Qwerty

Journal of technology, culture, and education

Call for Papers

Qwerty is the commonly accepted name for the computer keyboard, comprising the first six letters of its top row. When typewriters were first introduced, the keys were arranged in alphabetical order. However this order meant that people typed too quickly such that the keys soon became entangled. To counter this, the keys were displayed in random order and typing speeds accordingly slowed down. In later years, despite the fact that the problem of speed had been completely overcome, the keyboard retained its random order. In our view, this represents an excellent metaphor for the entanglement of culture and technological tools.

In actual fact, we regard computer-based technologies as cultural artefacts, representing different depths in the daily work and study activity of individuals, social groups, and institutions. We believe that different models of computer use and activity within online environments mediate social interaction. As such, the relationship between culture and technological tools is becoming more and more complex and now provides an opportunity for determining new models of cognitive, psychological, and social interaction. Qwerty represents a place where such issues can be discussed and developed.

The journal arises from a growing awareness of the need to develop research and reflection on the impact, effects and nature of technology use and, as such, is intended to be a genuinely cross-disciplinary forum.

Qwerty wishes to provide a forum for discussion on the use of new technologies aimed at anyone interested in the use of technology in such fields as education, training, social and university research, including the cultural, social, pedagogical, psychological, economic, professional, ethical and aesthetical aspects of technology use.

The journal is a publication of the CKBG, an organisation that boasts of a wide reputation within Italy, in addition to a variety of co-operative alliances at international level (read more on the website: www.ckbg.org).

Qwerty is a peer reviewed journal published bi-annually by Progedit in Italian, French and English (see the issues' archive on the website: www.ckbg.org), and provides set guidelines for authors.

Accepted articles may concern research, reviews, educational experiences and practices, theory on topics such as:

- theories and models on the use of new technologies in training contexts;

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- online training environments;
- learning models on the net;
- distance learning, e-learning, blended e-learning;
- analysis protocols for web forum interactions;
- methods of qualitative and quantitative analysis in the learning environment experimentation ;
- intersubjectivity on the net;
- technology to support collaborative projects amongst schools;
- collaborative learning through and in online environments;
- social and communicational aspects of the net;
- digital identities;
- virtual reality;
- artefacts within activity systems,
- new genres of communication and texts produced by technology;
- psychological, semiotic, and social aspects of technology innovation;
- technology to preserve and valorise the cultural patrimony;
- new media;
- off-line effects of online interactions and activities.

Other related topics will be also welcomed.

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Articles in Italian, English, and French will be accepted.

Manuscripts should follow the APA style. Minimal style elements required are:

Document Format
Margins: 2.54 cm on all sides (top, bottom, left, right)
Font Size and Type: 12-pt. font (Times Roman or Courier are acceptable typefaces)
Spacing: Double-spacing throughout the paper, including title page, abstract, body of the document, references, appendixes, footnotes, tables, and figure captions.
Alignment: Flush left (creating an uneven right margin)

Order of Pages
Page 1: Title page should also contain the name of the author(s) together with details of the author(s)' affiliation and contact information;
Page 2: Abstract (no more than 1000 characters, including spaces);
Page 3 and next: Title, text, and references (no more than 27.000 characters, spaces included);
Next: Appendices;
Figures and Tables are embedded in the text.

Full manuscripts should be sent to the following email address: qwerty@progedit.com

Submissions for 2008 are required by 31st January 2008, however manuscripts and proposals for special issues are welcomed throughout the year.

Further information is available at: www.ckbg.org