

# Gamification, Higher Education and You Handout

## Gamification 101

Games have existed throughout time – bones, chess, zombies

Gamification helps people achieve their goals, learn new skills, or drives innovation

There are also several unintended benefits – problem solving, transferable skills, teamwork

## Gamification in Government

Salem, MA: “What’s The Point” – engaging citizens in neighborhood planning

Santiago, Chile: “Neighborhood Competition” – addressing childhood obesity

State of Hawaii: “Badging” – users get badges when they use the state website



## Gamification Worldview: Minecraft

Minecraft is a fun video game – fight monsters, build cities, practice local government

Mumbai, India: Using Minecraft for urban planning

UN-Habitat: Using Minecraft to teach people around the world about city planning

## Gamification: Transferable Skills to Workforce

Determination – not giving up, persistence, failing fast

Leadership – organizational strategy, working with others, communication

Social Intelligence – understanding emotions, executing on a plan, diversity



## Gamification: Academic Roadmap

Game based learning – apply academic concepts to solve problems

Serve new generation of students – eSports, Millennials, and Generation Z

Virtual simulations – experiment, fail fast, and low risk environment



## Gamification: Staff Roadmap

Use gamification to solve other problems – employee communication, department teambuilding

Engage with younger generations – fill workforce needs with gamers

Develop employees – teach broad range of skills, prepare next generation with leadership skills

## Gamification Best Practices

Start with defining the problem – what behavior the game is intended to encourage

Design the game – the game does not have to be digital (cards, poster board, board game)

Get end user feedback – provides an opportunity for continuous improvement

**Please help! Complete the video game survey!**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/parkvideogamesurvey>