

Blogging for Teaching and Learning

3 Credits Individualized

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Course Description:

Explore the educational potential of blogs and blogging. Freely available and easy to use web-based tools make blogging a means for teachers to communicate with students and families and to build a network of colleagues and collaborators to support best practice. Blogging is also an authentic, engaging and interactive classroom activity for students, and it can provide a vehicle to share ideas, develop writing, and reflect on work. In this course you will learn how to find blogs that are relevant and meaningful to you professionally; how to create your own blog; and, how to set up blogging as an experiential learning tool in your classroom.

Technology required: Computer with Internet access

Goals and Objectives

As a result of participation in this course, students will:

1. Use Atomic Learning and other online software tutorials as a resource to create professional and classroom blogs.
2. Read current research regarding blogging in the classroom. Discover online how teachers across the nation and world are using blogs and blogging in the classrooms.
3. Discover existing blogs that are professionally relevant.
4. Identify National Technology Standards (ISTE) for Teachers and Students and make correlations to blogging's potential impact on the listed performance indicators.
5. Reflect on the impact of blogging on professional growth and on student learning.
6. Create lesson plans, integrating the effective use of blogs or blogging as authentic learning experiences.
7. Use Moodle (online discussion board) to participate in online discussions regarding educational blogging.

Texts/Readings

There is no textbook associated with this course. Required readings are found online. Participants will complete the readings and independent activities described below to achieve the course objectives

Assignments and Projects (100 points total):

The following assignments and projects are required for this course:

Block 1:

Forum Post- Intro (part of 6 pts)

Blogging Impact Prediction (4 pts)

Block 2:

Forum Post – Blog Choice (part of 6 pts)

Blog reader and RSS feed assignment (15 pts)

Ten educational blogs evaluation (10 pts)

Block 3:

Create your own professional blog (15 pts)

Discuss best practices of blogging (part of 6 pts)

Block 4:

Review current educational research on social interaction in teaching and learning (8 pts)

Adapt/Create an Acceptable Use Policy or Student Internet Agreement (4 pts)

Block 5:

Discuss ideas around student/classroom blogging (8 points)

Metablognition blog post to your blog on metablognition (4 points)

Block 6:

Discuss and correlate the NETS for students regarding blogging (6 pts)

Create a lesson plan on the use of a classroom blog. (10 pts)

Block 7:

Reflection on student blogging as an assessment tool. (6 pts)

Evaluation and Grading

All assignments, regardless of length, must be typed and incorporate APA style references when appropriate. Written assignments will be evaluated on accuracy of information, completeness of assignment, clarity of writing/presentation, organization of information and material, and accomplishment of the goals for each assignment.

A = 94-100 points

A- = 90-93 points

B+ = 87-89 points

B = 84-86 points

B- = 80-83 points

C = 75-79 points

F = less than 75 points

I = Incomplete Work

