

Blog Topics
EDM 310 Fall 2008
Dr. John Strange
Revised (Dates Only) 8/24/08

The date shown is the last date for you to post to your blog for the specified week. Remember, late posts are penalized and I can see the exact time every post was made! You MUST spell check your posts and your grammar should be correct. Bad spelling and bad grammar will result in a loss of points. Also use quotation marks and citations properly in all posts.

Blog Posts Due by Midnight:

Friday August 22, 2008: In your post, tell the other members of the class enough about you so that they will begin to know whom you are, your interests, why you are at South, and anything else that you think might interest your classmates.

Monday August 25 [ATQS (5)(c) 3.(i)]: Review the current and emerging state initiatives and programs including, but not limited to, Alabama Learning Exchange (ALEX) and the Alabama Connecting Classroom, Educators and Students Statewide (ACCESS) program and their relationship to student achievement.

Start by doing a search in Google. Examine the material that is available at <http://alex.state.al.us> Read the materials provided. For the blog post due June 7, write two or more paragraphs in which you describe ALEX and the resources available to teachers well enough so that someone unfamiliar with ALEX would understand what it is and how it works. Then provide the reader with your thoughts as to the usefulness of ALEX to you when you begin teaching.

Thursday August 28 [ATQS (5)(c) 3.(i)]: Search the web for information about the Alabama Connecting Classroom, Educators and Students Statewide (ACCESS) program. In addition, go to:

<http://accessdl.state.al.us/>

Thoroughly review this entire site.

Download and review the PowerPoint presentation available (The link is called ACCESS Presentation (ppt)) at: <http://accessdl.state.al.us/showaccess.php?lnk=aboutaccess>

Following the same model you used to write about ALEX, discuss the Alabama Connecting Classroom, Educators and Students Statewide (ACCESS) program.

Monday September 1 [ATQS (3)(c) 1.(iii); (3)(c) 4.(i); (3)(c) 4.(ii)]: Go to <http://thefischbowl.blogspot.com/2007/06/did-you-know-20.html>

Scroll down until you see the start of the movie. Watch the ENTIRE Movie

Write two or more paragraphs about your reaction to this presentation as your first post for this week to your blog.

Thursday September 4 [ATQS (3)(c) 1.(iii); (3)(c) 4.(i); (3)(c) 4.(ii)]: Search the web for at least two examples in the United States of schools or teachers using blogs in K-12 classrooms. Review at least two sites that you find and write a paragraph on each that gives the other students a sense of how blogs are being used in the examples that you find. For example, if you find a school in Minnesota that is using blogs, summarize their use in five or six sentences. Do the same for another example. Include in your post links that work to the sites that you find. Also post a picture (of the school, teacher, or some picture used on the site) for each example about which you write.

Monday September 8: Search the web for at least two INTERNATIONAL schools or teachers using blogs in K-12 classrooms. Write a summary for each site in the same manner that you used for June 19. Include in your post links that work to the sites that you find. Also post a picture (of the school, teacher, or some picture used on the site) for each example about which you write.

Thursday September 11 [ATQS (3)(c) 1.(iii); (3)(c) 4.(i); (3)(c) 4.(ii)]: On the class blog you will find a link to the Fischbowl. Karl Fisch, a teacher and technology education specialist at Arapahoe High School in Littleton, Colorado, writes this blog. Explore this blog. The post for January 5, 2008 is a list of the “Best (?) of the Fischbowl 2007”. Scroll down until you find September. Click on the link to the best blog of September. This is a shortcut to the post you should in its entirety (including updates): <http://thefischbowl.blogspot.com/2007/09/is-it-okay-to-be-technologically.html> Write your response (at least two paragraphs) as your post to your blog for June 26.

Monday September 15 [ATQS (3)(c) 1.(iii); (3)(c) 4.(i); (3)(c) 4.(ii): Return to the “Best (?) of the Fischbowl 2007.]: This is the direct link to the Best of 2007: <http://thefischbowl.blogspot.com/2008/01/best-of-fischbowl-2007.html> Select a month other than September 2007. Read it in its entirety (including updates). Write your response (at least two paragraphs) as your post for this week to your blog.

Thursday September 18 [ATQS (3)(c) 1.(iii); (3)(c) 4.(i); (3)(c) 4.(ii)]: Read the [NPR blog on Wikipedia.](http://www.npr.org/blogs/news/2007/08/whos_been_messin_with_my_wikip.html) (http://www.npr.org/blogs/news/2007/08/whos_been_messin_with_my_wikip.html)

Also read the [NPR article on Wikipedia.](http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=12823729)

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=12823729>

Then listen to the NPR Podcast on Wikipedia by clicking on the LISTEN button on the NPR article page.

Next read the [WIRED story](http://www.wired.com/politics/onlinerrights/news/2007/08/wiki_tracker?currentPage=all)

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about Virgil Griffith, Wikipedia Scanner, and the changes made to Wikipedia by Diebold, a leading maker of voting machines, the FBI, Walmart, and a variety of politicians. Learn how you can find out who is changing Wikipedia and how the fact that anyone can change Wikipedia (and often does) affects the reliability of Wikipedia. Write a paragraph or two about how and when (if ever) Wikipedia can be a trusted source of information.

Monday September 22 [ATQS (3)(c) 1.(iii); (3)(c) 4.(i); (3)(c) 4.(ii)]: Go to <http://www.alicechristie.org/>

Explore this entire site. Select one part of Dr. Christie's site (other than the spreadsheets) and write two paragraphs about how it could be useful to you as a teacher.

Thursday September 25 [ATQS (3)(c) 1.(iii); (3)(c) 4.(i); (3)(c) 4.(ii)]: Search the web for suggestions or experiences in using iPods in instruction. Be sure you find reports about Duke University's use of iPods in doing this assignment. Post a two paragraph (or longer) summary of what you find and provide a link to at least one useful site.

Monday September 29 [ATQS (3)(c) 1.(iii); (3)(c) 4.(i); (3)(c) 4.(ii)]: Find out all you can about iTunes University. Write two or three paragraphs about how iTunes University might be of help to you as a student or a teacher. Include appropriate links.

Additional assignments will be available in mid-September covering October 3 through November 24.

The last post you will have to make is the following:

No post due on Monday December 1 BUT THERE ARE TWO POSTS DUE ON Wednesday December 3 which MUST BE MADE if you want a grade in this course:

1. Think about the many things we covered in class. Did you learn anything in this class this semester? If so, list what you learned and comment about it if appropriate. List as many things as you can think of. If you did not learn anything from this class, say so. I hope, however, that was not the case.

2. Are there things you would like to have learned in this class but did not?

3. Create a second post titled: My EDM 310 Blog Assignments are Now Complete. In the message area, write a brief note to your fellow classmates.