

What is Second Life?

Second life is the next step in online social interaction. It has chat programs, instant messaging, avatars, and all the features necessary for communications. It is multifunctional. Second Life's usefulness knows no bounds. Anything you can do in the real world you can do in Second Life. Anything you cannot do in the real world is also possible in Second Life because it is only limited by your own abilities and imagination. It is a powerful tool that has yet to be fully utilized. Just some of its other features include, watching movies, playing/designing games and listening to music (radio or music on your hard drive). Then there are the 3D design capabilities. Second Life has easy to use 3D design program that allows its users to create anything they can think of.

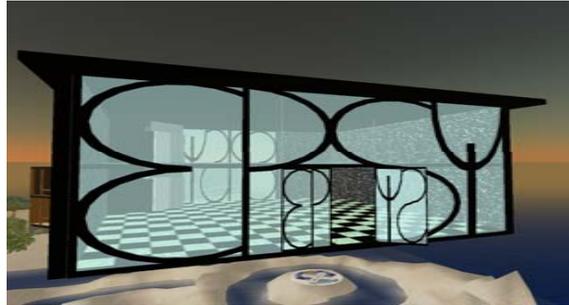
Second Life is free to download at <http://www.secondlife.com>. It was developed by Lindens Labs with the goal of "a user-defined world of general use in which people can interact, play, do business, and otherwise communicate"



Use your Avatar to explore the world. Meet people, take classes, buy items, start your own business, and enjoy yourself.

What is the point of Second life?

It really depends on the individual. For some this world is the one where they live and work. For others it is a place where they do anything that they can imagine. It is a world to have fun and play with friends. It's a place where the individual defines what Second Life is. For the Engineering Psychology Department, Second Life is a perfect aid to assist in education



The Avatar (your character)

Wow you have green hair! Yea I decided to not try anything weird today.



Your avatar is whatever you make him/her. If you feel like being a supermodel then go ahead. It is all about what you want to be. It is fully customizable and can be changed at any moment in the game.



Clothes, objects, face, size, and hair can all be manipulated in Second life. If a person wants they can even become a giant green lizard. It is completely up to your individual preferences. All you need to do is right click on your avatar and you can change your appearance at will.

What is Engineering Psychology Laboratory doing in Second Life?

The Engineering Psychology Laboratory is experimenting with the multiple functions of second life and discovering its uses for the real life. We are interested in experimenting with Second Life's avatars, build features, and scripting. It is a whole new world that deserves attention because of its multiple features.

There is also the opportunity to use these features to study social interaction. The Engineering Psychology Department is interested in interactions. So what better way to monitor them than in a controlled environment? Second Life is a fully customizable virtual world. This world can be complex or simple. This world can be anything we desire. Thus, Second Life is perfect for testing controlled factors and then observing how individuals/groups react.

Another important feature of Second Life is the human computer interaction. It is a tool that can help teach computer skills to those that are not computer savvy. Computer skills are necessary to the army of the future and to be able to study/teach human/computer interaction through Second Life would be helpful.



Engineering Psychology Room 265, In Second Life areas can be created to witness social interaction.

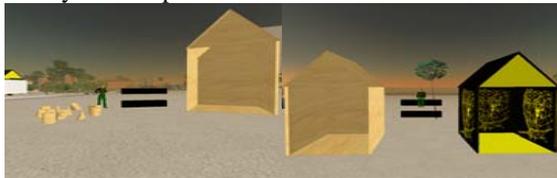
Inventory

Wow you pulled a car out of thin air!!

It holds all your avatars items. Here are a few examples of inventory items. There are sounds, actions, objects, scripts, textures, and clothes. The inventory also has a useful search option that allows quick searches if the objects name is know. Then to use the item drag it onto the ground. It will magically appear!!

Building

Building is the key to Second Life. Everything in Second Life was built by someone at one time or another. All the trees, animals, stores and homes were built by the avatars. It is fun to build something and watch it come to life before your very eyes. It is an awesome thing when you make your own house with your bare hands☺. The building features are a little more complicated then walking but they are simple and made so anyone can use then with a little practice and patience. Second Life has easy to use controls that allow you to manipulate simple shapes into anything you wish. Then add texture and you have your complete item



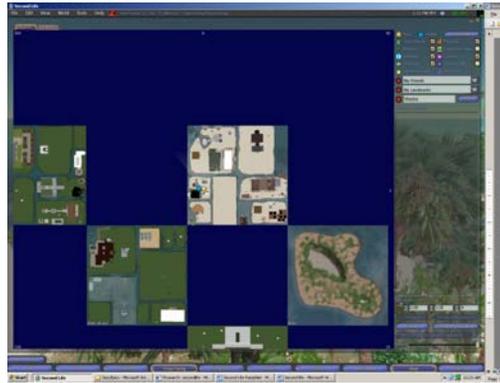
Goals in Second Life

To build and manipulate an area in second Life that can be used for educational purposes. To teach cadets, monitor social interaction, and witness human and computer interaction.

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Wow Ling SL name, IM's are welcome

The Map

Second Life is a virtual world. To explore this world and to see what others have made is one of the greatest pastimes for many. But unfortunately as in any world it is just too large to have to walk everywhere. This virtual world is immense. To travel in this world everyone is given the ability to teleport (if only we could do this in real life). By double clicking anywhere on the map an avatar in Second Life can cross immense distances in a few seconds.



Visit the Engineering Psychologies testing site at Hale hoahu (search for on the map). We are using the EPSYCH area of the island. It will have the Go Army hut, lakes, and parachute jump!

Chat

Chat is simple in Second Life. Press enter and then type what you wish and press enter again. This will allow everyone around you to hear you. To talk to one individual only, or a specific group, you can IM (Instant message) an avatar. If you belong to a group or have a friend then all you need to do is press the IM button and click on there name. Then type what you wish. You can also go into the search tab one the bottom of your screen. Then type in the persons name and click IM. Then leave your message.



A Virtual World
within
Our own.
Created and Shaped by its
online inhabitants.

A place where
the imagination is allowed to
run wild and free!!



<http://www.dean.usma.edu/departments/bsl/programs/EnPsych/default.cfm>