



Creative Approaches for Teaching Graduate Nursing Courses

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ABSTRACT

- Online learning is a popular method for graduate nursing programs. Today, we live in a rapidly evolving society. Many students live at a distance from the university setting. They have a family and a job; but also want to advance their education.
- Courses need to be student friendly and stimulating. In many of the Graduate courses, the Department of Nursing added a variety of tools to keep the course content challenging for the student.
- Students in general have varying learning preferences. Some students are more comfortable with technology than others.
- Blackboard Learning is already simulated with a variety of tools including Learning Activities, Discussion Board, Quizzes, and Exams. Additional tools are necessary to enhance learning and collaboration. At the end of the semester, students are asked to submit an anonymous evaluation of the course for ongoing improvement.

BLACKBOARD TECHNOLOGY



Yellow Dig:

- A Social Learning Media which replaces the traditional Blackboard Discussion Board.
- Students become more involved
- Incorporated automatic grading



Voice Thread:

- A learning tool enhancing student engagement and online presence.
- Students can create, share, and comment on images, Microsoft PowerPoint presentations, videos, audio files, documents and PDSs
- Integrates into Blackboard and Canvas.



Vid Grid:

- Video Creation Tool used frequently to quickly guide students through content they have questions about.



Blackboard Collaborate Ultra

- A web conferencing tool used for weekly module introduction.
- Dorothy's Virtual Office Hours were held weekly for students to ask questions or voice concerns



COVID-19 Private Reflective Journal

- During these times of Stress and Uncertainty I feel it is very important to talk about your feelings as a Nurse. I have added it to Discussion Board. Some of you will not feel comfortable discussing some things on Discussion Board.
- The COVID-19 Private Reflective Journal. I cannot reinforce how important it is to your Mental/Psychosocial Health to talk about what's happening to you. In the Future reading this will be valuable to you.

ONLINE TECHNOLOGY TOOLS



Miro-formerly Realtime Board

- Miro is used in these courses for group poster work.
- Students can come and go and collaborate together on developing the poster board.
- When the assignment is completed it can be submitted as an assignment and/or shared with other students.



Live Binder

- Live Binders are a place to group, store, classify and share documents, links, PowerPoint presentations, images, videos, and text.
- The Live Binder is used in the 3-P Course to develop a portfolio for the course. Students will discuss the assigned body systems addressing the health assessment, pathophysiology, and pharmacology. Websites, picture, and YouTube videos are to be used to compliment the document.



Wiki

- A collaborative tool that allows students to create and edit pages of a document.
- Individual or groups of students can add content, or make comments.
- One or more wikis can be created for all course members to contribute to. Also, wikis can be used for specific groups to collaborate.

LESSONS LEARNED

Lessons Learned Include:

- Students enjoyed the challenge and variety of Technology Tools.
- Use Browsers Mozilla Firefox and Google Chrome
- Using a variety of tools in online courses add a variety and challenge to the learning process.