

Using Technology to Enhance Content-Area Instruction

Instructional Technology Module Six

Course Description

Technology can enhance subject-area learning by motivating students to solve real-world problems, increasing communication between students and teachers, and enabling teachers to provide immediate feedback. This module highlights issues surrounding technology integration in content-area classrooms and the importance of providing teachers effective support as they incorporate technology into their classrooms.

Competencies

Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to

- Identify issues surrounding technology integration in content-area classrooms
- Examine the relationship between problem-based instruction and teaching with technology
- Recognize the importance of providing teachers support for effective technology integration

Materials

All materials are accessed via the [CaseNEX website](#) using the PIN provided and the user name/password you create.

All readings listed can be found by going to *Class Materials*→*Virtual Library*→*Readings (Search)*.

If you do not have the most recent versions of the following software, please download each from the given sites.

- [RealPlayer](#)
- [Adobe Reader](#)
- [QuickTime](#)

Cases Used

- Enhancing Learning: Hatboro-Horsham High School

[Course requirements and grades](#)

Course Schedule

Find session dates by selecting *Syllabus* on the top menu bar. For typical courses, final Discussions, Journals, and Workbooks are due by Saturday at midnight unless otherwise noted. Please see the News Flash for any alterations of the course schedule posted by your instructor.

Introductory Session

Exploring the CaseNEX Site

Complete these tasks prior to the beginning of Session 1.

Readings

Read the course requirements, paying special attention to the Case-Analysis and Workbook Assignment Rubrics. They will be used by your instructor throughout the course to evaluate assignments where appropriate.

Discussion

Post one entry introducing yourself to your classmates. Describe specific ways you and/or your colleagues have integrated technology into subject area instruction. (100 words or fewer)

Journal

What kinds of tech support does your school offer teachers and students? What additional training would you like? (100 words or fewer)

Note

Use CaseMail to send a note to your instructor stating that you will be taking this course. To do so, click on CaseMail on the top menu bar and then 'Click here to create a new message.' Use the marked link to look up an address. Continue linking down until you see the class list. Select the instructor's name and then compose your message and hit 'Post Message.'

Session 1

Supporting Content-Area Teachers

Case

Enhancing Learning: Hatboro-Horsham High School

Readings

- Technology Coach Handbook
- How Teachers View Technology
- How Will You Use Technology to Support Your Vision of Learning?

Additional Resources

- Technology Curriculum Integration Ideas

Discussion

In what ways are teachers at Hatboro-Horsham High School supported as they incorporate technology into their classrooms? From the **perspective** of a content-area teacher, what additional types of support might a technology coach offer? Evaluate the **knowledge** and strategies offered in Natalie Fetterman's article "How I use Technology to Increase Student Achievement" and discuss how the reading influences your own vision of learning.

Journal

Choose one of the technologies referenced in the case and describe in detail how you might incorporate the technology into a lesson that you currently teach. Then, predict the **consequences** of this technology on students and teachers. What types of evidence would you need to determine whether the revised lesson increases your ability to reach core content objectives?

Note

Check your CaseMail (linked from top menu bar) and News Flash (on the right when you login) for notes from your instructor every time you log on to the site.

Session 2

Assessing with Technology for Increased Student Understanding

Case

Enhancing Learning: Hatboro-Horsham High School

Readings

- Project-Based Learning: A Primer
- Problem-based Learning
- On-line Resources for Assessment
- Classroom Response Systems

Discussion

Identify ways Hatboro-Horsham High School teachers use technology to assess student understanding. Describe various **perspectives** on project/problem-based learning and the development of new media by students as an instruction and assessment tool. Discuss any **consequences** on students, teachers, and the school in general.

Journal

Using **knowledge** from at least three of the websites in the “On-line Resources for Assessment” reading, summarize what appropriate and effective assessment looks like in a technology-infused classroom. Revisit your lesson or unit from the first session and identify relevant **issues** that may arise when designing a comprehensive rubric for that plan.