This seminar gives an overview of future developments in educational technologies, arguing that the future of e-learning and mobile learning will be determined at the intersection of today’s major technological trends and educational trends. Firstly, we will focus on hardware developments, including mobiles, wearables, embeddables/implantables, the internet of things, 3D printers, smart vehicles, drones and robots. Secondly, we’ll look at key technological trends, including shifts towards natural user interfaces, augmented reality, big data, and empathic systems, and we’ll raise some questions about artificial intelligence. Thirdly, we’ll consider existing educational trends and how these are likely to intersect with technological developments and trends; we’ll talk about shifts towards contextualisation (e.g., through augmented reality); personalisation (e.g., through learning analytics); diversification (e.g., through MOOCs); student support (e.g., through virtual assistants); student engagement (e.g., through gamification); student creativity (e.g., through design and new learning spaces); and wider collaboration (e.g., through social media and networking platforms).

Professor Mark Pegrum is an Associate Professor in the Graduate School of Education at The University of Western Australia, where he teaches in the areas of e-learning and mobile learning. His current research focuses on digital literacies, and the learning of language and literacy through mobile technologies. His recent books include “Brave New Classrooms: Democratic Education and the Internet”, co-edited with Joe Lockard, and published by UWA Publishing in 2009; and “Digital Literacies”, co-authored with Gavin Dudeney and Nicky Hockly, and published by Pearson in 2013. He is now working on a new book on mobile language learning. He currently teaches in Perth, Hong Kong and Singapore and has given presentations and run seminars on e-learning in Australia and New Zealand, East and Southeast Asia, and the UK and Europe.

For more information, please see http://e-language.wikispaces.com/mark-bio