

Scholarship Learning Community (SLC)

Title: Global Creative Collaboration Lab: Language, Power, and AI in Creative Practice Across Borders

Facilitator: Rob Steel

Description:

This Scholarship Learning Community is structured as a focused working lab centered on a core question: how do language, power, and AI influence authorship, creative control, and meaning in global artistic collaboration?

The SLC concentrates on two intersecting areas. The first is multilingual creative practice and the role of language in shaping meaning and authority. The second is the use of AI tools within collaborative artistic workflows.

Participants will examine how English often operates as the default language in global collaboration and consider what is lost, flattened, or redistributed when linguistic diversity is reduced. The group will test alternative approaches that support working across multiple languages and make translation, friction, and cultural context visible within the creative process.

The SLC will also examine how AI tools are reshaping creative production. This includes generative systems, machine translation, and language models, not just as tools, but as agents that influence authorship, voice, and decision-making.

Faculty participants will develop small-scale experimental projects that test these conditions in practice. Projects may include film, sound, performance, writing, or hybrid forms. The emphasis is on experimentation, iteration, and documentation rather than polished final products.

The SLC functions as a collaborative research environment. It supports faculty in developing approaches to global creative work that can inform teaching, generate new research directions, and position future external funding.

Why This Matters

Global creative collaboration is shaped by both language and technology. English often functions as the lingua Franca, while AI tools increasingly mediate how work is produced. These conditions influence not only process, but whose perspectives are represented and how meaning is constructed.

This SLC creates a structured space to examine and test these dynamics through practice. It positions faculty to develop new creative methods, inform teaching, and build pathways for future research and external collaboration.

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Objectives

- * Examine how language shapes authorship, communication, and meaning
- * Develop and test multilingual approaches to creative collaboration
- * Analyze the role of AI in creative workflows and communication
- * Identify how power operates through language and technology
- * Produce adaptable models for teaching, research, and collaboration

Plan of Activities

- * Session 1: Framing the Lab
Language, authorship, and global collaboration
- * Session 2: Project Design
Development of multilingual or AI-informed project concepts
- * Session 3: Work-in-Progress Review I
Early project development and feedback
- * Session 4: AI and Creative Practice
Tools, translation, and authorship
- * Session 5: Work-in-Progress Review II
Continued development and critique
- * Session 6: Language and Power
Cultural context, participation, and access
- * Final Session: Outcomes and Next Steps
Presentation of projects and identification of future directions
(Meetings once per month)

Deliverables

- * Pilot creative projects or documented experimental processes
- * A shared set of approaches to multilingual and AI-informed collaboration
- * A short report, article, or publication concept
- * Materials adaptable for courses, workshops, or grant proposals