

Beyond Linguistic and Cultural Differences: When ELF (English as Lingua Franca) Meets Telecollaboration

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Research on ELF (English as Lingua Franca) reveals that although it does not belong to any specific nation or people, it is not “culture-free.” Studies have consistently shown culture-specific pragmatics and syntactic strategies being employed by ELF speakers to complement intercultural communication. In recent years, computer-mediated communication seems to have been creating new resources for ELF speakers to represent local identities and values. In this talk, a multilateral telecollaborative project involving ELF speakers in Taiwan, France, and the U.S. will be introduced to demonstrate how cultures of the ELF speakers interact with online encounters and shape their discourse and, in turn, structure encounters and form the intercultural communication process.