Kris Roger, Hervé Didiot-Cook
Speaking online: the weakest link?: the integration of Horizon Wimba voice recording software with WebCT

Conference presentation

Original citation:

This version available at: http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/24728/

Available in LSE Research Online: May 2014

© 2006 The Authors

LSE has developed LSE Research Online so that users may access research output of the School. Copyright © and Moral Rights for the papers on this site are retained by the individual authors and/or other copyright owners. Users may download and/or print one copy of any article(s) in LSE Research Online to facilitate their private study or for non-commercial research. You may not engage in further distribution of the material or use it for any profit-making activities or any commercial gain. You may freely distribute the URL (http://eprints.lse.ac.uk) of the LSE Research Online website.
Speaking Online: The Weakest Link?

The Integration of Horizon Wimba Voice Recording Software with WebCT
Speaking online with Wimba

Kris Roger
Learning Technology Specialist
LSE Centre for Learning Technology

Hervé Didiot-Cook
Language Co-ordinator (French)
LSE Language Centre
LSE Language Centre

- Teaching & learning MFL + EAP & applied research
- 200 students (100 Fr) study MFL as part of a degree (25%)
- 1600 students (550 Fr) as extracurricular (0%)
- 2000 students take EAP courses (0%)
Centre for Learning Technology

- LSE - 5 years using WebCT
- 260 courses using WebCT
- LSE has a 100Mbps JANET connection via LMN
Teaching & learning approach in Languages:

- Language For Academic Purposes: Social Sciences
- Communicative approach
- 4 skills: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing
E. teaching & learning approach in languages:

- Complement F2F teaching
- Timetable pressure for students
- Inadequately equipped/maintained teaching rooms
- Well equipped PC rooms
- From web lessons/ website to WebCT
WebCT supports 3 skills out of 4: Listening, Reading & Writing

Speaking: missing skill online

- Presentations burnt on CD,
- Assessment time-consuming
- Needs for dedicated PCs with webcam
- No interaction
Integration of Wimba

a) Technical integration

b) Pedagogical integration

• Confidence & practice
• Self reflection & feedback
• Interaction & discussion
• Tests & Assessments

Set of issues, solution = Wimba/WebCT
Technical integration

- From simple linking to PowerLinking
- WIMBA “voiceboard” tool
- Hosted @ LSE 2003-2005
- ASP hosted by Horizon Wimba 2005 onwards
- Other technical considerations
- Impressed by Wimba tech support (but appears to consist of a team of one!)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pages</th>
<th>Course Content Tools</th>
<th>Communication Tools</th>
<th>Evaluation &amp; Activity Tools</th>
<th>Student Tools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organizer Page</td>
<td>Syllabus</td>
<td>Discussions</td>
<td>Quizzes/Surveys</td>
<td>My Progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Page</td>
<td>Content Module</td>
<td>Mail</td>
<td>Self Test</td>
<td>My Grades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URL</td>
<td>Glossary</td>
<td>Chat</td>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>Language Selector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Image Database</td>
<td>Whitewater</td>
<td>Student Presentations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Index</td>
<td>Calendar</td>
<td>Student Homepages</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Content Utilities</strong></td>
<td>Student Tips</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Search</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compile</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resume Course</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD-ROM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Add Wimba Voice Board

1. Enter a title for this item:

2. Voice Boards Settings
   Title: Wimba Voice Board
   Description:
   Audio quality: Standard Quality - 12.8 kbit/s - Modern usage
   Max record length: 3 min
   Display short message titles
   Display in chronological order
   Allow students to start a new thread

3. Decide where to show the link to this item.
   - On the Course Menu, visible on all pages. Link will appear as text.
   - On an Organizer Page: Homepage

4. Add this item to your course.

Add  Cancel
Confidence & practice

• **Asynchronous communication:** Opportunity for the learner to test him/herself, to practise at her/his own pace… great for students lacking confidence…

• Time management: 3 min long recording.

• Presentation skills: use of bullet points, no reading of turgid prose is allowed.

• Headsets on request, use of PCs anywhere on campus (except library).
Self-reflection & feedback

**Learner autonomy:** To support students so they can assess themselves their strengths and weaknesses, and design their own strategies to develop their skills (D.Little & ELP).

Feedback is easy to give,

Wimba voice board is an ideal tool… Pronunciation… or reading skills! (Aline Canning AMR.TC/ Students from Ivory Coast)
• a mentoring scheme in which LSE students coach pupils from an inner-city school in South London in French. The voice board is their preferred activity!!

• Michel Herreria, a visual artist based in Bordeaux
Wimba Voice Board

Subject: Miracle test 1
Date: Wed Jan 11 14:58:32 GMT 2006
From: Miracle Eyjo
Interaction & discussion

• E-legal discussion forum between Law students from LSE and the University of Lille,

• “Social conversation” between students from LSE, Paris Dauphine and Columbia University NYC,
e-Legal Voice Board

- INTRODUCTION OF VINCENT from Kerry Haynes
- Introduction Of Vanessa from Vanessa Li
- Introduction of Pierre-Etienne from pierre-etienne haurlier
- Introduction Of Jean-Vianney from Kerry Haynes
- Summary of November 8th from Tiphaine Dehouynck
- Choix des sujets Week 2 from NATHALIE CHASSON
- Daryl from Daryl David SULLIVAN
- FLD presentations - "France Riots" from Kerry Haynes
- Week 3 - Please EVERYONE reply to this from NATHALIE CHASSON
  - La Propriete Intellectuelle - 4 Expressions Clés from Daryl David SULLIVAN
  - Re: Week 3 - Please EVERYONE reply to this from NATHALIE CHASSON
  - Re: Week 3 - Please EVERYONE reply to this from Katherine BAGERMA
  - Re: Week 3 from Martin Gareth HAMMOND
  - Omar - part one from Omar Farooq SHAH
  - Omar - part two from Omar Farooq SHAH
- Week 4 - la violence dans les bauxiliues, suite et fin from NATHALIE CHASSON
- European questions... from Jean-Vianney Massin
- Response aux questions 4,5,6 from Zoe HANDER
- Week 5 - How much is too much? from Kerry Haynes
- Response from Marija SKUNDRIC
- WEEK 6 - Group presentation and summary from NATHALIE CHASSON
  - semaine 6 from Marija SKUNDRIC
  - Resume (semaine 6) from Sebastien Sangarane ALLAIN
Tests & Assessments

• **Examination Co-ordinator, LSE**
  Degree component 20% + course work + participation
  Extra-curricular course 15 % + course work + particip.

• **Examiner, examination vetter, author**
  HM’s Foreign & Commonwealth Office
  Community of European Management Schools

• **Speaking = key skill**
  Key issue = quality assurance
• Easy access to all/any recordings,

• « Dossier » part of European Language Portfolio, however no electronic version yet (?)

• Key evidence of achievement for internal moderation, external examiners and bench marking/level descriptors,
Further developments

- Further reflection & evaluation on interaction & discussion,
- Showcase our approach on a CD Rom: Society & Art in a VLE (SALVE) Communication across social boundaries and academic disciplines,
- Explore Live virtual Classroom from Horizon Wimba,
A big thank you to

Un grand merci à

Leslie Kennedy from WebCT

Mike Bailey from Horizon Wimba
Useful links

Horizon Wimba:  http://www.horizonwimba.com/

Le français @ LSE:
http://www.lse.ac.uk/Depts/language/French_main/LSE_FrenchMain.htm

LSE Centre for Learning Technology:
http://www.lse.ac.uk/clt/

VLE Languages User group (HE):
http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/VLE-LANGUAGES-USER-GROUP.html
To contact us:

Hervé Didiot-Cook
h.didiot-cook@lse.ac.uk

Kris Roger
k.roger@lse.ac.uk