

A 3-continent effort: Co-development of an interdisciplinary specialization in Digital Storytelling for Community Development.

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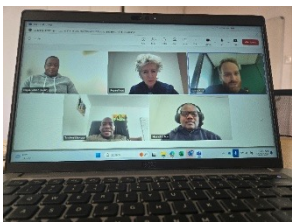
Background:

a) Digital storytelling:

- **Expanded** globally and adapted to various purposes, from education and health promotion to cultural preservation and social justice advocacy.
- **Increased potential for community development work** (Couldry, 2008; Gubrium, 2009).
- Fosters “**conscientization**” (Freire, 1970).
- Can facilitate **critical reflection and dialogue among youth** (Gubrium and Harper, 2013).
- Can enhance **participatory action research** (de Jager, Tewson, Lane, and Higgins, 2017).

b) **Scholarship of engagement:** Promoting reciprocal learning between students, educators, and communities – “Co-creating knowledge”.

CURRICULUM CO-DEVELOPMENT AND CONTENT



- Storytelling
- Social Change and Personal Development.
- Digital Production



TEACHING AND LEARNING

- Students learn participatory methods, media ethics, and reflective storytelling.
- Encouraging community-based knowledge production.
- Produces narrative-based, community-informed evidence.



REAL WORLD LEARNING – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- STUDENTS ARE ABLE TO HEAR FROM THE COMMUNITY ITSELF ABOUT ISSUES AFFECTING THEM
- REFLECT AND ANALYSE INFORMATION GATHERED.
- CO-CREATE A SOLUTION WITH THE COMMUNITY
- COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT



IMPACT

- **Civic engagement and empowerment.**
- **Better student outcomes – cultural competence, social capital.**
- **Increased awareness and visibility of community issues and potential for resources.**



[Street Patrollers](#)

SCALING

- Involve **more South African and African students**
- Partner with U.S. NGO (Junction & Arts Media)
 - Create a community event for digital story consumption (annual screening festival)
 - Expand to other institutions – UFS
 - Online teaching opportunities for US and Netherlands teams

PUBLICATION IN PREP

Tech for community engagement: A methodological perspective on a 3-continent collaborative curriculum development effort in digital storytelling for community development conducted in rural South Africa.

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