Plan for a SoTL Project

by Ramandeep Kaur

|  |
| --- |
| **Research Question**  What are you curious about?  What would you like to know about strategies that might hinder and/or help students to learn, in your course?  Do you want to know if an activity, assignment, or teaching strategy “works?”  Do you have a question about how to help your students learn a particular skill?  I am curious to learn about different tools for online learning. I am interested to know which tools increase students’ engagement in class and how I can make my lessons more interesting. I take students’ feedback and adapt my lessons according to their requirements. I want to help my students to learn use online learning platforms. |
| **Identify challenge/outcome related to learning that is related to your question.**  Describe the learning in a way that suggests how you might *measure* it using either qualitative or quantitative methods.  I will compare the grades of students using different standards outlined by the institute. |
| **Describe the instructional activity, assignment, or teaching strategy that will promote student learning on the outcome you identified.**  SoTL projects might investigate the impact of a *modification* to an existing strategy or assignment. Describe how the new approach differs from the old approach and why this modification might change student learning on this outcome.  My current course has 4 units, each unit is composed of Powerpoint, 1 assignment, and 1 quiz. Each assignment contributes 10% and tests 15% to the final score.  The new approach includes complementary components like Mentimeter and Kahoot to check students' understanding of concepts. I will also include additional reading material and videos related to the topic. |
| **Describe the evidence that would persuade an external audience that the new or modified teaching strategy improves student learning on the targeted learning outcome.**  Describe the evidence you would need to collect to answer questions about the impact or value of this teaching strategy. How would you convince others that this approach is better than other approaches? What comparisons should you make? Examine students; skill before and after the assignment? Compare students who complete the learning activity to another group of students – what comparisons would be meaningful?  I will collect information related to student grades, feedback, and surveys during the semester and at the end of the course. Students’ engagement in classes and assignments are examples of evidence collected. I will present the results of the before and after using the new strategy to convince others. I will compare students grades before and after using the new strategy. |
| **How and where would you publish, present, or disseminate this work?**  I will present the work in workshops and meetings. |
| **Consideration of Ethical Concerns**  Students data will not be disclosed to anyone, only grades will be shared with others for research purposes. I will provide information to students regarding academic integrity and best practices for academic excellence.  **Dissemination plan**  I will present the findings to my colleagues. I will present findings at departmental meetings and professional conferences. I will present the results to my institute's Teaching and Learning department.  **Reflective Response**  I will explore different technological tools for online learning. I will take students' feedback while experimenting with new tools and analyze students grades. I will discuss the finding with my colleagues and at departmental meetings. |

Adapted from: C. J. Stanny, E. M. El-Sheikh, & H-M. Chung (2009) ***Getting Started with a SoTL Project***

Center for University Teaching, Learning, and Assessment <http://uwf.edu/cutla/>