

# BROWNBAG SEMINAR

Jeudi 13 septembre | 11h30 - 12h30

Pavillon Mail, salle PM 01, entrée libre



## Learning Outcomes of Virtual Exchange in Higher Education

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'Virtual Exchange', refers to the application of online communication tools to bring together classes of language learners in geographically distant locations with the aim of developing their foreign language skills and intercultural and digital competences through collaborative tasks and project work (Lewis & O'Dowd, 2016; O'Dowd, 2013). It is also an activity which has received its fair share of criticism in the literature, and at times there is a clear scepticism amongst commentators as to its effectiveness in developing intercultural awareness (Kramsch, 2014; Liddicoat & Scarino, 2013).



This presentation will review the results of various recent research studies which have looked at the impact of Virtual Exchange initiatives on competence development, explore the main criticisms and concerns which have been expressed, and finally on how both practitioners and researchers can react and learn from these critiques.

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