

Speaker: What we'll do is we'll record sessions of our UNM Vygotsky seminar, and then we'll post these up on Vimeo. Each week people from around the world will be able to view the videos and then, as members of the edWeb, participate in discussions. This seminar here, we've got a wonderfully diverse group of students who are mostly doctoral students but some are master's students, and they come from Russia, Ecuador, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, China, Spain, Taiwan, Indonesia, Brazil, Egypt. Did I miss anybody?

So what we'll do, I'm going to try to incorporate some discussion in the video. Following Vygotsky's lead, I feel that a lot of learning takes place in social interactions. So I don't just do a lecture, I try to involve the discussions for most the students because you'll learn a lot from each other and I learn a lot from you. I've been doing this Vygotsky seminar for a number of years and each year I gain a deeper understanding of Vygotsky's work because of the interaction that I have with students. So I'm looking forward to interacting with students and faculty around the world.

Speaker: Within edWeb, there are readings, suggested readings for each of the videos, and so it might be helpful if you get those readings ahead of watching the video. And then each one of you, as you've joined edWeb, will have your own personal blog page and you can go and post a commentary on the reading so that the students here in the seminar can interact with you and comment on your reflections on the readings.

One of the things we'll do here at the seminar is that in each group there's a discussion leader, and the discussion leader will summarize the discussions that are taking place in their particular group and post them to the edWeb under video. So this would be video one. It would be best for people who are viewing this internationally to see if you can watch the video with two or three or more of your colleagues so that you too can discuss the questions that we bring up. And then if you have somebody responsible for summarizing the discussion, posting them up on the edWeb discussion forum as well, it's another way that we can all interact.

Hopefully, this seminar, even though Vygotsky was an educational psychologist, hopefully, this seminar will be of interest to many people in many, many fields. You're more than welcome to invite others to participate. All they have to do is to send me an email and I will invite them to edWeb, and they can then become part of our learning community.