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windows 10 Edition launch</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>December 2016</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCPE / Win10 becomes Bedrock Edition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>July 2017</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better Together launch</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>September 2017</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SHARED WORLDS**

Nitrous Networks / Nukkit Server

**CHANGES TO MINECRAFT**

- **MinecraftEdu** closes April 2016
- **Minecraft Education Edition** launch November 2016
- **Windows 10 Edition** launch December 2016
- **MCPE / Win10 becomes Bedrock Edition** July 2017
- **Better Together** launch September 2017
YOUR OWN WORLD, ALWAYS ONLINE

GET REALMS FOR
MINECRAFT: JAVA EDITION

GET REALMS FOR
MINECRAFT

A PRIVATE WORLD, ALWAYS ONLINE FOR YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS!
It’s a snow day in Minecraft #mscde See you later in the IDEL Realm #mscidel with @Comcultgirl and @nicolvision
Thinking about...university space, public space, digital space and learning environments

'If everything is moving where is here?'
(Massey 2005 on 'the event of place')

Rosi Braidotti on universities, cities, mediated space
(video, Centre of Contemporary Culture, Barcelona)

Tim Ingold on public space and 'the thing' for dispute resolution
(video, Centre of Contemporary Culture, Barcelona)

Morville, P. (2005) *Ambient Findability*

Lakoff, G. and Johnson, M. (1980) *Metaphors We Live By*
"Right, so far I’ve destroyed a magic book, derailed a carriage and ridden a llama. What next?” - “tyrone the destroyer” in today's mscidel Minecraft tutorial :-)
“Don’t put all your chickens in one castle.”
“Hello neighbour, let's chat about your wall.”
Before...
And after... “HELP PLZ”
'Large open spaces are designed for energy flow...the centre can be accessed via boat, located adjacent to the sea pool.

A selection of natural materials, sandstone, cobblestone, white quartz and obsidian are applied to complement the natural landscape...Sea beacons are remodelled as ceiling lighting and feature in the main building.'

Mary-Anne Kyriakou 2017
Experiments with music #1
Experiments with music #2
Experiments with music #3
Thanks for listening!

Stuart Nicol @nicolvision
and Phil Sheail @philshe

with special thanks to
Noreen Dunnett
Neil Davison
Tom Hinks
Mary-Anne Kyriakou
Anshul Lau

and the students and tutors on the
MSc in Digital Education #mscde
#uoeltconf18