Learning autonomy & lecture enhancement in environmental studies

Sharon Beder
University of Wollongong, sharon@herinst.org

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Abstract
This project aims to develop a flexible computer-based learning package which can be used to enhance lecture presentations and enable students to learn independently. The package will be designed to teach students about the social and political dimensions of environmental issues. It will contain resource materials that can be used by the lecturer in a large theatre, including video clips, sound recordings and overhead projection slides. This material will then be available to students who will be able to revise lecture material in their own time, explore aspects of it in more depth, and interactively access references, information and primary material to help them with assignments. The package will be designed to be used by students individually and in small groups.
CAUT project 3

Learning Autonomy & Lecture Enhancement in Environmental Studies

Sharon Beder

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Dr Sharon Beder is a lecturer in the Department of Science and Technology Studies at the University of Wollongong.

CAUT project 4

An Interactive Multimedia Package for Teaching Experimental Design Skills in Ecology

Barry Harper

This project involves the production of a computer-based multimedia package for teaching Ecology at undergraduate level. The product will be designed to enhance the development of investigation skills in students of ecology and biology. It is a cross-faculty initiative involving collaboration between the Faculty of Education and the Department of Biological Sciences. The package will take full advantage of the most advanced interactive multimedia technology combined with the latest trends in science education and the most recent developments in learning theory and practice. It will exploit the combination of the conceptual power of a prediction model approach with involvement of the learner in actively constructing knowledge.

There is currently little multimedia material focused on Australian conditions. One exception is a Hypercard-based package being produced by a group at Melbourne University (P. Ladiges and R. Gleadow; see National Teaching Workshop, Griffith University 1993), but this is aimed at introductory University biology.