

**Blog Topics
Summer 2007
EDM 310
Dr. John Strange**

Week 1 (May 31 – June 5) ATQS (5)(c) 3.(i) Search the web for information about the Alabama Learning Exchange (ALEX). Examine the material that is available at <http://alex.state.al.us>

Write two paragraphs describing ALEX and the resources available to teachers.

Make a second post for Week 1 describing, in two or more paragraphs, how you might make use of ALEX in your classroom when you begin to teach.

Week 2 (June 6– June 12) ATQS (5)(c) 3.(i): Search the web for information about the Alabama Connecting Classroom, Educators and Students Statewide (ACCESS) program. Download and review the PowerPoint presentation available at: <http://accessdl.state.al.us/>

Write at post of at least two paragraphs summarizing ACCESS and the resources available to teachers.

Week 3 (June 13 – June 19) 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.

Week 3 Part 2: 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 Week 5. 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.

Week 4 (June 20 – June 26) ATQS (3)(c) 1.(iii); (3)(c) 4.(i); (3)(c) 4.(ii): Search the world wide web for references to Seymour Papert. Try to determine what he is currently doing with technology and education. Write a post of at least two paragraphs summarizing what you find and provide a link to at least one useful site.

Week 4, Part 2 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. Post a two paragraph (or longer) summary of what you find and provide a link to at least one useful site.

In addition, comment on at least one post by a member of your class.

Week 5 (June 27 – July 3) ATQS (3)(c) 1.(iii); (3)(c) 4.(i); (3)(c) 4.(ii): Search the web for suggestions about how to use spreadsheets in classroom instruction. Write a two paragraph summary of what you find and provide a link to at least one useful site.

In addition, comment on at least one post by a member of your class.

Week 6 (July 5 – July 11) ATQS (3)(c) 1.(iii); (3)(c) 4.(i); (3)(c) 4.(ii): Go to the home page for your class. You are assigned to review the web site of the student to your right (next in line alphabetically). If you are the last student pictured, review the web site of the first person pictured. Carefully examine his or her site. Is it complete? Sample the buttons (at least three on every page). Do they work? Look at the code in Firefox. Do you find any “red” warnings? (Ignore warnings caused by a period at the end of an ALT tag.) What suggestions do you have to improve the site? When you have completed the review, leave a comment on the blog of the person whose blog you are reviewing that you have reviewed his or her blog. Include a link to your blog in your comment.

Week 7 (July 12 – July 18) ATQS (3)(c) 1.(iii); (3)(c) 4.(i); (3)(c) 4.(ii): Create a link to your web site. Describe your web site. Indicate whether you have completed it or are still making corrections. Discuss what you would like to do to improve your web site if you had additional time and or knowledge.

In a separate post, think carefully about blogs. Identify how the blog experience has been useful to you. Are there any drawbacks to using blogs in a class? How would you (or would you) use blogs in a class you might teach?

Week 8 (July 19): Make a list of things you have learned in this class and post the list to your blog. Then, in a separate post, Indicate that your blog is now complete and has been closed.