

Artifact 3: Reflection

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SPED 898: Masters Project

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Blended Learning Unit Reflection

Overview

This assignment's purpose was to create a learning unit that showed the educator's understanding of the various instructional approaches in education. The assignment had two parts: a written unit plan and a recorded presentation highlighting key points in the unit. This artifact includes an ELA unit for students in the middle school grades. This was a fun unit to create because it was over objectives that I was very familiar with and used materials that I had already used in my teaching for a couple of years. I enjoyed the opportunity to expand this unit by adding and changing parts to allow more students to access the material.

Revisions

The feedback on this artifact stated that it met all the objectives of the assignment. Dr. Brasseur-Hock stated that the unit's content, structure, and activities were clearly thought out. She also noted that the principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) were present. Based on the feedback, no revisions were made.

Reflection

As teachers in today's world, we are very reliant on the use of technology in the classroom. The use of technology has become even more prevalent since teaching during the year or so when the concerns of COVID-19 were at its peak. Being able to navigate technology and use it to reach students was a skill that teachers had to become masters at

very quickly. Digital platforms such as Google Classroom, Microsoft Office, and Seesaw became the primary way for students to access learning resources.

Today, these virtual platforms are still used in the classroom setting. The tools act as a way for students to turn in completed assignments, but also as a way for the teachers to collect data, monitor progress of learning, and offer their students feedback. These virtual platforms provide an opportunity for students to have a choice in how they access the lesson material and demonstrate their learning. I have found in my years of teaching that simply offering students choices in the academic, as well as social/behavioral skills, can lead to deeper learning and personal ownership of the lessons they encounter.