Bolstering Your Teaching With a Reflective Teaching Practice

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Reflective teaching means looking at what you do in the classroom, thinking about why you do it, and thinking about if it works - a process of self-observation and self-evaluation.
Deeper understanding of your own styles, beliefs, and identities help you better understand your role as a teacher.

Why should I add teacher reflection to my practice?
What reflective teachers do...

Dedicate time

Consider Pedagogy

Specific Teaching Decisions

Analyze Teaching

Approach Tasks and Challenges
Reflective teaching allows an educator to look at what is being taught, how he/she is teaching it and what the outcome of the lessons are.
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<td>Critical reflection</td>
<td>The social, moral and political dimensions of schooling</td>
<td>Judging the goals and purposes of schooling in light of ethical criteria such as social justice and equality of opportunity</td>
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How do I start a reflective practice?
DMS Course Reflection

- **Weekly**
  - Instructor-based
  - Timely

- **End-of-Semester**
  - Faculty-based
  - Evidenced-based

- **Annually**
  - COI-based
  - Accreditation/Practice Standards

### End-of-Semester Checklist and Reflection

**Course:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dated Materials: Removed/Edited/Replaced</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gradebook Downloaded:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grades Recorded in PS:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Archived:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course/Instructor Evaluations &amp; Comments:</td>
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<td>Changes/Suggestions for Next Year:</td>
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COPH Course Review Reflection

• Type of Reflection:
  • On-action reflection
  • Deliberative reflection

• Guided Reflection:
  • Course Design
  • Course Delivery
  • Course Evaluations

• Optional Guided Reflection:
  • Teaching
  • Interactions
Teaching Journals

• Type of Reflections:
  • In and On-action reflection
  • Deliberative reflection
  • Technical reflection
  • Personalistic reflection
  • Critical reflection

• Types of Journals:
  • Journals
  • Spiral notebooks
  • Post it notes or scraps of paper
  • 3 ring binders
  • MS Word
  • Penzu and other journaling software
  • Rocket book and other E-Notebooks (pen to computer)
Guided Reflection

- Is expressive and contains “I” statements
- Is descriptive
- Uses prompts to elicit reflection
- Can follow a reflection guide
- Answers predetermined questions
Guided Reflection

Select 1-2 course or optional teaching reflection question prompts and focus on a course that you are teaching or have recently taught when answering the questions.

Course/Student Evaluation Reflection Questions
• What seems to be the strengths of this course?
• What do student course evaluations consistently say about this course? Positive? Negative?
• What seems to be the weaknesses of this course? According to you? According to student evaluations?
• Are there positive/negative comments that students make over and over again in the course comments?
• Have you taken steps to address those negative evaluation scores/comments? What did/will you do? Did it work? How do you know?
• One thing I am especially proud of in this course is…

Optional reflection questions
• What seems to be your strengths as a teacher in this course?
• What do student course/teacher evaluations consistently say about your teaching? Positive? Negative?
• What seems to be your strengths/weaknesses as a teacher in this class? According to you? According to your student evaluations?
• Have you taken steps to address those negative evaluation scores/comments? What did/will you do? Did it work? How do you know?
• One thing I am especially proud of as a teacher in this course is…
Non Guided Reflection

- Is expressive and contains “I” statements
- It is descriptive
- Can be timed
- Can use page limits to define
- Utilizes freestyle writing
- Use lists & bullet points
- Can start with one topic and end up with different topic
Non-Guided Reflection

- Take 3 minutes to reflect on your teaching or course.
Other Reflective Activities

- Teaching inventories
- Rubrics
- Peer review
- Teaching philosophy
- Video/Audio recordings
“We do not learn from experience... we learn from reflecting on experience.”

- John Dewey
Questions?

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