Project 4 Reflection

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Introduction

Project 4 consisted of designing and developing a six hour professional development workshop for educators. The workshop focused on concepts related to the elements, principles, and styles of digital photography. The workshop provided a guideline including an overview, content, guided practice, application, resources, evaluation, conclusion, and appendix.

Challenges

The challenges that I faced included figuring out exactly what I wanted to teach during my workshop. I knew which main ideas and applications I wanted to focus on and use, but I struggled to figure how I would go about doing so. Once I read my peers' discussions on their workshop ideas, I was inspired to formulate a detailed curriculum on how teachers can use their iPads and other electronic devices to create digital materials to use in the classroom with their students.

Lessons Learned

After this experience, I believe that I now have a better understanding of how to effectively produce a technology-based workshop. From the readings and discussions, I learned new information and was inspired by new ideas. The most insightful lesson learned was the importance of creating a workshop that people will enjoy. Of course, my workshop was informational, but I also took steps to make sure it was engaging as well. Adult learners are similar to young learners in their desire to be entertained as they are learning.

Another insight gained was the importance of including sound to my workshop.
After reading about multimedia in chapter 12 of our textbook, I understand that sound is probably one of the most important forms of multimedia because it can be used in replacement of written words (Kobre, 2013). Sound can effectively tell the the message of the workshop. I will continue apply sound towards my profession when creating presentations for staff and students because sound appeals to all.

Value

I found value in using my creativity and personal experience with different applications to create a workshop that reflects my understanding of the applications shared. Being able to learn new concepts and ideas and share them with others is a very important quality to have. Just as I learn new applications and principles from this course and my peers, I can help there learn them as well. As a result, our students will reap all of the benefits of incorporating visual literacy development techniques into their instruction.

Conclusion

With the project, my goal was to inform and persuade teachers to adopt the idea of the 21st century classroom by using their electronic devices and various applications to create digital instructional resources. As the importance of visual literacy development continues to grow, teachers should embrace the change by learning simple ways to create and incorporate digital materials into their instruction. Teachers need my workshop to advance their technology skills and address their students' academic needs. I am grateful for the opportunity to create this workshop and I look forward to designing and developing more professional development opportunities.

Kobre, K. (2013). Photo journalism: The professionals' approach. Burlington,

MA: Focal Press.