

CRAFTING MEANINGFUL RELECTIONS FOR ePORTFOLIO

by Kris Sward

Evidence: Seminar 3 Website (<http://janecandkrisseminar3.weebly.com/>)

OLTD Outcome Addressed: There were a number of outcomes addressed in this assignment, including:

- Demonstrate basic competency with design and implementation within a variety of online learning environments and tools
- Plan learning opportunities most suitable to the strengths and challenges of a variety of environments
- Develop and design intentional learning activities suitable for the appropriate environment and the learner
- Select strategies and resources appropriate for environment, learners and learning outcomes
- Design inclusive learning environments
- Share engagement strategies and tips
- Undertake engagement with environments through online facilitation for effective learning
- Moderation and mediation

In order to show evidence of my learning in 503 I chose to share a website that I created with my partner Jane C. in order to run our week long seminar on the topic of ‘Too Much Information.’ I am especially proud of this website as I think it achieved our goal of being short, sweet and to the point (in order to not overwhelm our classmates with a huge reading component or assignment to-do list) and included some light hearted videos, informative links and a good summary of the information covered in our chapter (Chapter 5 of Kear’s text, *Online and social networking communities: A best practice guide for educators* (2011)). And, okay, I think it looks really good.

To be completely honest I was feeling quite overwhelmed in the process of creating the website (<http://janecandkrisseminar3.weebly.com/>) because I was trying to create this awesome and un-overwhelming site whilst keeping up with the activities and requirements of the week that we were in, trying to mark magazines that my class had written on a topic of their choice (that included 6 articles, a variety of text features for me to find and creative inserts and games, quizzes, pictures, etc. in each one) and continuing with my usual, hectic schedule of ferrying my kids back and forth to their various activities. To say I was bogged down under ‘too much information’ is a huge understatement. In preaching (yes, I kind of feel like I was a bit condescending....I will find out at the end of the week if others felt this way, too) ways of not being overwhelmed, I was entirely overwhelmed myself and ready to wave the white flag (not to worry – I took my own advice and put school and work away for a day and a half and feel much more ready to attack the new week).

In our busy lives it is hard not to feel discouraged when you open d2l to 45 unread discussion posts, but I think (as our website outlined) that there are ways to reduce the stress, tackle the workload and come out the other side feeling calm, collected and like you got something of value out of the experience. I sincerely hope that is the result of my experiences in OLTD and that it is also the experience my classmates have after this week’s seminar. Only time will tell. ☺