

Reflection - Class Session 11.26.12

Tonight as people were sharing their report presentations, I got a little feeling of ‘maybe I didn’t do mine the correct way’. It seemed that other projects were much more detailed...and complicated. However, when you think about it, for what I want to do after completing my degree, my project made sense. I still want to be a teacher, I’ll just have really, really good lesson plans. As I think I’ve said in my reflections before, it seems like other students are making this project a lot more difficult than it needs to be. I admit I felt overwhelmed at times, but really, it wasn’t all that bad. I think my design project is one that could actually work in a classroom. I kind of did it when I was teaching, there just wasn’t as much planning involved. Making a design plan makes the lesson seem more professional and legitimate. When I did it in my classroom, it was more of a spur of the moment lesson when my students were doing so horribly with word problems.

It was interesting, though to see the wide variety of topics chosen for design solutions. I really liked the one that was about getting distance facilitating teachers to be more “facilitating”. It was hard to focus in on the actual performance problem at first, but once I understood what was going on, I basically ignored all of the other that went into it and really thought about how the facilitators could be improved. The proposed solution involved having the facilitators actually enroll in a distance learning course. Now, this is a wonderful way to approach the performance problem, and I think it is probably the most beneficial way, but the way it was presented in class, it was hard to determine whether it would help at all. I feel like I had to use my own knowledge to interpret what the presenter meant by having the facilitators take the distance course themselves. This is where simplicity would have worked well. If my classmate would have focused more on this solution and how it would work, the presentation would have made much more sense. I feel as if she tried to include too many ways to fix the problem. Some were so vague that it was hard to figure out what she even meant. This is just an example of how I think some students had a hard time zeroing in on a solution to their performance problem. Even though this student’s presentation failed to impress me, I really liked the concept of having the facilitators take a distance course...I think that would have a great impact on their facilitating.

Another presentation that I liked was the one about the SYR call center. I feel like I knew more about it than others because I talked with my classmate about it every week to help her narrow down her solution. Again, like the design project I made, this design could (and will) be used in real life. I almost wish that we had to use these projects in real life and report back because it would be interesting to see what worked and what didn’t. I think that this presenter did a good job of focusing on the problem and solution very closely. It was easy to understand when there wasn’t so much other information included.

Overall, the presentations so far gave me good feelings about my own project, yet bad feelings that I may have been too simple in my design.