Cases on Globalized and Culturally Appropriate E-Learning: Challenges and Solutions

Andrea Edmundson (eWorld Learning, USA)

E-learning is a cultural artifact and thus, is embedded with the cultural preferences, learning styles, and values of the designing culture, usually western. Yet, the largest and fastest growing groups of learners are in eastern cultures. Cultural differences should not create barriers to learning, understanding, skill development, or the time and effort it takes to acquire them.

Cases on Globalized and Culturally Appropriate E-Learning: Challenges and Solutions offers a multitude of cases illustrating the different challenges faced when offering e-learning to learners of other cultures and, most importantly, how they were resolved. This cutting-edge publication shares contemporary knowledge on how to adapt or develop e-learning that promotes equitable learning outcomes for targeted learners by addressing interdependent disciplines. It is a must-have reference source for organizations with an outsourced workforce, global trainers, educators, and faculty, instructional designers and e-learning developers, translation and localization experts, international development agencies, open courseware advocates, and promoters of reusable learning objects.

Topics Covered:
• Challenges of Localization
• Challenges of Translation
• Cultural Dimensions and E-learning
• Culturally Customized User Interfaces
• Culturally Variable Content
• High vs. Low Context Communication
• Modularization Using Cross-Cultural Learning Objects (XCLOs)
• Modularization Using Reusable Learning Objects (RLOs)
• Open Courseware
• Solutions to Creating Culturally Accessible E-learning

Market: This premier publication is essential for all academic and research library reference collections. It is a crucial tool for academicians, researchers, and practitioners and is ideal for classroom use.

Andrea Edmundson, CPLP is the Global Learning Strategist and CEO of eWorldLearning, Inc., (www.WorldLearning.com). She is an expert in designing culturally appropriate training courses and materials (online or in classroom) in order to increase their effectiveness in other cultures and countries. She created the research-based Cultural Adaptation Process (CAP) Model, a unique process that helps instructional designers to align courses – content, instructional approach, and multimedia - to the cultural characteristics and preferences of targeted learners. She also founded the Global eLearning Community, an online membership association for professionals whose work encompasses culture, learning, and technology. She authored the pioneering book, Globalized eLearning Cultural Challenges (2007) and introduced the concept of Cross-Cultural Learning Objects (XCLOs). Dr. Edmundson served 3 terms as President of the American Society for Training and Development (Greater Tucson Chapter). She teaches graduate courses on distance learning and educational technology for several online universities. During her 25-year career in training and development, she has provided training courses - in the classroom and online - in 30+ countries for thousands of learners.
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Gurney Myra (University of Western Sydney, Australia)

Chapter 3: Culturally Significant Signs, Symbols, and Philosophical Belief Systems within e-learning Environments
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Cook Ruth Gannon (DePaul University, USA)

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Edmundson Andrea (eWorld Learning, Inc., USA)

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