

Classroom Observation

Over the course of this semester, you will be required to write two classroom observation papers. For each observation, you must sit through a class and take detailed notes on the classroom setting, the learners and their engagement, and the teaching methodology used by the educator. I strongly encourage you to try to observe a class outside of IBA, such as within a school or another educational setting. However, if this is not possible, you may observe a class within IBA. Please avoid lecture-only classes, as these will not provide you with rich enough data to work with for this assignment.

Your paper should be structured around three key components. First, provide a detailed summary of your observation and reflection. In this section, describe what the classroom setting was like, who the learners were, who the educator was, what subject matter or lesson was being taught, what teaching methodologies or strategies were used, and what appeared to be the goal of the lesson. Second, include your own critique of the teaching methodology you observed. Here, you should reflect on what aspects of the teaching appeared to enable learning and why, as well as what aspects did not work well or may have actively hindered learning and why. It is particularly important to focus on the “why” in this section, as you are expected to draw upon concepts and theories from the course in order to meaningfully analyse and critique how lessons are designed and delivered. Third, offer your own thoughts and suggestions for how learning could be deepened or enhanced in the classroom you observed. Consider what alternative strategies or improvements might have been made to increase engagement or understanding. If you are observing a class within IBA, you are encouraged to speak to two or three students from the class in order to gather their input about the effectiveness of the lesson and the extent to which it supported their learning.

The first classroom observation paper is mandatory for all students and will be graded out of 20 marks. The second observation paper is optional and will count for 10 extra-credit marks. Any extra-credit marks earned will be added to your overall grade for the classroom observation component of the course. Both the mandatory and optional papers are due no later than the end of November.

Please turn your assignment on LMS. The submission should be 3–4 pages, double-spaced, in Times New Roman 12 pt with standard margins.