Communication@Tech QuickTakes

Brittain Postdoctoral Fellows lead the way in designing courses with a WOVEN (*written–oral–visual–electronic–nonverbal*) emphasis. Students use multimodality to explore cultural studies of science and technology in various communities and periods—past, present, and future. This poster spotlights a project designed by Brittain Fellow Lisa Hager.

Lisa Hager

(PhD, University of Florida, 2008) focuses her research and teaching on Victorian literature and culture, feminist theories, and the digital humanities.

Approach to Teaching

In the classroom, I seek to expand the boundaries of the classroom and empower my students as communicators.

ENGL 1102: Technologies of Identity

Students in this class utilized and analyzed WOVEN modes of communication in virtual environments through projects created on Second Life, an online digital world.

My students both enacted and considered questions of rhetorical identity in this virtual environment. Hence, in this class, the medium was the message and vice versa.

Second Life Machinima Film and Rationale Paper Project

For this project, each 5-person group chose a particular film genre and created a 5-minute Second Life machinima film. This film was required to deal with the course theme, of "Technologies of Identity," in theme and form (textual), and was intensely self-reflexive about its use of genre as well as analytic about the technology of Second Life and machinima (metatextual).

Each group constructed a 4-5 page rationale that provided detailed explanations of how the group's film addressed the issues brought up by the aforementioned theme. This rationale was the rubric by which I graded the films.