



جامعة غرداية
University of Ghardaia

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific
Research

University of Ghardaia
Faculty of Letters and Languages
Department of English Language



CALL FOR PAPERS

ONLINE
INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE
ON:

November 20th -21st,
2024

Digital Technologies for Teaching Culture in the EFL Classroom: Integration Challenges and Updates

President of the Conference



Dr. Fatima Yahia

General Supervisor



Prof. Belkacem Ghezail
Dean of the Faculty of Letters
and Languages

Honorary Chair



Prof. Ilyes Bensaci
Rector of University of
Ghardaia



Google Meet



09:00
AM



digitalseminar47@gmail.com

Conference Theme

Using technology, as a supplementary tool to support learning EFL, is a teaching strategy that continues to gain popularity today. The various forms of technology can help to improve understanding of the course content. They have altered the educational landscape and have caused changes in the way courses are developed and delivered. Hence, when used appropriately, technology helps to enhance various aspects of learning.

Technology becomes increasingly important in humans' professional life, and learners are using it more and more. So, training in the practical application of technology in teaching FLs is much needed at universities nowadays. Digital Technologies (Internet platforms, social media, and mobile devices) with the support of visual aids can provide a great number of programs, originating from different cultures and different language communities, and deliver them to our homes and classes. Since teaching a FL is closely related to acquiring its cultural background, technology can ensure a successful teaching/learning environment for such a purpose.

Culture has been considered as a complex concept to define. It has also been viewed as ubiquitous in the sense that it can be found in different fields of study – sociology, anthropology, education, literature, history, business, law, etc (Davis and Schleifer, 1998). This complexity may result from its broadness: some think that culture refers to people's behavior, customs, beliefs, and ways of life while others relate it to the knowledge of theatre, literature, music, and art.

Language, as a means of communication, has also a close relationship with culture: researchers believe that each one of them reflects the other. Hence, for EFL learners, learning a new language is acquiring knowledge about a new culture related to this language. So, cultural learning takes an integral part of language learning and vice versa. In other words, culture in FL learning is already learned even if it is not introduced explicitly in the curriculum (Byram and Morgan, 1994).

However, in this process of learning, they may face more difficulties as comparison with studying their native language due to the contact with foreign and strange cultural patterns that represent that FL.

Culture is one of the aspects that foreign texts may reflect. As a result, EFL learners can learn various cultural features, thoughts, behavior, customs, and beliefs, of other societies through these discourses. However, the FL classroom witnesses the interference of two types of different cultures (the learners' own culture and the foreign culture embedded within the foreign text). In this regard, learners may interpret cultural aspects (language aesthetics, idioms, characters' actions in the case of literary texts) according to their own worldview.

So, ensuring successful methods for teaching culture emphasizes the teacher's role in terms of selecting the course content and integrating it with appropriate materials like computers, pictures, graphs, models, charts, maps, videos, etc. All these materials are complementary and supplementary to the course content.

Recently, the use of digital equipment and visual aids in the FL classrooms has grown rapidly due to the increasing emphasis on communicative techniques. The term *technology* ensures the use of systems that rely on computer chips, digital applications, and networks in all of their forms. These systems are not limited to the commonly recognized desktop and laptop computers. The different electronic devices can occupy a central role in language teaching/learning in the coming years: they include an embedded computer chip of some sorts as data projectors, mobile devices, and interactive whiteboards that employ the computer at their core (cell phones, and personal digital assistants [PDAs]).

Teachers need to bring authentic materials to their classrooms like maps, newspaper articles, book reviews, poems, etc. Integrating digital instruction into the EFL classroom can be a difficult task for teachers, but it is a challenge they have to experience in order to keep up with the times and to manage providing motivation and necessary skills for their students. For methodologists, it is a question of dealing with electronic texts, digital literature, digital publishing and cyber-textuality.

Conference Objectives

The online international conference on *Digital Technologies for Teaching Culture in the EFL Classroom: Integration Challenges and Updates* invites different EFL instructors all over the world to share their novel and critical ideas about the necessity of integrating digital equipment for teaching culture in the EFL classroom. In the light of this, the present conference aims at:

- Emphasizing the importance of digital instruction in the EFL classroom.
- Raising the EFL learners' awareness about the relationship between language and culture.
- Introducing the concept of “language and culture pedagogy.”
- Raising the teachers' awareness about the necessity of being familiar with technology development to apply it in EFL/culture instruction.
- Designing appropriate syllabi that can fit with digital instruction for teaching culture in the EFL classroom.
- Integrating innovative teaching materials in the EFL classroom for cultural purposes.
- Encouraging EFL teachers to be creative in designing innovative cultural teaching contexts (in the light of technology development) for their learners.

Conference Tracks

Topics of interest deal with, but not limited to:

- Definition of culture and its relationship with language.
- Teaching culture in the EFL classroom.
- Cultural miscommunication and non-native speakers/learners.
- Digital technologies: evolution and updates.

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- Digital technologies in teaching culture/EFL contexts.
 - Digital technologies as a support for teaching EFL/FLs.
 - Digital technologies and cultural issues in the ESP classroom.
 - E-assessment via digital technologies in the case of teaching culture in the EFL classroom.
 - Using literary texts for teaching foreign cultures.
 - Digital technologies and teaching culture in the literature classroom.
 - Syllabus/course design with implementing digital technologies for teaching culture.
 - Difficulties and challenges of integrating digital technologies into the EFL classroom.
 - Future directions for digital instruction.

Call For Papers

The organizing committee of the international conference on *Digital Technologies for Teaching Culture in the EFL Classroom: Integration Challenges and Updates* invites academics, researchers, and scholars to participate at the conference via sending their abstracts (between 250 and 300 words) of original papers related to the conference themes and tracks.

Scientific Committee

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Important Dates and Guidelines

- **Abstracts submission deadline:** September 5th, 2024.
- **Notification of acceptance:** September 15th, 2024.
- **Full paper submission:** October 15th, 2024.
- **Final acceptance notification:** October 25th, 2024.
- **Conference days:** November 20th -21st, 2024.
- **Conference language:** English.
- **Fees:** participation is free of charge.
- Full papers will undergo blind peer-reviewing.
- After receiving an email of paper acceptance, the participant is required to send his/her recorded power point or video of presentation.
- A live virtual presentation (in 15 minutes) is required where the supplementary video will be used only in case of technical glitch.
- Abstracts should be submitted, using the abstract submission form, at the following email address: **digitalseminar47@gmail.com**
- Accepted papers will be published in *Assiaq* international journal, edited by the University of Ghardaia (link: **<https://www.asjp.cerist.dz/en/PresentationRevue/821>**).

Abstract Submission Form

Full Name

Degree:

Affiliation:

Phone number:

Email:

Track:

Title of paper:

**Abstract (between
250 and 300 words):**

Keywords: