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IDE 631
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Reflection - Class Session 11.5.12

      I found it hard to concentrate on working on my project in class this evening. It would have been time well spent if I had gotten some work done! I supposed I am pretty caught up, though, so it's not the end of the world. I need to go through my paper and the template very carefully to make sure that I've included everything. I did so many of the parts at different times that it's hard to remember what I wrote for each part. I need to make sure everything aligns and makes sense. I guess that is one thing that I was confused by for this course. I liked that we split the work up in to small sections, but because we did that, I feel that my writing isn't as consistent as it could be. I also feel as if I repeat myself in some of the sections. I guess that's inevitable when you're writing about something so specific and basically explaining it in different ways. It is also hard to keep the terminology straight. The project talks about objectives and goals so much that I fear I may be used the two words interchangeably when I know that isn't correct. Again, this is something that I need to go through and check.

      I will admit it is difficult to write a reflection tonight because I didn't use my time very wisely in class. I felt as if I helped a few classmates figure some things out, though, so that's good. I have a feeling that many other students are making this project much more difficult than it is. I am thinking of it as a super detailed lesson plan...which for my topic, it pretty much is. I like to pretend that whomever is going to read through this design plan would be able to teach the lesson quite easily. I guess I'm lucky in that way because I'm used to having to write lesson plans. I've never had to be this specific, but at least it's similar. It is also helpful that I really did run into this performance gap when I taught 3rd grade in Florida. I can see how it would be more difficult for broader topics though. Single academic gaps are easier to focus on than, say, a performance problem within a large company. Well, maybe that would easy too, if you were used to working in a large company and had much experience with your audience.

      I'm looking forward to completing my project because I think it's actually something that I will use when I teach. I guess I have used it in the past, but not quite in this way.