CM220 SAMPLE DISCUSSION POST: 
UNIT 9

Please note that this is a sample Discussion post to help inspire and guide your own original writing of the Assignment. Your Assignment does not need to look exactly like the sample, as this sample is just a possible response to the Assignment prompt. Be sure to review the Reading and grading rubric, complete each task in the instructions, and contact the instructor with any questions.

DISCUSSION POST:

My plan for the digital media Assignment is to develop a PowerPoint presentation that I would show to the San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD) school board; I want to convince them of the benefits of providing students with tablets so that students can learn anytime, anywhere. I will support this argument through statistics showing the lower graduation rate and test scores in this school district and examples of districts that have used tablets and the flipped classroom model to improve student learning.

Since my audience will be made up of educators and elected officials, my presentation will need to be professional looking (no cartoony clip-art, for example). I found a chalkboard-style PowerPoint template online that I felt would go well with the educational theme, and I also used Jing to capture screen shots of several charts and then cropped those images using Windows photo viewer. I also tried to follow the design tips covered in the “Power Point Basics” workshop (Hood, 2012), which addressed things like font size and color to make the text visible.

The draft of my PowerPoint presentation is attached for your review.

References


Hi Steve,

The draft of your presentation looks great! I like the way you start slides that show the problems with lower ratings and scores in your area, and you also note challenges to your argument, which makes you more credible. The plan of action slide lays out your argument, although I
would emphasize on slide 5 that you want to combine tablet technology with innovative pedagogical approaches like the “flipped classroom” to make the argument even more clear.

The text and visuals go together well, and I like the use of short titles as transitions from one slide to the next. As for the audience, if your main audience is the school board, you really need to address cost since that will be a primary concern. You mention partnerships on slide 11, but I am guessing the audience will want to know how much they will have to spend on this.

The layout of your presentation is definitely its strength. The images you included are really clear and stand out nicely against the green background. I did notice that the early slides are mainly images and the last 4 slides are all text; is there a way you could integrate some images on those slides or change the slide order so that the presentation isn’t image-heavy up front and text-heavy in the last part? I think images of students bent over tablets, hard at work, as well as images of classrooms with students engaged with teachers or in group work situations could help to reinforce your point that technology will build community as opposed to isolating students.

To generate interest in this presentation outside of class, maybe you could turn this presentation into a video that you could then post on your Facebook page or perhaps YouTube. The PSA reading in this week’s Learning Activities might have some ideas that will help you to think about reaching a wider audience.

Kelly