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Media and Technology

EDUC-1070

MIDTERM ASSESSMENT

1. **What is the ONE BIG QUESTION that you must ask before integrating any technology into the classroom?**

What am I able to do with this technology that I wasn’t able to do before? This is the big question you must ask yourself before integrating any technology into the classroom because it is the foundation of every lesson you will construct. The key is to determine if the technology you will be using is a tool to enhance the lesson in a positive way. Does this take teaching in your classroom to the next level? If yes, then you are ready to begin your lesson and integrate technology into your classroom.

**2.  What is the difference between a copyright and a trademark?**

Copyright can be seen as the broad aspect of protection. It is an intellectual property that protects works of art. A copyright gives you the legal right to reproduce, sell, perform or distribute something. A trademark is more specific and protects a name, word, symbol or device identifying a product. The difference between a copyright and a trademark is the separation of artist works and commercial pursuits. For example, a book and its contents are protected by a copyright but the name of the publisher and the logo it uses is protected by a trademark.

 **3.  What is FAIR USE and how does it apply to educators?  Are educators always covered under the "fair use" clause?**

Fair use is allowed when certain copyrighted materials are used without permission of the copyright owner and the way in which the materials are used is reasonable and for a fair purpose. It applies to educators because it is common for educators to use materials found that will enhance a lesson. Educators are covered under a “fair use” clause but have to abide by factors within the clause. Making sure the use is not for profit and is being used to further education is important to remaining in the “fair use” zone.

 **4.  What is PHISHING and how can you defend yourself against it?  How is this particularly important to you as an educator?**

Phishing is when someone attempts to take personal information such as usernames, passwords, credit card information and other details of someone’s personal information by way of the internet. You can defend yourself against it by not using the same username and passwords when creating new accounts. Also not giving out your personal account details to others or writing them down can help with phishing attempts. Using websites that only provide a secure address is an important method to use for educators. Secure websites are displayed by a lock at the beginning of a website address. This is important to educators because when using unsecure websites to aid in lessons you may be providing incorrect information. Also, files and documents in your personal records from lessons can be stolen and reused.

**5.  What are the basic uses of QR codes in the classroom?  How did my use of a QR code during the October 24th (phishing example) differ from previous uses in EDUC1070, and what did it accomplish?**

One form of integrating technology into the classroom is by the use of QR codes. QR codes can be set up on a projector or smart board and can be scanned by students while class is being settled and engage students on the lesson of the day. They can easily send students to sites relating the lesson and actual application in the classroom. The use of QR codes during the phishing lecture proved a point to the class. We learned first-hand not to believe everything we see, to make sure we are paying attention to the sites we visit and the information we provide without thought. QR codes can be used in many different ways to integrate technology into the classroom. Mostly importantly it is a great tool to use to engage students in the current lesson.

 **6.  What does an interactive whiteboard add to the classroom?**

An interactive whiteboard adds an element of intrigue to a classroom. Ultimately creating the feel of a game show right inside the classroom is one of the benefits of using an interactive whiteboard. Having students get up out of their seats interacting and engaging in lessons promotes learning. Staying active is important to retaining the information and this technology does that. When classrooms seem to quite or very loud using an interactive whiteboard and create dialogue and interaction that is appropriate for the current lesson. Students may also be less scared to fail or get an answer wrong when using an interactive whiteboard because other students can help and engage with one another. I believe this is an innovative and engaging way to staying active in the classroom.

**7.  A classroom that is 1:1 is a distinctly different classroom than a traditional classroom.  Give at least two examples of a "game changer" from the traditional classroom.**

Two examples that really stuck with me about implementing 1:1 in classrooms were the stories about students being excited about technology in their classroom. One of the stories was about a student was so excited to complete a math application to receive a reward, a virtual hat. The reward was not tangible by a virtual hat that would be added to his character. This is a fantastic example of how implementing 1:1 computing in the classroom can enhance a student’s experience and make them excited about learning. Another example I found really impactful was a story about inner city students using an iPad to create a documentation of a storm. An application on the iPad allowed the students to use a green screen to create a live storm that they would be allowed to document and chase as factious storm chasers. Students collectively had an interest and were able to bring it to life with the use of technology in their classroom. This class unfortunately was not 1:1 but the possibilities would be endless for that class if they were. The “game changer” aspect comes from the impact this technology has on today’s students.

**8.  Do Interactive Whiteboards become less meaningful in a 1:1 classroom?  Defend your answer.**

I do not feel that the use of Interactive Whiteboards becomes less meaningful when classrooms go 1:1 because both forms of technology can be used differently. An Interactive Whiteboard can promote or create that game show environment which helps interaction between yourself and your students and between the students themselves. This form of technology takes engagement to another level and enhances students learning experience. Having a 1:1 classroom can promote deeper understanding of lessons, as an educator you are able to monitor comprehension in a new innovative way. Having students use online tools to submit assignments and discuss lessons can promote better learning. I feel that both technologies offer different ways to integrate technology in the classroom.

**9.  Describe some of the challenges of both online learning and "flipping the classroom" as a TEACHER.**

There are several challenges to both online learning and “flipping the classroom” scenarios that a teacher may face. One of the biggest obstacles teachers might have with online learning is accountability. Students often face difficulties with technology that do not allow them to submit or view assignments. Trusting students is one of the challenges a teacher may have to deal with when integrating technology into a classroom. Also teachers may deal with struggles on lessons when turning to online learning. Asking yourself the ONE BIG QUESTION and not being able to come up with a clear answer is a possibility when teaching online. The idea of “flipping the classroom” has obstacles that are similar, students unable to reach necessary resources to view or submit assignments. There is most definitely risk and challenges to both online learning and “flipping the classroom” but I feel that it a risk willing to take.

 **10. Give an example of an iPad app besides QR code readers that is a "game changer" for what you may teach or work with on the iPad some day.**

The app that is my absolute “game changer” as an educator is Inspiration. As a student and soon to be educator, I often find myself planning, note taking, and writing my thoughts in list form. This app for the iPad takes what I do before creating something to the next level. As I create lesson plans, I am able to gather thoughts piece by piece. The app is used to create concept maps that become the preview of a future lesson. You can begin with an idea and branch off to other aspects and topics. I really enjoyed creating a concept map for a future lesson plan and know that this is a tool I can use now and in my future.

**11. Are traditional laptops / desktops obsolete in education with iPads, Chromebooks, etc. gaining popularity?  Explain your answer.**

I do not feel that traditional laptops and desktops are obsolete in education with the new popularity of iPads, Chromebooks etc. because these technologies have not been created to perform the same as traditional computers. New models of computers do not contain all the necessary bells and whistles that traditional computers do to successful learning online. New computers do not have disk drives and cannot upload documents like traditional computers can do. As a current student I would absolutely not be able to perform all of my online assignments and assessments with only the use of an iPad, therefore, laptops and desktops are not obsolete**.**

**12. When I refused to reveal my colleague's password to others within my department, there were lessons from a moral / ethical perspective, a technical perspective, and a personal perspective.  What was the most important "lesson" from that story to you, and why?**

I actually retold this story to a friend of mine because it was so interesting to me. I believe the most important part of the story moral/ethical perspective. I feel that the story was not complex but thoughtful. It takes a very strong person to stand up for what they believe in. I found it incredibly interesting that this message can be sent through the use of technology. It was about knowing the difference between what you feel is right and what you would want done to you if the tables were turned. It was definitely a powerful message of all three factors but the moral perspective stood out most to me.

 **13. (Full points awarded for this question, regardless of the response):  What would you like to learn MORE about during the last half of the course?**

I would like to learn more about specific apps on the iPad that would benefit teachers. Also I found creating a lesson plan to be very difficult most one of the most rewarding assignments given all semester. I would be interesting in learning more tools that are available to create realistic and successful lessons for my future classes. I also really enjoy the stories, I take notes on them and I know I will remember them when I am a teacher someday.