



Core Research Area: Ubiquitous & Mobile Technology and Learning

Portable and mobile technological tools enable learners to access educational content and resources from almost any place and at any time. With the ongoing spread and availability of mobile devices, such as mobile phones or PDAs, learning is increasingly becoming ubiquitous. Ubiquitous learning is closely linked to contextualized learning with regard to the opportunities it offers. However, in contrast to contextualized learning, ubiquitous learning is not necessarily related to the current user context (location, time, etc.). For instance, it is possible to learn vocabulary in the waiting line, read tutorials at the airport, do exercises in the train, or plan groupwork in a restaurant.

These examples already emphasize that mobile devices can particularly facilitate knowledge acquisition in informal learning settings; however, they can also be helpful to connect formal and informal education. Research is needed to better understand the impact of mobile technologies and the ubiquitous availability of informational and learning resources on students' learning practices. For example: How is it possible to empower learners to use ubiquitous technology and information in a meaningful way? How can ubiquitous technologies be designed to provide active support for learning? And how can a smooth flow of learning across devices and locations be enabled?

STELLAR