TEACHING AND LEARNING: direction, preparation, assessment, and say-hello (initial assignment - week 1 / 10% of grade)

ASSIGNMENT: EXPECTATIONS: Assignment expectations are consistent with the NYS Common Core State Standards for ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects, as quoted here (taken *from different parts* of http://www.corestandards.org/assets/CCSSI_ELA%20Standards.pdf):

- ■ Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) in order to make informed decisions and solve problems . . .
- ■ Make strategic use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) in presentations to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest;
- ■ When reading scientific and technical texts, students need to be able to gain knowledge from challenging texts that often make extensive use of elaborate diagrams and data to convey information and illustrate concepts. Students must be able to read complex informational texts in these fields with independence and confidence because the vast majority of reading in college and workforce training programs will be sophisticated nonfiction.

ASSIGNMENT DETAILS AND OBJECTIVES: This initial assignment will be **weighted at 10% of the course grade** and (a.) will instruct you on using tools we will need in the course, (b.) will assess your skills in PowerPoint and/or provide access to tutorial where you can develop the needed skills, (c.) will assess and develop your abilities to follow written and diverse-media instructions, (d.) will give you can opportunity to meet your colleagues.

PREPARATION: RECOMMENDED THAT YOU HAVE POWERPOINT (PPT) ACCESSIBLE AT THE SAME TIME; <mark>START THE COMPUTER WITH YOUR HEADSET PLUGGED IN</mark> – you will be testing speaking and listening.   Here is a slideshare link to a PowerPoint version that can help you understand the presentation you need to create. http://www.slideshare.net/eoconnor/basic-virtual-skills-the-course-hello

1. GET THE SECOND LIFE VIEWER AND PUBLIC AVATAR: Download Second Life (www.secondlife.com) (see the background requirements for the speed and capacity of your computer) – join Second Life to get a "public" avatar which you will use later in the course.   Create a name for yourself and complete the required sign-up materials – 1.25 minute animated tutorial on downloading and starting up Second Life.

2. STARTING ONTO THE PRIVATE ISLAND: However, for the <mark>first portion of the course you will be going to a private</mark> island in Second Life (that has been acquired so we can work with K12 students without using the public area).   You have been emailed a username and password to that private island which is known as SER/VE (the STEM (science technology engineering math) Exploratory Real/Virtual Environment).   Click onto the Second Life icon and when the signon menu opens, <mark>enter the avatar name & password that **you were emailed in the course** (do NOT use the Second Life avatar at this point; it goes into the public spaces that we will use later in the course)</mark>

3. MOVE: Once your avatar has opened in SER/VE, use the arrows on your keyboard to walk; you can click the Move toolbar on the bottom buttons to have the option to run or fly too; practice moving – 1-min. animated tutorial on moving. (Note: you have total control over your avatar's look and even gender; you can change any of these characteristics by right-clicking on your avatar & playing (or by viewing this tutorial) – but you **do not need** to make any changes unless you want to.)

4. SIT ON CHAIR: Go into the Science Center; the big building in the middle of the island – enter through the doors on the bottom floor. Move to the center of the building and sit on a chair – right click the chair, slide to and click Sit Here -- .5 min. animated tutorial on sitting on objects.

5. ZOOM: Turn the computer view so you can zoom in on your avatar's face, using Alt+click & mouse wheel/keyboard or using the View button on screen bottom – 1 min. animated tutorial on using Zoom.

6. TAKE A SNAPSHOT At the top of the screen, click World > Snapshot > Save to computer and save the closeup of your avatar sitting on the chair – 1-min. animated tutorial on taking a Snapshot.

7. MOVE WITH WORLD-MAP – FIND POD 9: Click the Stand button near your avatar.   Move to the Sound Testing pod by click World > World Map > on the map, double-click the round dots at the mid-Atlantic border then walk around till you find Pod 9 (you can be transported to an avatar (a green dot on the map) the same way too).   – 1-min. animated tutorial on using World Map.

8. VIEW A WEBSITE /**<mark>TEST LISTENING</mark>**:   Once you are in Pod 9, sit in a chair facing the angled, corner poster – this is a website. Hover over the top of the website, then click the Home button when it appears. – 1-min. animated tutorial

on how to activate website in Second Life.   Be sure you can hear what is being said in the website's animated tutorial.   Zoom in if needed to hear – follow the steps below if you can not hear.

9. TEST **SPEAKING**:   This is vital to your success in meetings.
   a. Click Speak at screen bottom – it has to be green if you want to speak. Talk and you should see green waves come out from your head.   Turn the Speak button on and off (known as "toggling"); observe how the waves are turned on and off based on the button's position.   **When you can see the green waves** either take a Snapshot and Save to your computer (see step 6) or use the Screen Capture method (as explained in step 10) to capture-and-save a picture of your avatar with sound waves.   Your speaking in called OUTPUT in Second Life. (If you need to adjust test your headset, at the top of the screen, click Me > Preferences > Sound & media > Input / output devices, as shown here – 2 min. animated tutorial on sound adjustment)
   b. Click on the website with the speaking avatar.   Be sure you can hear the speaker (see step 8 above); zoom in if necessary – you may be to far away to hear the sound.
   c. If you can not speak and hear with the directions in the animation in step 9.a, then check your computer settings themselves through the computer's Control Panel – 2 min. animated tutorial on making Control Panel adjustment .   Return and retest the speaking and listening in
   d. If you can not speak and listen, then you need to come to the Testing Day in SER/VE, on the day announced at the beginning of the course.

10. FIND MORE LOCATIONS: using the World Map (step above), locate and save-picture-of at least three more locations on the SER/VE island; you will need them in the next step

11. IN ANGEL, TAKE A SCREEN CAPTURE / PASTE & TRIM: Although you are encouraged to look around SER/VE, for now, your tasks here are completed.   Now, open the course in Angel and move into the opening module. Of course, read all the startup materials but also take screen captures and trim to put in your PowerPoint of -- (a.) **Overview of Modules** and (b.) **Grade Distribution / Schedule/ Expectations / Deadline & Penalties** – 1.6 min. animated tutorial on screen-capture and trim .

12. NOW, MAKE A POWERPOINT (PPT) TO SHARE YOUR SNAPSHOTS AND TO TELL ABOUT YOURSELF: Turn this PowerPoint into a mini-presentation with:
   a. Put in the images your captured in the above steps; with the different locations, add some text about the locations you saw – click here to access many tutorials on using PowerPoint;
   b. add info about YOU – let us know your work and science experience
   c. use a SmartArt schematic to express your present thinking about teaching science
   d. other things about yourself that you might want to share with the class

13. UPLOAD PPT: Open (or use) a free account at www.slideshare.net ; upload your PowerPoint – get the link and put the link in discussion board in module 1.

14. MEET AND GREET: Review the PowerPoint of your colleagues and say hello to your classmates (at least two of them).

Checklist for the submitted final document: a PowerPoint posted at www.slideshare.net that show:

- A snapshots of your avatar with a zoom-in on the avatar face
- A snapshot or a screen capture of your avatar in the Sound Testing pod with green waves coming out of your avatar's head.
- Three Snapshots of different locations on SER/VE
- Two screen captures from Angel: Overview of Modules and Grade Distribution / Schedule/ Expectations / Deadlines & Penalties section of the course
- Using SmartArt, a schematic of your perspective of the components of good science teaching
- Several slides with text, images, and explanations about your life before and during the MAT – this will be public so only put in image and dates you want to share; uses drawing features in PowerPoint
- Your slides uploaded onto Slideshare with the link being placed in the course.