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North-West University OER Fellows and the SADiLaR Digital Humanities OER Champions Project

ADVANCING OER THROUGH METALITERACY AND AI INTEGRATION

PROF. THOMAS P. MACKEY, EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY

This interactive session explores how metaliteracy and artificial intelligence (AI) can be integrated to enhance the design and implementation of Open Educational Resources (OER) in higher education. As AI reshapes the educational landscape, metaliteracy offers a critical, learner-centered framework that supports ethical, reflective, and collaborative engagement with open learning environments.

The presentation introduces key concepts from metaliteracy and emerging AI literacy models, focusing on the updated metaliteracy goals and learning objectives, which have been revised to address the unique challenges and opportunities of AI-enhanced teaching and learning. Participants will engage in a practical workshop where they adapt and apply these themes to their own OER projects. Real-world examples from the Digital Media Arts program at Empire State University will illustrate how metaliteracy supports self-directed and multimodal learning in AI environments. Participants will leave the session with practical insights into how AI tools can be effectively applied to OER development through the lens of metaliteracy. Guided discussions and interactive learning activities will emphasize the ethical, creative, and collaborative use of AI in open learning environments. Through real or proposed learning scenarios, participants will examine the roles of learners as producers, collaborators, and reflective thinkers. The session promotes thoughtful planning and inclusive practices that center the learner experience in the creation of meaningful and sustainable open educational resources.

PROF. THOMAS P. MACKEY

Prof. Thomas P. Mackey is professor in the Department of Arts and Media at Empire State University and Extraordinary Professor in the Research Unit for Self-Directed Learning at North-West University, South Africa. He serves as Program Coordinator for the Digital Media Arts Program (BA/BS) and Academic Coordinator for online courses in Arts and Media. Dr. Mackey is the recipient of the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities, and the Dr. Susan H. Turben Chair in Mentoring. He received a 2025 AI Fellowship at SUNY Empire and was named the 2024 SUNY Online Teaching Ambassador in recognition of his contributions to online education. His research centers on metaliteracy, a pedagogical model he originated with Prof. Trudi E. Jacobson. Their co-authored book Metaliteracy in a Connected World: Developing Learners as Producers was recognized with the 2024 Divergent Publication Award for Excellence in Literacy in a Digital Age Research. Prof. Mackey co-edited Teaching Digital Storytelling: Inspiring Voices through Online Narratives (2024) with Dr. Sheila Marie Aird, featuring contributions from educators in the United States and South Africa. His forthcoming book AI and Metaliteracy: Empowering Learners for the Generative Revolution (2026) with Dr. Nicola Marae Allain will also include chapters by scholars from around the world.

DATE: 12 November 2025

TIME: 8:00 EST (New York) / 15:00 SAST (South Africa)

LINK: Join the meeting now