

Final Paper

The purpose of this exercise is for you to incorporate many of the concepts that we have covered in our class readings, discussions, exercises, and lectures into an integrated instructional plan that incorporates technology to teach a particular content area concept or skill (may be multiple concepts/skills). Ideally, this should be a more complex lesson, taking more than one class period to finish.

Your paper may be anywhere from 3-7 pages in length, double-spaced, with one-inch margins. It should contain the following sections:

1) Introduction

Describe what it is you will be teaching and the hardware/software used in the lesson. Why would computer technology be useful in helping students accomplish this exercise? (e.g. explain why students wouldn't be better off with paper, pencils, scissors) What technology standards will be met in this lesson? What other concepts/skills will be emphasized - math, speaking, writing, reading (be as specific as you can). Feel free to bring in any references to your readings in this section.

If possible, I would like you to base your lesson on an idea that you have found during the course of independent research (yes, you'll have to do some research on your own!). The activity does not need to be an exact copy, however. Go ahead and say in your introduction that "this activity was based on ... " Make sure to cite your article correctly at the end of your paper.

2) Preparation and planning

What skills will students need to have prior to doing this activity? What skills will need to be taught? What sort of pre-writing/pre-publishing activities will have to be accomplished before going to the computer lab. Will students work individually? In groups? How will you work with those students lacking necessary skills?

If working with images, where will students get these images? Will they be original digital photos? Original drawings that were scanned? Clipart? Images downloaded from the Internet?

How much class time and lab time will be needed to complete this activity? You might wish to use a chart to create a calendar showing what part of the lesson will be finished at a given day. For example:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Introduction to assignment. As homework, students will brainstorm possible newsletter ideas.	Working in groups of 4, students will decide on theme for newsletter and assign writing tasks.	Students will draft articles in the computer lab that will be used in the newsletter.	Peer editing in the classroom. Student groups will review articles and revise as necessary as homework.	Students will layout articles. Newsletters will be completed by Monday as weekend homework.

3) Assessment

Use tables to create a rubric for assessing this particular activity. Make sure to give proper weight to those aspects of the product that you wish to emphasize.

4) Sample

Create a sample that demonstrates to students what their final product may look like. You do not need to create the entire product. For example, for a four page newsletter, create a single page that they may reference. For a longer PowerPoint presentation, 2 or 3 slides might suffice.

5) Considerations

Use this section to comment on any other aspects of this particular activity that will need to be addressed in order to ensure student success. Where do you see problems cropping up as students work on their product - how will you resolve these problems?

This assignment is worth 100 points. The following rubric will be used as a basis for your score:

	Excellent (A to High B)	Satisfactory (B-C)	Unsatisfactory
Content (70)	<p>An excellent paper will bring in references to class readings in the introduction as a means to justify the use of technology within the assigned task. Content area concepts or skills will be clearly and thoroughly addressed. The idea for the activity will be researched and appropriately referenced.</p> <p>In the preparation and planning section, the writer will provide a comprehensive breakdown of the skills, tasks, and resources necessary for student success in the assigned activity. The schedule for completing the activity will be clear and thorough.</p> <p>In the assessment portion of the lesson, the provided rubric should assess both technical and content areas of the activity, respective to the technology being used, the content area in focused upon in the activity, and the students' grade level.</p>	<p>A satisfactory paper will use at least one reference to class readings in the introduction as a means to justify the use of technology within the assigned task. Content area concepts or skills will be clearly addressed, though perhaps not as thoroughly as possible. The idea for the activity will be researched and appropriately referenced.</p> <p>In the preparation and planning section, the writer will provide a breakdown of the skills, tasks, and resources necessary for student success in the assigned activity. The schedule for completing the activity will be clear and thorough.</p> <p>In the assessment portion of the lesson, the provided rubric should assess both technical and content areas of the activity, respective to the technology being used, the content area in focused upon in the activity, and the students' grade level. A satisfactory rubric may not be quite as thorough, or, perhaps may be inappropriate to students' grade levels or content being addressed.</p>	<p>An unsatisfactory paper uses no references to class readings in the introduction as a means to justify the use of technology within the assigned task. Content area concepts or skills may not be clearly addressed. The idea for the activity will not be based upon any prior research.</p> <p>In the preparation and planning section, the writer does not show knowledge of the breakdown of the skills, tasks, and resources necessary for student success in the assigned activity. The schedule for completing the activity may not be clear.</p> <p>In the assessment portion of the lesson, the provided rubric is incomplete or inappropriate for the students' grade levels or content areas.</p>
Sample (20)	<p>The sample provides sufficient and clear expectations of the final product. The sample provided should be that which would receive a superior grade.</p>	<p>The sample provides clear expectations of the final product. It may be somewhat insufficient in regards to the scope of the final product. The sample provided would be that which would receive an average or satisfactory score.</p>	<p>The sample provides insufficient and unclear expectations of the final product. The sample provided should be that which would receive an unsatisfactory grade.</p>
Mechanics (10)	<p>No significant spelling or grammatical errors. Proper citation of all references.</p>	<p>A few spelling and grammatical errors. May have one or two references within its citations.</p>	<p>Significant spelling or grammatical errors. Provides no citation of references.</p> <p>NOTE: those individuals receiving an unsatisfactory score in this area will be asked to resubmit their papers - no grade will be provided until a satisfactory copy is provided.</p>

