

Unit Objectives and Assignments (I wrote this unit with a computer classroom in mind):

- Work in a technologically enriched collaborative environment to produce an analysis of an educational website
- Utilize and familiarize students with wiki spaces and/or Google groups
- Produce a collaboratively written essay of up to but no longer than six pages
- Write an individual evaluation of the collaborative process, two to three pages long
- Employ analytical and evaluative skills while assessing a website

Readings/Texts:

- Joan Huntley and Joan Latchaw. "The Seven Cs of Interactive Design." *The Dialogic Classroom*. Eds. Jeff Galin and Joan Latchaw. Urbana: NCTE, 1998. pp. 106-131.
- Website of groups choosing

Class Schedule:

Week One

Day One

- Class Discussion of "The Seven C's of Interactive Design" by Huntley and Latchaw
- Instructor directed class analysis of Bowling Green State University Website based on the 7 C's
- Decide on groups and alert instructor of those groups

Homework: Individually peruse Internet for possible analysis subjects (what exact educational websites) and bring a short list, with URL addresses, to the next class meeting. Jot down preliminary notes about your initial reaction to the website and the Huntley and Latchaw article.

Day Two

- Meet in groups and present information about websites to other group members
- Decide on the website your group will evaluate and give the URL address to the instructor
- Set up Google document and/or wiki in which your group will communicate

Homework: Over the weekend communicate via your preferred technology about the website and your analysis. The communications should demonstrate the collaborative process, meaning that each of you are responsible for posting preliminary evaluations and responding to each other's ideas.

Week Two

Day One:

- Print the weekend's wiki and/or Google doc notes and hand them into the instructor
- Continue working on the website analysis
- Last fifteen minutes of class dedicated to self-reflection in which you are expected to write about one or all of the following (the exercise is meant to get you thinking about the next steps of the collaborative process as well as encourage thought about your own individual participation in the group):
 - Group dynamics
 - Revision ideas
 - Analysis strategies not yet discussed
 - Role of technology in collaboration

Day Two:

- Begin collaboratively drafting a rough version of the final essay
- Print and turn in the worked accomplished over the course of the period
- Spend last ten to fifteen minutes discussing how the group will proceed over the weekend and make a plan (One member of the group will be responsible for handing that plan into the instructor)

Homework: Proceed with the plan written during the class period and be prepared to share a brief five minute summary of your project's process with the rest of the class. Prepare rough draft of essay for class. Be ready to tell the class which website you are evaluating, which of the 7 C's you are focusing on, and what your preliminary evaluation (either positive or negative).

Week Three

Day One:

- Brief group presentations as outlined in the homework section above
- Print four copies of collaborative work and trade with another group
- Conduct peer review of rough draft

Homework: Via wiki and/or Google groups, discuss revision plans based on peer review feedback and begin revising essay.

Day Two:

- Print and hand in the conversation from homework assignment
- Work on revision of essay
- Spend last ten minutes dedicated on self-reflection in which you are expected to write about one or all of the following (the exercise is meant to continue your thinking about the next steps of the collaborative process as well as encourage thought about your own individual participation in the group. Think of these

exercises as preparation and drafting of the individual response component of the assignment):

- Group dynamics
- Revision ideas
- Analysis strategies not yet discussed
- Role of technology in collaboration

Homework: Work at your own discretion on both the collaborative assignment and your own individual reflective essay.

Week Four

Day One:

- Each of the four groups will meet with me for fifteen minutes to go over the work accomplished thus far as well as giving the instructor time for directive feedback
- While not working directly with the instructor each group must work at its own discretion on the collaborative assignment

Homework: Finish the collaborative essay and the narrative self-reflection. Be prepared to give a brief 5-8 minute informal overview of the group's project. Present the website and explain some of the decisions the group came to.

Day Two:

- Give brief presentation
- Finish any last minute work on reflective and analytical essays
- Turn in the collaborative essay assignment as well as the narrative self-reflection (if finished)

By noon on Saturday, make sure that the instructor is in possession of both the narrative self-reflection and the group essay.