

Assessment #4

Blogging and Online Activity Participation (15%)

Introduction

The purpose of the blogging and weekly online activities is to provide you with the opportunity to apply the key concepts and ideas from the content and readings, to obtain formative feedback from your peers, and to gain hands-on experience with a wide variety of educational technologies and online facilitation techniques.

Throughout the course, you will be asked to reflect on your learning and to share your insights on your personal blog, as well as complete online activities that align with the weekly content and readings to apply and extend your learning of the course material.

Learning Outcomes

This assignment is aligned with the following course learning outcomes:

- Analyze selected learning and instructional design theories and assess the application of these theories in a variety of online teaching and learning contexts.
- Evaluate and implement a range of educational technologies to support online design and facilitation.
- Design and develop a theory-based design plan for an online teaching and learning experience within your own educational context.
- Facilitate an online lesson using appropriate facilitation techniques and supporting educational technology to engage learners.
- Assess the design and facilitation techniques used within an existing online course and make evidence-based recommendations.

Instructions

For this assignment, you will:

- **Complete a variety of blog posts and online activities** that will be outlined within each of the weekly online modules. The format of the online activities will vary each week, providing you with the opportunity to explore a variety of educational technologies and online learning experiences.
 - Online participation is an integral part of the online academic experience, and this course requires your ongoing participation. In

order to meet the participation requirements, you are expected to **actively participate** in the weekly blog posts and online course activities within the assigned timeframe.

- You are also expected to engage with your peers by attempting to motivate contributions, acknowledging alternative viewpoints, and supporting others' contributions. When responding to others online, please strive to work towards a culture that is **collaborative, respectful, encouraging, and supportive**. When responding to your classmates, you are expected to respect others' values, perspectives and experiences. Please review the Core Rules of Netiquette and ensure that you adhere to them at all times when communicating online in this course.
- In order for the blog posts and online activities to be beneficial and worthwhile, it is imperative that you **read the assigned material** prior to participating and that you actively contribute to all activities.
- Your contributions to your blog and the online activities should be **thoughtful, meaningful, timely, and relevant**, and should draw from the assigned readings, concepts and perspectives introduced in the course, and relevant outside resources and personal experiences. You are expected to incorporate **APA standards** for citations, formatting, and references if required in the activity description.
- Your reflection on your lesson facilitation and participation in your peers' online lessons during the weeks that you are not facilitating will be evaluated as part of your participation.

Grading Rubric

This assignment will be graded according to the following rubric:

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Connection to Course Content (5%)	All contributions demonstrate deep knowledge and understanding of the course content. Contributions are strongly	Most contributions demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the course content. Contributions are supported by	Some contributions demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the course content. Contributions are somewhat	Few contributions demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the course content. Contributions are not

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
	supported by concepts and perspectives introduced in the course, and relevant outside resources and/or personal experiences.	concepts and perspectives introduced in the course, and relevant outside resources and/or personal experiences.	supported by concepts and perspectives introduced in the course, and relevant outside resources and/or personal experiences.	supported by concepts and perspectives introduced in the course, and relevant outside resources and/or personal experiences.
Consistency (5%)	All blog posts and online activities are completed comprehensively and are consistently posted within the established due dates. The requirements of the blog posts and online activities are consistently met.	Most blog posts and online activities are completed and posted within the established due dates. The requirements of the blog posts and online activities are mostly met.	Some blog posts and online activities are completed and posted within the established due dates. The requirements of the blog posts and online activities are partially met.	Few blog posts and online activities are completed and posted within the established due dates. The requirements of the blog posts and online activities are inconsistency met.
Collaboration (2.5%)	Provides meaningful feedback and comments on peers' contributions and consistently encourages classmates to share ideas.	Provides feedback and comments on peers' contributions and encourages classmates to share ideas.	Provides some feedback and comments on peers' contributions but does little to encourage classmates to share ideas.	Provides little to no feedback or comments on peers' contributions and does not encourage classmates to share ideas.

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Communication (2.5%)	All contributions are clear and on topic, and formatted in a style appropriate for the particular kind of online activity. Written responses are free of grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	Most contributions are clear and on topic, and formatted in a style appropriate for the particular kind of online activity. Written responses are mostly free of grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	Some contributions are clear and on topic, and formatted in a style appropriate for the particular kind of online activity. Written responses contain some grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	Few contributions are clear and on topic, and formatted in a style appropriate for the particular kind of online activity. Written responses contain several grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.