Extending Interactions with Text and other Media (EXIT-M) and the Active Learning Toolkit

The language of T.S. Eliot’s expression in The Dry Salvages, though perhaps alluding to complexities of human happiness, provides a cue from which we may address a thorny issue in learning and teaching using media in classrooms and online environments and offers permission to articulate the wisdom of good teachers of the past in the form of a model for the present. "We had the experience but missed the meaning, and approach to the meaning restores the experience in a different form....."

This presentation is an exploration of the notion of EXIT-M (Extending Interactions with Text and Other Media) extrapolated from the work of Lewis and Wray (1997) on reading for meaning making, extended to include multiple media experiences in students’ learning at university. It encourages colleagues in online and other media rich environments to avoid ‘dumping’ resources and to traverse the continuum between surface and deeper learning. Implications for face to face teaching will be considered and a Toolkit of ideas/stimulus materials offered in the spirit of promoting ‘active learning’ and elf-reflection and discussions after the session.

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