

Observation Report 1

Course Instructor: Dr. Angel Morale

Observing Graduate Student: Maryam Bashir

Date/Time of Observation: September 8, 2023 (8:00 am – 8:50 am)

Setting: Undergraduate Course in Computer science

Course Code/Title: Comp Sci 1500 (Computational Problem Solving)

Venue: Butter Carlton Hall Room 00125

Welcoming and Collaboration Dimension:

I arrived at the Hall at 7:40 a.m., and Dr. Angel Morale showed up 10 minutes before class started. He made everyone feel welcome and focused on teamwork right from the start. He smiled at the students as they came in and started small talk, asking how they were doing. This made the class feel positive from the start.

First, he told us about his new office hours, which he had updated on Canvas before the class. The class was big but quiet, with over 40 students. Then, Dr. Angel Morale started talking about today's topic, Python. What I like about his way of teaching is that he makes everyone feel part of a community. He often stopped to ask questions and made sure to hear from different people, not just a few who always talk. This helped even the quiet students to join in and made the class work well together.

Empowering and Supportive Dimension:

As soon as class started, it was obvious that Dr. Angel Morale wanted to help his students and make sure they each learned in their own way. His talk was well-organized and covered both the ideas and the hands-on parts of Python. This made students feel like they could really get involved in the lesson, instead of just listening. He also cared about how the students were doing, not just in class but in general.

Structured and International Dimension:

Dr. Angel Morale's classroom was a great example of a well-organized place to learn, with a focus on global topics. The class was quiet and calm, and nearly all students were using their laptops while he taught. Being prepared helped make the class feel well-organized and also let students know what they should be doing.

Relevant and Engaging Instruction Dimension

Dr. Angel Morale's class was a great example of how to make teaching interesting and important. The class focused on Python, files, modules, and Random, and how these things affect making decisions. This topic was important both in the students' personal and work lives. He began the class by asking a question that made students think about their own lives. This quickly got their attention and made them curious. So right from the start, students understood why the topic was important and wanted to talk about it.

Course Material:

Dr. Angel Morale's Python class was a good example of having well-prepared and useful lessons. The material for the class was well-arranged. He started with a PowerPoint slide that showed the main ideas, which acted as a guide for the students.

Conclusion:

Based on my observations, I have learned that Dr. Angel Morale's teaching methods offer a holistic and effective educational experience. He combines a variety of elements to create a learning environment that is welcoming, engaging, and informative. From setting a positive tone at the beginning of class to using real-world examples to explain complex Python coding concepts, Dr. Morale ensures that the material is accessible to everyone, including those new to coding.

He prioritizes student engagement by encouraging questions and offering timely feedback, further deepening their understanding of the subject. The well-structured and organized class, supported by clear and informative PowerPoint slides, helps students navigate the complexities of the subject matter. After class, his openness to further questions shows his commitment to student learning.

Additionally, the use of laptops and the presence of focused students indicate a blend of traditional and tech-savvy methods to keep everyone involved. His attention to different teaching dimensions—from promoting collaboration and student-centered learning to making the course content both relevant and engaging—stands as a comprehensive model for effective teaching.

Observation Report 2

Course Instructor: Dr. Jossalyn Larson

Observing Graduate Student: Maryam Bashir

Date/Time of Observation: September 7, 2023 (11:00 am – 12:15 pm)

Setting: Undergraduate Course in English and Technical Communication

Course Code/Title: ENGL 1120 (Exposition and Argumentation)

Venue: Physics Block 128

Welcoming and Collaboration Dimension:

The teacher walked in smiling and said hello to each student as they came into the room, making everyone feel welcome. First, she checked who was there by taking attendance and then closed the door. She asked how the students were doing. Then she sat down and told us what we would be focusing on for the week before starting the class.

Empowering and Supportive Dimension:

The moment the class began, the teacher got ready to teach. She quickly talked about a past time when she taught the students, then moved on to today's topic namely; setting a tone in writing . While she was teaching, she often asked questions to see if the students were following along. She made sure everyone understood what was going on.

Structured and International Dimension:

Her class was really well-planned and interesting. The room was quiet, and the students were really focused on what she was saying. She used teaching aids like projected slides and a video clip to help with the lesson. Everything was organized so it was easy to go from one topic to the next.

Relevant and Engaging Instruction Dimension:

Dr. Larson's class was set up to be very hands-on. After her talk, the students discussed their ideas about the subject. The class was really interesting, and students were focused and adding their own thoughts. She even told a quick joke to make the class fun and grab everyone's attention. This got students interested in the topic right away.

Course Material:

Dr. Larson's class was really well put together. The class material was neatly arranged on Canvas. The whole course was carefully made to help the students learn better.

Conclusion:

My observation in Dr. Larson's class showed me how a great teacher can create a helpful learning environment in many ways. The teacher made everyone feel welcome from the start and paid close attention to make sure all students understood the lesson. Her class was well-planned, using things like slides and videos to make the lessons more interesting. She also made the class engaging by using humor and discussion. Finally, she used Canvas to keep all class materials well-organized. This teacher really knows how to make learning effective and enjoyable for everyone.