

Getting Started in Second Life

Following are instructions for how to set up a Second Life (SL) account and create an avatar as well as instructions for accessing TWU's educational island. The keynote address for the Digital Dissertation Symposium (October 23, 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 CDT/ 8:00 - 10:30 a.m. PDT/ 9:00-11:30 a.m. MDT/ 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. EDT) will be hosted on the TWU Island. Having your account and avatar up and running will allow you to log into the TWU SL Island and join the question and answer period. We will have someone monitoring the SL Island during the symposium so that your questions can be addressed. **Even if you do not plan to join us for this symposium, taking the time now to learn how to access the TWU Second Life Island will provide many opportunities for you in the future, including access to the virtual presentations in the upcoming Student Creative Arts & Research Symposium.**

DATES of Pre-Symposium Orientation Parties (join us at any time during the time periods given. There will be someone there to help you navigate your avatar):

Thursday, October 15, from 7:00 – 7:30 p.m CDT.

Sunday, October 18, from 6:15 – 6:45 p.m CDT.

Thursday, October 22, from 7:00-7:30 p.m CDT.

If you cannot meet during the above times or have other questions, please contact Kat Bell in TWU's Second Life Office (kbell2@twu.edu). We really want your input in the symposium and are very happy to get you situated on the TWU Second Life Island!

If you have a Second Life account and avatar already, you only need to click on the following:

1. Click on this link in order to visit the Pre-Symposium Orientation
<http://slurl.com/secondlife/Texas%20Womans%20University4/230/189/23>
2. The day of the Symposium, please use this link to teleport directly to the presentation area
<http://slurl.com/secondlife/Texas%20Womans%20University4/89/193/28>

To create a Second Life account:

In order to join the education network in Second Life, we recommend using the New Media Consortium's (NMC) account creation page. NMC represents a large community of universities and educators in Second Life and their login will lead you to their orientation area designed specifically for educators and students.

1. Go to <http://sl.nmc.org/join> and click Create an Account.
2. Fill out the account form. This is where you will choose a name for your avatar. You can also choose to join the New Media Consortium community. You have the option to include the name of

your institution, and NMC provides a link to view those institutions that are already within the community.

3. Check your email after registration. In this email, you will find links to resources and information about your account. The most important link NMC provides is the link to download the software at <http://get.secondlife.com/>. You will need to remember where the software downloads on your computer so that you can open Second Life later. (Usually you will see a Second Life icon on your opening desk top.)
4. Log in to SL by launching the Second Life program (click on the icon) from your computer.

Getting Started in Second Life - Logging In for the First Time and Orientation

1. Open the SL Application. Enter your username (your avatar's first and last names) and password.
2. Click the Blue Connect button.
3. When you login to Second Life for the first time you will choose the gender of your avatar.
4. Go through the tutorial on the screen to begin learning how to control your avatar. For more tutorials, NMC Orientation Island can be found through the SLURL provided in your welcome email or click this link <http://slurl.com/secondlife/NMC%20Orientation/69/107/32/>. Follow the link and click on the box that says "Visit this location," and a teleport prompt will open in SL. Click on the button that says "Teleport Now."
4. To log out, click the red X at the top right of your screen for PCs, top left for Macs.
5. To then get to the TWU Island from the orientation island, click on:

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QUESTIONS? CONTACT KAT BELL IN THE SECOND LIFE OFFICE: kbell2@twu.edu

Other Resources

Following are a few links to some good video tutorials by Torley. He has many more tutorials on his YouTube page than what is included below, but these should help get you started.

BASICS: Moving & flying

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EK2bczvyHoM>

BASICS: Chatting

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=thBdLhXkzEQ>

BASICS: Looking around with camera controls

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1gDD13njjCE>

How to change your appearance

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GqbuMi5N97c>