Transparency in Online Assessment Design

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Overview

This session will provide an introduction to designing transparent learning experiences and examples of online assessments along with information on contemporary research-based initiatives and resources.
Agenda

- What is transparency?
- What does the research say?
- How does this relate to online assignment design?
- What does it “look” like?
- What resources are out there to help me design with transparency in mind?
What does the research say?

- Dr. Mary Ann Winkelmes
- The Study
What is transparency?

- The Transparency in Learning and Teaching Project (TILT)
  - https://www.unlv.edu/provost/teachingandlearning

- The Framework
  - **Purpose** - rationale, connections to real world, emphasis on knowledge & skills (objectives)
  - **Task** - expectations for what and how, focus on task at hand
  - **Criteria** - checklist of expectations, examples, rubrics
    - https://www.unlv.edu/provost/transparency/tilt-higher-ed-examples-and-resources
Methods to Increase Transparency

Methods Relate to Online Learning
How does this relate to online assignment design?

- Objectives
- Authenticity
- Text-based / Asynchronous
- Front loaded planning and continuous improvement
- Criteria for success connects directly to rubric tools in LMS
What does it “look” like?

- **TD Template**
- Customization capabilities
- Focus on authenticity and clear expectations
Examples: Before & After

Transitioning to Transparency
Examples

Case Study Critique

What problem(s) will this help me solve when I am a counselor?

Counselors in the field must be able to utilize resources to continuously develop as professionals. Part of being able to use resources to your greatest benefit is being able to critically evaluate them to both critique and gain knowledge on the topic. In addition, by studying resources within the case studies, you will be exposed to ways in which other professionals have approached and applied these developmental concepts. This will expand your awareness of the availability of resources and provide you with a foundation from which to plan your own studies in your future role.

Purpose:
The purpose of this assignment is to demonstrate your knowledge of the foundational concepts of human growth and development through the analysis and evaluation of case studies from the field. You will have the opportunity to practice your skills in identifying the foundational concepts and applying knowledge to demonstrate the application of relevant theories and concepts. By critiquing a case study, you will have the chance to demonstrate your ability to apply what you have learned throughout this course to construct a professional critique that is supported by scholarly research / literature.

Tasks:
1. Review one of the case studies included in Module 7.
2. Critique the study. Your critique must include:
   - Comments on the author’s discussion of physical, cognitive, social, and emotional/mental development. What is the author’s perspective on these areas of development? Does it seem that many developmental issues are emphasized over others? Does the author discuss factors that influence development or lack thereof?
   - Note the references to theories / theorists. Does the author reference major theories / theorists in an appropriate manner? Provide justification for your opinion here.
   - What impressed you with the study? Provide enough depth to give a clear view into your perspective.
   - What would you like to add or change? What would you like to see added? Left out? Provide enough depth to allow your reader to understand why you would have liked to see the inclusion / omissions.
   - What did you gain from this case study that you could use in doing your own case study / future research? What educational implications are significant to this case study? Provide enough depth to appropriately address both of these prompts.

3. Your critique must also include scholarly support for your comments and discussion. You must include at least 3 peer-reviewed, scholarly sources within your critique that help you support and “defend” your critique of the case study. These can be peer-reviewed articles or empirical studies.

Functional tips for writing it all up:
- No more than 5 paragraphs. Utilize APA as needed (in-text citations, reference entries, etc.)
- Do not attach a separate document. Post directly on the discussion board.
- Organize your critique in a logical, professional manner:
  - Introduce reference entries at the bottom of your post.
- Post your critique to the discussion board.
- Find two classmates who reviewed case studies that were different from your own.
- Reply to their threads with a response that includes:
  - Information on what you learned from their critique
  - Something that you would like to know more about in relation to their critique
  - One or more resources (be NOT have to be scholarly, but can be) that might help them based on their critique.

Criteria for success:
Rubric Case Study Critique BB.pdf
Examples

**Instructions for Introduction FlipGrid**

What problem(s) will this assignment help me solve when I am in my future role?

As a professional, whether online or in a face to face interaction, you must make choices in how to best introduce yourself and participate in discussions to make a good, professional impression. Interacting here allows you to practice in a “safe” setting.

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this assignment is to introduce yourself to the class and to meet and engage with others in the course by discussing yourself and the connection between your future role and your strengths and needs for improvement in the necessary skills. This assignment allows you to practice your **skills** in discussion and networking with peers while gaining **knowledge** on issues that face professionals in different aspects in education.

**Task:**

To complete this assignment, you should introduce yourself to your classmates. Your introduction should include:

- Your **name** (if you go by something different than your legal name, let us know!)
- Some brief info about your **background** (whatever you’d like to share)
- The **degree / program** you are in and your future **career goals**
- A brief statement or two about what area of human growth development you think has the most impact on your future role and why. (For example, if you are going to be a school counselor in public schools, you might think that learning about behavioral development will influence your role.) Don’t worry—we know you are here to learn about human growth and development, so we don’t expect you to have a thorough response here. We just want you to start thinking about how the educational implications of development relate to your future (and current) role and be able to make an “argument” as to the importance of understanding development.
- Identify one or two of your “key strengths” as a **student**. For example, “I am very good at APA format.” or “I am a strong writer.”
- Identify one or two of your “areas for improvement” as a **student**. For example, “I have difficulty organizing my writing.” or “I am unfamiliar with classroom teaching.”
- You will be using **Flipgrid**, a video medium, to professionally present yourself. By professionally present, we mean that, visually, your **dress** and **conduct** are professional quality and that your video is set in a visually appealing and professional environment and is of high quality with little outside noise or distraction—think of the type of video that would be appropriate for inclusion in your school’s or organization’s website or social media page, faculty page, parent newsletter, etc. We must be able to see you clearly and see evidence that the video would be appropriate for use in the educational setting.
- You will record your response using FlipGrid and post to your Instructor’s grid. Videos should be between 2 minutes 45 seconds and 3 minutes long. Review the rubric for further details on time requirements.
- Review the rubric for further details on how your FlipGrid introduction will be evaluated. Pay close attention to each criteria’s requirements and strive for Level 4 work. Within this module, you will also find further instructions and helpful tutorials for working with FlipGrid.
Examples

More examples from practice...
What resources are out there to help me design with transparency in mind?

- [https://www.unlv.edu/provost/transparency/tilt-higher-ed-examples-and-resources](https://www.unlv.edu/provost/transparency/tilt-higher-ed-examples-and-resources)
- [https://tilthighered.com/](https://tilthighered.com/)
- Sign Up to Participate
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