Digital Criminology • Digital Crime Problem - Communication

Get Started in Second Life

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If you are new to Second Life, do everything directly below. You may want to read it even if you are not new. Everyone should read “Know the Rules”.

If You’re New to Second Life

Sign Up and Install the Second Life Viewer

If you are new to Second Life (or need a new account), you need to get it on your computer and learn how to use it. Go to its [homepage](#):

- Click “SIGN UP” in the upper-right corner
- On the next page, fill in your information (e.g., create a username, enter your email, etc.), confirm you are not a robot, assuming that is true, read and agree to the Terms & Conditions etc., and click “CREATE MY ACCOUNT”
- On the next page, choose to “Go Basic” or, if you want, “Go Premium”; the choice will have no effect on your grade.
- And, finally, on the next page, click “DOWNLOAD AND INSTALL SECOND LIFE”, clicking “Run” or whatever else is needed to download and install to your computer. (This step is omitted in the video, below.)

Start Living in Second Life

Once the above is done, you will have the “Second Life Viewer” on your computer. It will open automatically or, if not, do it manually by double-clicking on the Second Life Viewer Icon — a green hand. When the application opens, you will be asked to read and agree to the Second Life Terms & Conditions. Then you will see that “Your first step is Learning Island. Find the exit portal! Then explore Social Island and meet other new residents!” These are two tutorials that will get used to using Second Life. You should do these. To do so, enter your username and password, then click “Log In”.

Visit the web version of this article to view interactive content.

Start Living Your Best Second Life

At first, you may feel that learning how to use Second Life is challenging, even daunting. I felt that way. I had never used Second Life before developing this course. But I quickly learned that there is nothing to worry about, and everything you need to know is available on the internet. Like I did, you should watch the videos at the following first two links, and read what is at the third.

- [How to Get Started in Second Life \(1 video\)](#)
- [The Basics \(8 videos\)](#)
- [Quickstart Guide](#)

Truly, the best way to learn is by doing. When you are unsure how to do something, consult the internet. You can search YouTube or go to the [Second Life Knowledge Base](#), among other places. If you cannot find the answer on any site, or you think there is a problem unique to this course, you can use the course's [forum](#) or [meet up with someone in Second Life](#). Speaking of which, keep in mind that this course is the Digital Crime Problem, and one reason it uses Second Life, is to increase [digital literacy](#).

Know the Rules

On Social Island, at the bottom of the highest set of stairs is a circle area. On one side of the circle are two big "Conduct Signs". One is titled "Are There Rules in Second Life?" and the other is titled "The Details". It is your responsibility to read, know and obey the rules on these signs, which are further detailed on the [Community Standards](#) page.¹

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Footnotes

1. This page is on the domain for Linden Lab, which is the company behind Second Life. [↩](#)