Oral Defense Announcement
University of Missouri – St. Louis Graduate School

An oral examination in defense of the dissertation for the degree
Doctor of Education with an emphasis in Educational Practice

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M.A.E. in Secondary Education–Spanish, August, 2006, Truman State University
B.A. in Psychology and Spanish, May, 2005, Truman State University

The Attitudes and Learning Styles of Adult Learners
to E-Instruction of the Spanish Language

Date: April 10, 2019
Time: 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Place: E. Desmond Lee Technology and Learning Center (TLC) Conference Room 1

Abstract
This study investigated the relationship between adult learner attitudes toward technology and learning style. A sample of community college Spanish students in a Midwestern city in the United States was surveyed to determine (a) an attitude score toward Spanish e-instruction based on the Lukow ATUTS (Attitudes toward Using Technology Survey) and (b) a learning style measured by the Kolb LSI (Learning Style Inventory). Participants \( n = 151 \) were mostly aged 18-29 (95%), used between one and five software programs on a daily basis (88%), spent at least 11 hours a week online (88%), and reported an "Accommodating" style of learning (28%). A Randomization Test for Difference of Means indicated learning styles did not differ significantly in their mean attitude toward technology \( (p = .063) \). Participants reported the use of online translators, language learning websites, and language learning games to best facilitate their achievement of course objectives. Additionally, participants reported a strong preference for language learning apps, hands-on activities, and real-world application. The findings suggest adult educators should be cognizant of their students' preferences for e-instruction and language technology integration, thus giving insight into the most and least useful tools for students through the learning process.

Defense of Dissertation Committee
Dr. E. Paulette Isaac-Savage, Ed.D. - Chairperson
Dr. Cody Ding, Ph.D.
Dr. Jennifer Miller, Ed.D.
Dr. Gwendolyn Turner, Ed.D.