

STEVEN R. VAN HOOK, PHD**567 W. Channel Island Blvd #425****Port Hueneme, CA 93041****(805) 253-0250****<http://wwmr.us> / steven@wwmr.us****Presentation Topics**
On-Site / Zoom / Virtual World

Dr. Steven R. Van Hook has designed, developed, and taught mixed-format courses in cross-cultural communications and global affairs for twenty years at the University of California and other universities in the United States and abroad. He's been a newspaper columnist, radio talk show host, TV news anchor, and television bureau chief in Moscow covering the fall of the Soviet Union. He has directed international public education campaigns through the United States Agency for International Development, and has worked for social programs including VISTA, Head Start, UO Counseling Center, and the Oregon Department of Corrections. He has a PhD specializing in transcultural learning, and is published in scholarly journals including SAGE, and UNESCO's *Prospects*. Research website: <http://wwmr.us>

**Transcultural Course Design for International Programs**

Educators in online and on-ground university courses are frequently challenged to accommodate the wide range of cultural variations among a growing diversity of domestic and international students. This presentation considers how might we create a common positive resonance in a culturally diverse room, what themes and images might help to do that, and how might these tools be applied to effective transcultural course design. We further consider how these transcultural tactics may be used in classroom integration, illustrating class lecture topics, creating resonance in classroom and online discussions, and how future innovations might advance global learning opportunities.

Virtual World Teaching Tactics and Trends

Virtual World learning may provide immersive hand-on experience for engaging students and offering a sense of place and belonging so important to student success and retention in online education. This presentation covers: evolution of virtual world learning, academic necessities for learning alternatives, socioeconomic drivers, fulfilling student desires for immersive experience, benefits of experiential learning, providing dimensional sense of space, sample in-world learning centers, forming partnerships between academia and emerging technology, effective gamification of learning, bridging the digital divide, and a scheduled field trip to a Virtual World campus.

Primers and Prompts for Enticing Lectures

Teachers may be challenged by the attention barriers lodged between their lessons and students' minds. This presentation considers how to help prime the learning flow in our class lectures. The session includes a brief overview of how the brain learns, how memories are recorded, how to optimize our learning limits, effective use of priming words, affective appeals for grabbing attention, sensation transference in perceptions, priming a room for behaviors and mindsets, and more tools to help impact the brains of our learners for the better.

Global Trends for World Solutions

Our current times in academia are challenging for sure. But where are we headed? Some of the world's smartest people in government, research, academia, business, economics, science, and other fields have looked 20 years into the future and seen a time of abundance and shared opportunities. Let's visit evolving technologies from an optimistic perspective above and beyond the turmoil of the 2020s. This session covers: governmental and NGO steps underway for global access to learning, slopes and cycles of tech hype, futurologist projections through 2050, emerging issues in course content and design, administrative hurdles, virtual immersive learning experiences, educational access in developing nations, and other emerging social and technological developments impacting educators.

Best Career Advice to Offer Our Students

Educators might often be ill-prepared for the one lecture topic they may be best suited for -- advising students how to advance a career in their field of study. This presentation covers: career trends according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, using your own career success as a teaching example, 21st Century job skills, creating career opportunities, beneficial internship and volunteer options, keeping current in the global marketplace, professional networking opportunities, self-marketing and social media suggestions for the job search, and other tips for career success.

Handling Difficult, Disruptive & Aggressive Students

Many of us who are experienced educators in online or on-ground classrooms might know for sure that all it takes is one disruptive student to derail a class and drain the joy right out of teaching. This presentation considers steps before a course starts to set a tone and norms for classroom behaviors, the importance of instructor snap impressions, sample syllabus statement for civility in the classroom, tips to establish classroom leadership, how to set tech policies, overcoming the brain's negative bias, dissonant and resonant class messages, the roots of disruption, dealing with prolific disruptors, controlling critical events, right instructor mindset and affirmations, countering the aggression cycle, three modes of intervention, the Mad Student Syndrome, useful classroom defusing phrases, dealing with self-destructive students, and other best tips to effectively resolve classroom conflicts.

Exosociology: Our Transgalactic Commonalities

Recent military reports of unexplained objects flying in our skies have sparked renewed interest in alien visitors. Some scientists predict that we will have contacted advanced civilizations on other worlds within 25 years. What might they be like, and -- more importantly -- how might they act? Dr. Steven Van Hook, a researcher in transcultural relations, considers what universal evolutionary social traits we could share in common with our galactic alien neighbors.