Freshman Tech Seminar

I. **Project Name:** Freshman Technology Seminar Day 2: Internet Video and Web 2.0

II. **Description:** On Day 2 students will explore the world of internet videos and then create their own that explains the features of a Web 2.0 tool that Hopkinton High School uses.

III. **Internet Sites and Activities:**
YouTube: https://www.youtube.com
iMovie: http://www.apple.com/support/imovie/
Voicethread: http://www.voicethread.com
NBC Archives: http://www.nbclearn.com
Google Docs: http://docs.google.com
Pixton: http://www.pixton.com

IV. **Educational Goals:** Students will experience, explore, and learn about many different areas of technology. The main focuses of this lesson are Web 2.0 technologies, media literacy as it relates to online videos, learning and explaining technology in-depth, sharing content safely using the web.

Steps:
1. Present the project to the students and show examples from the internet.
   a. Explain what is meant by Web 2.0
   b. Guide the students to an understanding of what makes an internet video reliable
   c. Breakdown an example video, and show the elements of a technology review or instructional video
   d. Show basic features and tools of iMovie, and direct the students to online resources for iMovie so that they can learn from them
   e. Describe the process of uploading a video to YouTube and the various settings throughout the process.
2. Students can work alone, or in groups of up to three students.
3. During the class period students will spend time browsing YouTube and watching technology reviews and tutorials paying close attention to what makes a video reliable
4. Outside of class students are responsible for developing their own online video in iMovie that reviews or explains one of the Web 2.0 tools that Hopkinton High School uses
5. Students will then upload their video to YouTube using the appropriate settings
6. The entire project will be submitted by giving me the link to their YouTube video.

Students should come out of this lesson knowing where to go to find reputable video sources, how to identify key features in technology or give instructional assistance on technology, how to use iMovie for video creation, and how to use YouTube to appropriately share videos online.

V. **Project Structure:** One freshman seminar class of about 25 students. We meet 6 times during the spring semester. This lesson is for the second class and most of the work will be done during the approximately 7 day period in between class 2 and 3.

VI. **Materials:** Our class takes place in a computer lab so students can do the exploration phase on the computers in the room. The library has numerous Macs on which to do this project during their study block. Additionally they can check out MacBooks from the librarian to use.

VII. **Project Time Span:** This project begins during the second meeting of the course, and is due at the beginning of the third class.

VIII. **Non Internet Tasks:** The students will use iMovie to create their video. They can use Flip cameras from the library, video cameras from their mobile devices, or screen captures to generate the video. They will not need access to the internet to use iMovie.

IX. **Closure:** Students will create and post their videos online. By doing this, I have easy access to it, as does the rest of the class. We will spend a short period of time at the beginning of the class playing some of the videos and giving feedback. I will use a rubric with several criteria to evaluate their project. The students will have access to the criteria beforehand.

X. **Group Comments:**

Hi Sam,
Very interesting lesson plan. Do your freshmen come to you knowning how to use iMovie? I have been prevented from using iMovie here in Uxbridge; even my Intro to Video class uses Final Cut Pro. I am amazed that you could complete this lesson in two class sessions. I think I am also having technology envy...the ability to check out a Macbook! I want a new job.
Seriously, good use of technology; completing research, using iMovie and uploading videos to share. One question - you list under one of your goals the desire for students to be able to find and assess reputable video sources. How are you going to ensure that happens? Is that part of your lecture? Just curious...
Good job!
Karin

Hi Sam,
Great work. The lesson plan seems like a fun way to learn computer technology. You might consider more time to produce the video and more time to review and present. Producing videos can be very involved, but perhaps the production quality is simplified and the expectations are straight-forward, such as straight-cuts without motion transitions, special-effects, titles, templates, motion lower-thirds, etc. Video prodution and broadcasting is my specialty, so I assume the inclusion of many aesthetic qualities and techniques in the student projects, but simple interviews could take much kless time and require NO computer software-based editing, or compression.
Cheers,
Ryan