

Invitation to a professional development workshop
for teacher educators and teachers in higher education
of the *WueGlobal Media Connection Initiative*

Intercultural Perspectives in (and on) Social VR

Against the backdrop of globalization and digitalization of various spheres of life, many initiatives in research and policy emphasize the importance of developing media-related and intercultural competencies in educational contexts (Förster et al. 2021, 96).

On Friday, June 17, 2022 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., we will explore together practically and discursively the question of how university teachers & teacher educators can use technology to make intercultural connection (cf. Foulger et al.). We will pay special attention to possible application scenarios of Social Virtual Reality (Social VR), as the specific characteristics of this medium (Shin 2018) present promising potential for the development of intercultural and media-related educational competencies (Foerster et al. 2021).

We have designed two **teaching-learning scenarios in the Social VR** application ViLeArn, which you can try out in small groups. Afterwards, you will collaboratively develop a design for your own university classroom. Finally, we will discuss your ideas, findings and further considerations. Two weeks before the workshop starts, we will start a short asynchronous and self-paced preliminary phase (duration 30-45 mins), in which you will formulate your first ideas, explicate your concept of culture and reflect on your own intercultural experience.

Neither previous experience with using VR inside or outside the classroom, intercultural expertise nor advanced English skills are a prerequisite for attending this workshop. Our goal is to bring together practitioners with an interest in teaching and learning in transnational digitally enhanced settings and explore opportunities and possible challenges of an innovative medium in a safe space together.

Trainer: Kristina Förster, M.A. (CoTeach – Connected Teacher Education, Chair of School Pedagogy, JMU)

When:

Asynchronous preliminary phase 30-45 mins self-paced between 1 June & 15 June 2022

Synchronous workshop 17 June 2022, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

For whom: university teachers & teacher educators at JMU & WueGlobal partners

Where: DigiMePäd, Room 00.202, Josef-Martin-Weg 64,
Campus Hubland North: <https://wueaddress.uni-wuerzburg.de/building/9052>

Please sign up via email to: petra.zaus@uni-wuerzburg.de