

Appendix J Assignment on Work Plans

ASSIGNMENT 2. (First part). Construct and post your plan of work (50 pts).
Due July 1.

During weeks two-five of the course, you will be focusing on content of your choice. Within the 727d28 modules, you will find content modules on Africa, East Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, and Slavic and Eastern Europe (the former Soviet republics also). As you look through these modules, you will see an incredible number of resources, including websites, print materials, videos/films. These have been reviewed by area studies specialists and are recommended by the OSU area studies centers.

No one could possibly examine and use all the resources in the course modules within five weeks. So in your plan of work you will first identify what content you will focus on during the course. For example, you might focus on one theme/topic or on one or two regions or some combination. For example, you could focus on:

One discipline. For example, resources on history across the five regions (examining the history modules for all five regions);

An issue or particular kind of resource. For example, ways to integrate primary sources and electronic connections from three regions into your teaching (examining modules on Connections and Literature in Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East);

One or more regions. For example, East Asia (examining all the East Asian modules).

A few countries. For example, Russia and China (examining modules that have content on these countries).

Second, since you will be graded on your learning during the course, you also need to specify how the resources from the modules can be used in your learning or teaching. For example, you could:

Develop "lesson ideas" to show how you can use some of the resources in your teaching.

Write "resource reviews" to demonstrate your examination and assessment of the resources.

Develop a website using resources from the course so that your students can benefit from their strengths.

Construct a course supplement to demonstrate how you can infuse resources from the course for students to use during their year long course in global studies, world history, world cultures, Spanish II, world literature, etc.

Or propose another idea to demonstrate your understanding and application of course content and ask the instructor for approval.

You post your plan in the Discussion #2 Work Plans. Please use this format: Your subject line tells us the topics/content. Then in the message box, you have two sections. First the content (tell us what modules will you focus on, what are your content goals) and then a section on application (how will you demonstrate what you have learned and apply it to teaching and learning). Your work plan should be approximately half a page.

Example of a posting of a work plan:

(In subject line) Everyday Life Across the Regions

(In message box) Content in modules: I will be examining all the country modules to find websites, print resources and videos that depict everyday life for average people in the five regions. I am especially interested in authentic materials from these cultures on 12-14 year olds and sites that allow my middle school students to interact with people in the cultures under study. I will look for content on cultural norms, values, religious practices, school life, employment, ways people spend their leisure time, ways people's lives are changing from one generation to the next, what young people want to be when they grow up, assumptions about politics and education and the good life.

Application in my teaching and learning: I will use what I learn to develop new lessons and infuse primary sources into my current unit plans in my 9th grade world cultures course. I plan to post (1) eight lesson ideas that use the resources from the modules and (2) a course supplement that describes in detail three ways I can use websites to connect my students

to people in other parts of the world throughout the school year in my world cultures course.

Please do skim the work plans of others in the class so that you can identify connections to your own work.

OPTIONAL: You may respond to people's work plans to make connections with your own work, offer suggestions, share resources you think they would appreciate, raise questions or make other constructive comments.

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Assignment 2 (Second part): Post outcomes from your work plan (150 pts). Due July 15 & 26.

As the course proceeds, you post the outcomes of your work plan under the thread where you posted your original plan. That is, you go into your plan posted in discussion #2, hit reply and post different components of your work. This allows your thread to develop from your plan and your work with people's comments, questions, and suggestions all in one section.

Approximately half of your work plan should posted by July 15th and the other half by July 26th. For example, if you decided to do ten lesson ideas and ten reviews, you would post five of each by July 15th and the rest by July 26 or all of the lesson ideas by July 15 and all the reviews by July 26th.

Criteria for assessment of Assignment 3:

1. Did you follow the format and content of the assignment as outlined above? Meet deadlines?
2. In your work plan, did you demonstrate in-depth understanding of specific knowledge and connections from the modules? Overall is your work coherent and well developed?
3. Did you apply course content to your own teaching or learning?

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