

## **Multimodal methods for researching digital data and environments**

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Carey Jewitt

Many digital texts and environments employ a range of linguistic, visual, aural, spatial, and haptic (tactile) modes of representation and communication. Increasingly, in order to understand how people communicate and interact in digital environments researchers need to look beyond language, and towards the idea of communication as multimodal. Multimodal research builds on concepts from Social Semiotics, Linguistics more generally, Art History, and Sociology to analyse how people make meaning.

This talk will introduce multimodality and some of its key concepts. It will then explore how these can be applied to digital data and environments to research how technologies re-mediate interaction. It will focus on two interconnected areas of interest to multimodal communication - space, place and time and embodiment. These are of particular interest to digital research as both are significantly reconfigured by the use of digital technologies and environments. This talk will examine multimodal concepts with attention to online social media, mobile and haptic technologies.

Carey Jewitt is Professor of Technology and Learning at the London Knowledge Lab, Department of Culture, Communication, and Media – Institute of Education, University of London. She is Director of MODE (Multimodal methods for researching digital data and environments) a NCRM Node funded by the ESRC.

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