

Plato's Wiki: The Possibility of Digital Dialectic

Mark Noe, Eloisa Moreno, Regina Welsh, Joy Tanner, Matthew Nolan, Tomas Guerrero, Felicia Perez, Michelle Algewari, Daniel Rodriguez, Jennifer Garcia, Michelle Munoz, Raquel Mata, and Jose Salinas

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Nothing brings home C. P. Snow's accusation that "[i]ntellectuals, in particular literary intellectuals, are natural Luddites" more than the resistance of faculty in literature, indeed the whole of humanities, to digital delivery of instruction, hybrid or online, at the graduate level. This article describes a semester-long experiment in digital dialectic that uses one such technology, a class wiki, in a graduate class. Like language itself, a wiki is not a transparent medium of exchange, but one that shapes the conversation, a conversation that has the potential to be dialectical and thereby encourage critical thinking.

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