Handout: Simulation, Stimulation and Silence: Learning Online and Off

(Norm Friesen; norm.friesen@gmail.com)

Online Spaces   Pedagogical *Places*

Online Simulation	Offline Activity
• All features not connected to measurable learning outcomes can be removed. • "Distractions" classified as *inessential* to a predetermined procedure or outcome can be eliminated • Knowledge of an abstract and procedural nature can be developed, and also tested using the same software. • Approaches and engagements are focused on interface elements.	• "Incidental" types of knowledge (tacit, embodied and affective) remain in place, but are generally not registered. • "Distractions" *necessarily* a part of a procedure or a learning setting are retained in full. These tend to be experienced as authentic. • Experience and knowledge can be wide ranging, avoiding some improvisation is difficult. • Multiple approaches and engagements with different tasks is encouraged.
Spaces versus Places	
• Spaces are interchangeable for instructional ends • Spaces are broadly optimizable • Spaces tend to accommodate one function • Spaces are designed for *active* (positive) communication or interaction; the absence of this action tends to be viewed as a malfunction or a mis-use.	• Places are non-interchangeable, particularized, immobile • Places are minimally optimizable • Places *always* allow multiple (non-) functions (e.g. hall chat, elevator pitch) • Allow for both active communication and interaction, & **other modes as well.** (e.g. J. Dewey's "negative capability;" B. Waldenfels' "responsivity")

Further reading:

Dewey, J. (1980). *Art as Experience*. New York: Perigee Books. Pp. 33-34.

Friesen, N. (2011). *The Place of the Classroom and the Space of the Screen: Relational Pedagogy and Internet Technology*. New York: Peter Lang.

Rosenberger, R. (Ed., 2011). *Techne: Research in Philosophy and Technology. Special Issue on Simulation and Dissection* 15(3). http://www.pdcnet.org/collection-anonymous/browse?fp=techne

Waldenfels, B. (2013). *The Phenomenology of the Alien: Basic Concepts*. Indiana: Northwestern UP.