Reflections on Student Teaching

June 5th -Student Success

* Good:
  + Content was good – the learning model was explained well.
* To Be Improved:
  + Non-verbal communication section seemed less relevant to me.
* My ideas:
  + I’d strive for more cohesion between sections.

June 17th -Constructing Learning Activities

* Good:
  + Themes presented were useful and relevant.
* To Be Improved:
  + A lot of overlap between activities. Feels like the same ideas were taught at each station.
* My Ideas:
  + I’d do much the same thing, but ensure more collaboration between groups to minimize overlap

July 1st -Pedagogical Strategies/Models

* Good:
  + Fairly comprehensive. Seems like we covered a lot of good ground in this class.
* To Be Improved:
  + Examples of strategies seemed a bit contrived, and not as helpful as they might have been.
* My Ideas:
  + Spend a little more time on concrete examples and implementation strategies.

Course Retrospective:

* What are 1-3 things you think were designed or delivered well in the course? Why were they good?
  + I think the breadth of topics were useful. Being a non-teacher prior to my job here I am always happy to fill in the gaps in my knowledge with teaching specific instruction.
  + We don’t always love Perusall, but I love Rob Eaton’s work that we read from.
* What are 1-3 things you think could have been improved with the design or delivery of the course? Why do you think so? What principles or pedagogical backing would validate your thoughts?
  + I think the #1 thing is the Canvas course is not always easy to follow. I relied heavily on the To-Do list to know when things coming up were due. In courses I teach usually assignments are found within the modules in a more visible way.
  + Backward design would suggest that outcomes inform assignments, and assignments being more visible would help the delivery.
* If you could offer only one suggestion to improve the course, what would it be and why?
  + I wonder if the student teaching was effective much. I like the idea of working together to support learning without necessarily relying on a group project to accomplish that. I benefitted from the collective experience of the class when ample time for Q&A and discussion of topics was given.

**Self Evaluation and Reflection**

* What do you think your students might say are the strengths of your course design? Would you agree (why or why not)?
  + Thinking specifically about my technical teamwork class, the strength of the course is that every week leads to specific outcomes related to teamwork and emotional intelligence that are easily identifiable.
* What areas do you think your students might suggest need improvement? Would you agree (why or why not)?
  + Project based work is always perilous. The experience of students in this class is varied, because despite my efforts to balance team, there are always strong teams and weak teams. This makes this an inconsistent experience across the course.
* Note to self: What else would you tell yourself about your own course design?
  + Find ways to make sure that everyone can succeed regardless of team composition. Ensure that assessments are clear and instructions can be easily followed.

**Evaluation and Reflection on Evaluation and Reflection**

* What were some of the pros and cons of this Activity?
  + Pro: Introspection is the pathway to deeper learning. I’m fully convinced that without introspection, things usually stay the same or get worse.
  + Con: It was difficult from my notes to get actionable material from the student presentations. Usually it wasn’t until the end that it was mentioned we needed to take notes about these things and it was hard to take hurried notes about things.
* What are some issues to consider when asking your students to Evaluate and/or Reflect on their learning?
  + Ensure that students know in advance that they well be evaluating and reflecting and that the are thinking about these things in advance.
* What gospel principles might apply to Evaluation and Reflection activities?
  + Matthew 26:22: And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord, is it I?
  + Evaluation and reflection allows us time to determine what role the individual plays in their own learning, and what they need to improve.