

17th European Conference on Games Based Learning 5-6 October 2023, University of Twente, Enschede, Netherlands

Mini Track on Design and Use of Educational Board Games

Mini Track Chair: Thorkild Hanghøj, Aalborg University, Denmark



Board games have been used in educational settings for hundreds of years to enhance motivation, problem-solving, collaboration and numerous other competencies. In spite of the increasing interest in board games both inside and outside educational contexts, there is still relatively limited research on how board games are used and facilitated in the classroom. Moreover, we lack knowledge on how teachers and students are able to design (or redesign) board games

for educational purposes. Thus, the aim of this mini track is to generate academic discussion on different ways of studying and enhancing learning through the design and use of board games.

Suggested topics include but are not limited to:

- Theoretical frameworks for conceptualising game-based teaching with board games
- Pedagogical approaches to facilitating learning and dialogue in relation to board games
- Design approaches that enable educators and/or students to create or modify existing board games
- How the affordances of different board game elements may support (or constrain) learning
- Empirical studies that explore or assess learning in relation to board game activities



Thorkild Hanghøj is a Professor of Games and Learning. He coordinates the KILD research group, Aalborg University, Copenhagen, and is also a founding member of the Board Game Collective. His work focuses on exploring links between games, dialogue, and literacies, as well as how to learn through designing games. He currently manages the research project GBL21: Game-Based Learning in the 21st Century (gbl21.dk), which explores how students learn by redesigning games within the school subjects Danish (L1), mathematics, and science.

Submission details

In the first instance a 300 word abstract is required, to be received by 15 March 2023.

Submissions must be made using the online submission form at https://www.academic-conferences.org/conferences/ecgbl-ecgbl-abstract-submissions/

If you have any questions about this track please email the mini track chair: thorkild@ikp.aau.dk

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