

Reflective Activity: Reflective Journaling for Instructor

Activity Description

After each class I teach, I take five minutes to answer several prompts briefly and assign a letter grade to several different aspects of the class session I taught. Here are the prompts:

- 1) What went well?
- 2) What didn't and why?
- 3) What new ideas do you have for next time?
- 4) Assign: a letter grade on the effectiveness of each of the following:
 - a) your preparation
 - b) time management and pacing
 - c) specific examples/activities/lecture
 - d) student engagement

Preparation, Handouts, Resources

I have a teaching journal available to me at my office for writing down responses to these prompts. Otherwise, there isn't much preparation at all (just thoughtful reflection immediately after class ends).

Learning Goals

(For me) to learn what needs to be changed the next time I teach a particular topic, and what I should continue doing for effective teaching

Challenges/Obstacles

Not really--it's a pretty simple task.

Recommendations

It only takes a few minutes, and it helps clarify my own thinking towards productive solutions, especially after a class session that might not have gone as well as I would have liked. It allows me to learn from every class I teach so that I can continue to improve my teaching.

Tool Contributor

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