



The Handbook of Informal Language Learning

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DESCRIPTION

Provides a comprehensive and unique examination of global language learning outside of the formal school setting

Authored by a prominent team of international experts in their respective fields, *The Handbook of Informal Language Learning* is a one-of-a-kind reference work and it is a timely and valuable resource for anyone looking to explore informal language learning outside of a formal education environment. It features a comprehensive collection of cutting edge research areas exploring the cultural and historical cases of informal language learning, along with the growing area of digital language learning, and the future of this relevant field in national development and language education.

The Handbook of Informal Language Learning examines informal language learning from both theoretical and practical perspectives. Structured across six sections, chapters cover areas of motivation, linguistics, cognition, and multimodality; digital learning, including virtual contexts, gaming, fanfiction, vlogging, mobile devices, and nonformal programs; and media and live contact, including learning through environmental print, tourism/study abroad. The book also provides studies of informal learning in four national contexts, examines the integration of informal and formal classroom learning, and discusses the future of language learning from different perspectives.

- Edited by respected researchers of computer-mediated communication and second language learning and teacher education
- Features contributions by leading international scholars reaching out to a global audience
- Presents an exciting and progressive selection of chapters in a rapidly expanding field of research and teaching

- Provides a state-of-the-art collection of the theories, as well as the historical, cultural and international cases relating to informal language learning and its future in a digital age
- Covers 30 key topics that represent pioneering findings and new research

The Handbook of Informal Language Learning is an essential resource for researchers, students, and professionals in the fields of language acquisition, English as a second language, and foreign language education.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mark Dressman is Professor and Chair of English at Khalifa University in Abu Dhabi, UAE, and Professor Emeritus in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA. He has authored four books, including *Using social theory in educational research: A practical guide* (2008), and more than thirty journal articles on curriculum and the teaching of English as a first and other language.

Randall Sadler is Associate Professor of Linguistics and Director of TESL and ESL at the University of Illinois, USA. He teaches courses on telecollaboration, virtual worlds, and teaching L2 reading and writing and focuses his research on technology in language learning. He is author of *Virtual Worlds for Language Learning: From Theory to Practice* (2012) and has published in many journals, including *Journal of English for Academic Purposes*, *CALICO*, *ReCALL*, *Language Learning & Technology*.

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