

Course Assignment 1

I. My philosophy on learning is based on my undergraduate study of anthropology. I firmly believe that people must learn how to survive in the world around them, and the best way they can do this is by having an interactive education where they learn from the instructor and fellow students.

Websites that support my philosophy:

1. John Dewey's philosophy - <http://wilderdom.com/experiential/SummaryJohnDeweyExperienceEducation.html>
2. Jonathan Kozol's Philosophy - <http://www.newfoundations.com/GALLERY/Kozol.html>
3. Lev Vygotsky's Social Development Theory - <http://www.learning-theories.com/vygotskys-social-learning-theory.html>

II. Where I was born:

http://www.njslom.org/NJ_State_Capital-1.jpg



I was born in Glen Ridge, NJ, a suburb of New York City. The New Jersey State House, located in Trenton, NJ, is unlike most other state capitols because it is not designed like the United States Capitol. Instead it is designed in an H-shape with a gold dome, and a long wing that heads towards the Delaware River. There are several additions at the back of the building that do not prescribe to a continuous architectural design. Currently there are 8,707,739 people living in the state, though the state is only 8,729 sq. miles, making it the most densely populated state in the union.

III. The number of cars parked in the parking lot just north of Pearson Hall the last time a picture was taken on Google Earth is 36.

IV. Mi deporte favorito es el baloncesto. Mi película favorita es The Shawshank Redemption y no tengo un actor favorito.

V. My friend Jim's house is located on a block in Norfolk, VA, that has 24 houses on it. His house is located 36°53'08.21"N, 76°17'03.51"W.

Answers to General Questions

1. I created a basic website for the University of Maryland drumline when the main site went down. To create this site I had to teach myself basic HTML. The site is no longer up, so I cannot link to the page.
2. I used technology in my 3rd grade classroom several times. I used PowerPoint slideshows to explain and go over the rules of the state mandated test. I also taught some of my students how to create a PowerPoint slideshow so they could create one for their project on the Aztecs. I used online videos to show my class the BP oil spill as it was happening and showed them how to find quality video on the web. The school that I worked at was regrettably not hooked up with Smart or Promethean boards, which is a technology I really wish to learn how to use.
3. I have used PowerPoint and spreadsheets (mainly Excel), but not databases.
4. In high school I learned how to use Macromedia Director (which I believe is now obsolete) and Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. I have sometimes used Adobe Photoshop to create fliers. The school's website was built through Tron, and since I was the 3rd grade team's webmaster, I have had experience with Tron.
5. I want to learn as much as I possibly can from this course. I want to know how I can integrate technology into a classroom setting and be prepared to return to a school environment with this knowledge. My initial certification program did not prepare me very well for teaching in a classroom, so I want to come out of this class, and program, much better prepared and full of much more knowledge.
6. I believe that technology is a key that can open the door to a whole new world of teaching because it allows students and educators access to information in a way that has never been seen before. However, I also believe that students and educators need to be properly trained in how to use the technology so they can properly find the correct and accurate information they are looking for.

Quotes and One-Liners on Education and Technology

“The principal goal of education is to create men who are capable of doing new things, not simply of repeating what other generations have done.” – Jean Piaget

“Education is the transmission of civilization.” – Ariel and Will Durant

“An educated man is one who can entertain a new idea, entertain another person and entertain himself.” – Sydney Wood

“Perhaps the most valuable result of all education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you have to do, when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not.” – Walter Bagehot

“Education is not filling a bucket but lighting a fire.” – William B. Yeats

“There can be infinite uses of the computer and of new age technology, but if the teachers themselves are not able to bring it into the classroom and make it work, then it fails.” – Nancy Kassebaum

“It is important to remember that educational software, like textbooks, is only one tool in the learning process. Neither can be a substitute for well-trained teachers, leadership, and parental involvement.” – Keith Krueger

“The great aim of education is not knowledge, but action.” – Herbert Spencer

“Any teacher that can be replaced by a computer, deserves to be.” – David Thornburg