

Blog Topics Part 1
EDM 310 Fall 2009
Instructor: Stephen M. Sullivan

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! It is fine if you post early!

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. Do not get a comment from me that says: Unacceptable because of spelling, writing or grammar!

You must make posts every week to your blog as specified below. I suggest that you set two separate days on which to do your posts. You can do them all on one day, but it is better not to get behind. Your grade will be reduced if you do not make all of your posts on time. **DO NOT BE LATE WITH YOUR POSTS!**

Blog Posts Due by Sunday Midnight:

August 23, 2009

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

Go to

2. Did You Know? 3.0

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jpEnFwiqdx8>

Watch the ENTIRE Movie. Write two or more paragraphs about your reaction to this presentation.

3. Sir Ken Robinson: The Importance of Creativity

<http://tinyurl.com/mluw5k>

Watch the entire talk. Think about what you have heard. Write two or more paragraphs about your reaction to this presentation. This presentation is on the TEDS website. Look around. It is filled with a lot of wonderful teaching materials.

4. Vicki Davis: Harness Your Students' Digital Smarts <http://bit.ly/151RkU>

Watch the movie. Think about what you have heard and seen. Write two or more paragraphs about your reaction to this video. This video is on the edutopia.org website. Look around. It is filled with a lot of wonderful teaching materials.

You probably do not realize it, but all three links for this week have been shortened using 3 different tools. We will discuss these tools in class this week.

August 30, 2009

This assignment is designed to familiarize you with different approaches that are taken to podcasts. It is in 4 parts. What I want you to do is to listen to about 10 minutes or so of each of these podcasts and to think about how they are done. Write up your notes and post them to your blog in at least 4 substantive paragraphs. I have selected 6 podcasts. If you wish to substitute others, you may do so. If you do make substitutions, make clear what they are and where they can be found.

SmartBoard Lessons Podcast

KidCast

ConnectLearning One of these Episodes 90, 91, 92 (unnumbered), or 96

EdTechtalk

MacBreak Weekly

This Week in Photography

For more podcasts from which to choose, go to <http://tinyurl.com/n7cydh> or select others from iTunes

Not familiar with iTunes? Follow the instructions below or watch a short video at <http://is.gd/2c3RH> on iTunesU which should help you find material. I may also have a video on the class blog which will show me finding podcasts on iTunes.

Here is how to find and use the Podcasts:

I strongly suggest that you **subscribe** to the podcasts you will listen to. When you subscribe to a podcast the audio is downloaded to your computer. This enables you to use the “scrub” bar on the audio track to quickly move to various parts of the podcast. It takes a minute or two to download the audio file but it is much easier to use after it is downloaded. You can always throw it away (and the end subscription in iTunes). In iTunes, select it and hit delete key on a Mac or the backspace key on a windows device.

Open iTunes

Click on iTunes Store

For the first four podcasts I have suggested above in the list above, under iTunesStore click on Education. Then under More

Education click on K-12. In the big middle panel you will find an icon for SmartBoard Lessons. Click on it.

The remaining four can be found (in order) under Listeners Also Subscribed To. So go to SmartBoard lessons, dabble around and listen for at least 10 minutes. Remember that you can move the “player head” anywhere you want so that you can move around in the podcast quite easily. Then go to KidCast. Do the same. Then go to Connect Learning. Do the same. Then go to EdTechTalk. After you have finished with the Education Podcasts, in the upper right search for MacBreak Weekly. Listen to the podcast (again, move around in it to get a flavor how it is done). Then search for This Week in Photography. Do the same. You **MUST** listen to these Podcasts so that you can be a better Podcaster yourself. If you are not doing a Podcast you will have a better understanding of how podcasts are done.

September 6, 2009

1. Go to the blog for the Podcasts done by students in last semester's EDM 310 classes at <http://edm310podcasts.blogspot.com> Watch the videocast that has a link in the top post. Wait a minute or so to allow some of the video to load. Then play the video. As you watch, think about what would have made this videocast better. You will be doing a podcast/videocast soon. It will also be available to the world. Think about how to make your podcast better than the videocast you just watched. Write two or more paragraphs identifying improvements that you will try and introduce into your podcast/videocast.

2. Here are some other resources to prepare you for your podcast. Select at least one of the following and write two or more paragraphs describing what you have learned from reviewing these materials:

<http://langwitches.org/blog/category/podcasting/>

<http://is.gd/2cd2l>

<http://practicalprincipals.net/>

<http://is.gd/2cdc6> Go to the second section from the top where you will find a section called Podcasts and More listing 14 podcasts or tools for podcasters. Also, in the section on Training, see items 28 and 29 which will help you prepare for your podcast and use the podcasts of others.

<http://epnweb.org/index.php?openpod=16> The Education Podcasting Network

http://www.curriki.org/xwiki/bin/view/Coll_jpsrolls/PodcastCollection Judy Scharf Podcast Collection including a lot of information on how to do your own podcast.

http://blog.woodward.edu/ps_edmison/?cat=103 Eagle Nest Radio & Class Blog (3rd Grade Podcasts)

3. <http://is.gd/2bYd6> **Next Generation Learning**

Watch the movie. Think about what you have heard and seen. Write two or more paragraphs about your reaction to this video. This video is on the <http://techliterateteacher.blogspot.com> blog. I keep materials dealing with the future of learning there. You should visit it frequently to see what I have added.

September 13, 2009

1. Go to <http://is.gd/2c0V0> **Michael Wesch: A Vision of Students Today**

Watch the movie. Think about what you have heard and seen. Write two or more paragraphs about your reaction to this video. Does this movie capture your college experience or have your experiences been different? If so, how? What could you ADD to the movie to make it more accurately represent your experiences. Think like a video producer/director when you answer this question.

This video is a product of Kansas State University. You can find more about the work being done at KSU by visiting this website which will enlighten you about YouTube if you are interested: <http://mediatedcultures.net/ksudigg/>

2. Read the post "**It's Not About the Technology**" by **Kelly Hines** at

<http://www.eduratiereview.com/2009/04/its-not-about-technology.html>

Read the comments that have been left for this post. In two or three paragraphs comment on Mrs. Hines' post. Be sure you leave a comment for Mrs. Hines. I suggest you say that you have read her post as part of an assignment for Dr. Strange's EDM 310 class and that your comments can be found on your class blog. Then give the URL for your class blog.

3. Go to <http://techliterateteacher.wikispaces.com> Wiki Hosted by John Strange: Who Is A Technologically Literate Teacher? Read the ideas that have been added to this wiki. Make any additions to the wiki that you care to. The instructions are on the first page of the wiki (which cannot be changed).

4. Go to: <http://thefischbowl.blogspot.com/2007/09/is-it-okay-to-be-technologically.html> Karl Fisch: Is It Okay to Be A Technologically Illiterate Teacher?

This is a 2007 post of the blog Fischbowl. Karl Fisch, a teacher and technology education specialist at Arapahoe High School in Littleton, Colorado, writes this blog. You should explore this blog. You will learn a lot by doing so!

Write your response (at least two paragraphs) to Mr. Fisch's post.

Go back to Mr. Fisch's post and leave a comment for him which includes:

- a. That you have read his post as a requirement for my course. Include your reactions to his post. THINK about what you say. Leave a method of contact for him to contact you including your class blog and your Twitter name if you are using Twitter.
- b. Thank him for sharing his thoughts (in your own words)

September 20, 2009

1: Watch <http://tinyurl.com/mvy4oq> Randy Pausch's Last Lecture. Think about the teaching methods he advocated and used at MIT. Identify and comment on those techniques in a blog post of at least 4 substantive paragraphs. NOTE: This lecture is over 1 hour long. It is well worth the time and this assignment is REQUIRED (as are all blog assignments).

September 27, 2009

1. Read the [NPR blog on Wikipedia.](#)

2. Also read the [NPR article on Wikipedia.](#)

<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.

3. Next read the [WIRED story](#) 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.

4. Go to <http://is.gd/2c0l2>

Read the post for May 27, 2009 titled "**What I've Learned This Year**" by Mr. McClung.

Think about what he has to say and what you learn from his essay. Summarize his comments and explain your reactions to his comments in a post to your blog.

Go back to his post and leave a comment for him which includes:

a. That you have read his post as a requirement for my course. Include your reactions to his post.

THINK about what you say. Leave a method of contact for him to contact you including your class blog and your Twitter name if you are using Twitter.

b. Thank him for sharing his thoughts on teaching (in your own words)

This post is part of a series of posts at the blog

<http://attheteachersdesk.blogspot.com> You should regularly visit this blog. It will help you complete several of your projects to stay connected to this blog and the people who contribute to it. It is a critical part of my (Dr. Strange) Personal Learning Network (or Community)

October 4, 2009

1. Explore this entire site: <http://www.alicechristie.org/>

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.

2. 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. For an introduction to iTunesU watch: <http://is.gd/2c3RH>

3. 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. Several of the sites mentioned in earlier assignments would be of great use to you in this assignment. Go back and take a look!

October 11, 2009

1. **Watch Richard Miller: This Is How We Dream Parts 1 and 2** <http://is.gd/2cfNk>

Watch the movie. Think about what you have heard and seen. Write three or more paragraphs about your reaction to this video. Are you prepared to write with multimedia? Will your students be able to do this?

2. **Watch The Networked Student by Wendy Drexler:** <http://is.gd/2cgBb>

Watch the movie. Think about what you have heard and seen. **Listen and watch very carefully**

when the question is asked "Why does the networked student even need a teacher?" Write three or more paragraphs about your reaction to this video. Are you prepared to be a teacher of a networked student? Note that Ms. Drexler left a comment and indicated that she will probably try this with middle school students this fall. Are you ready? You might want to check out her blog: <http://is.gd/2ciGF>. Don't forget to leave her a comment if you visit her blog. She knows that I have made this assignment. (Part of my PLN)! I have asked her to comment on some of your posts.

3. Watch The New Media Literacies by the NML Staff

<http://www.youtube.com/user/NMLstaff08>

The New Media Skills covered in this video are:

judgement
negotiation
appropriation
play
transmedia navigation
simulation
collective intelligence
performance
distributed cognition
visualization
multitasking

In your post answer these questions: What do you think of them? Are they really the 21st century skills that will be needed to be effective artists, citizens, workers? How many of these skills do you possess? Which ones? How will you acquire the others? Make any other comments you wish to make.

4. See what you can find out about the New Media Literacies Project. Write 2-3 paragraphs about what you find.

A separate assignment sheet will be issued for the remainder of the semester. It will be available October 5.