Project 1: The Interview

This project is designed to get you thinking about what we mean by technology integration and what obstacles we face as integrators. For this project, you are to locate an individual(s) whose job responsibility it is to facilitate the technology integration process into an educational setting and interview that person. You may conduct the interview in any format you choose (FTF, email, phone, chat, etc). Some suggestions for individuals:

- K-12 Teachers
- K-12 Administrators
- Media Specialists
- Online K-12 or higher education teachers
- Technology support staff or distance education center employees
- Anyone else involved in the technology integration process

What follows is a list of possible interview questions. These are only suggestions, and you may feel free to come up with your own questions. The first question in the interview should establish who you are interviewing, what their background is, and what their job entails. Sample interview questions:

How is technology affecting the learning process?

What is your definition of technological literacy?

When you hear the phrase "technology integration" what does that mean to you?

How should technology be used in education?

How do you identify the "key players" in the technology integration process and get them all to "buy into" what are you are trying to accomplish?

What principles should guide your approach for integrating technology into instruction?

When can you expect technology to be effective?

What are some obstacles you have encountered when trying to integrate technology?

Do you have a technology integration success story?

What makes the difference between successful technology integration and a failed attempt?

What should you do if you are not convinced you can integrate technology successfully into your instruction?

Upon completion of the interview, you are to create a PowerPoint presentation that contains the highlights from your interview. You must post this presentation to the appropriate discussion forum **AND** to the Vista Assignment Dropbox for grading. You must also review at least two other postings and comment on the content. Bonus points will be awarded for presentation style (e.g. incorporating advanced technology such as audio discussions or video into the .ppt). Also, I am always open to your suggestions for different and possibly more effective ways of presenting your projects (in this case, other than .ppt). Just make sure to clear your ideas with me BEFORE you submit for grading.

Project 2: Diffusion and Adoption Reflection
Description and Grading Criteria

Description

For this reflection, you will research, analyze, and report on a past successful or unsuccessful attempt at diffusing a technology-based innovation into a school setting. Ideally, this is something you will have witnessed first-hand, but you may also interview another person and report on their opinion of the innovation. Your reflection should be brief (no more than 2-4 pages) and address three short answer categories

1. Describe the setting, including physical setting, resources, stakeholders and any other information that best describes how and where the innovation took place. Build a good descriptive picture of where this innovation happened, who was its intended audience and what issue it was supposed to address.
2. A brief but detailed description of the how the innovation was implemented and whether or not it was successful.
3. An analysis of why the innovation was successful or not successful. This should be the longest part of the paper. If successful, explain why and select a model or models from your reading and explain how the innovation successfully paralleled the model(s) concepts. If unsuccessful, explain why and show how one of the model or models from your reading was not followed or should have been followed.

Course Objectives
Course Objectives 1,2,3,4,5; rubric

Grading
The following criteria will be used to evaluate this assignment.

Item	Criteria	Points
Setting Description	A thorough description of the setting in which the innovation took place including physical setting, resources, and stakeholders.	2
Innovation Implementation	A description of the successful or unsuccessful implementation of the innovation.	2
Implementation Analysis	An analysis of the implementation of the innovation using one of the innovation models covered in the course.	2
Well Written	No significant mechanical or grammatical errors. Content is presented in a logical manner that is easy to read.	2
APA Formatting	Document uses APA formatting conventions including a title page, running header, and citations and references page as required.	2
	Total Points	**10**

Project 3 : The Interview of the Real Stakeholders

This project is designed to get you thinking about how technology integration affects the real stakeholders: students and/or their parents. For this project, you are to locate a student and/or a parent of a student and interview that person(s) concerning the technology integration at their school. You may conduct the interview in any format you choose (FTF, email, phone, chat, etc). Some suggestions for individuals:

- K-12 Students and their parents
- Higher education students

What follows is a list of possible interview questions. These are only suggestions, and you may feel free to come up with your own questions. The first question in the interview should establish who you are interviewing and other relevant background information. Sample interview questions:

How is technology affecting the learning process?

When you hear the phrase "technology integration" what does that mean to you?

How should technology be used in education?

If you were in charge of designing the modern classroom, what would it look like?

Are you happy with the level of technology use at your school? Why or why not?

Are you happy with the level of technology funding at your school? Why or why not?

Has technology changed the way you work in your classrooms and has it changed your assignments?

How would you assess your teachers' integration of technology into the classroom?

Do you feel that integration of technology into your classrooms has had a positive impact on your achievement? If not, why? If so, how?

Can you provide any recommendations to improve access to and use of technology in your local classroom?

Can you describe a good example of a lesson that uses technology?

If you were the teacher, how would you use technology in the classroom?

What technologies are missing from your school? How would these help education?

Upon completion of the interview, you are to create a PowerPoint presentation that contains the highlights from your interview. You must post this presentation to the appropriate discussion forum **AND** to the Vista Assignment Dropbox for grading. You must also review at least two other postings and comment on the content. Bonus points will be awarded for presentation style (e.g. incorporating advanced technology such as audio discussions or video into the .ppt). Also, I am always open to your suggestions for different and possibly more effective ways of presenting your projects (in this case, other than .ppt). Just make sure to clear your ideas with me BEFORE you submit for grading.

Project 4: CHOOSE ONE!

3.4a Hands-on Technology (30 Points):

You may create a video podcast (or otherwise interactive presentation) that will serve a training purpose (e.g. tutorial) to aid in the implementation of a technological advancement in the classroom. For instance, if you were interested in having teachers use digital portfolios or digital storytelling as an alternative to objective tests, you could create a training video, presentation or an interactive website that will instruct teachers how to use this innovation in an educational setting. This assignment is designed for those of you have a specific idea about an innovation that you actually want to implement in the near future and would find such a tutorial helpful in accomplishing your innovation goals. You will be required to post your tutorial for review before the due date. (Course Objectives 1, 2, 3,4, 5; rubric).

3.4b Outlining the Innovation (30 Points):

Rather than writing the paper out in a narrative format, you can create a technology innovation action plan that answers the following questions in a short, well written but detailed manner. This is designed for those of you who have an innovation idea in the beginning stages and want to ascertain how to best implement the innovation. Not all of these questions may apply, and you would be well advised to refer back to specific models from your reading in your answers. You may change the order of the questions to suit your personal taste/ situation and feel free to add additional material where appropriate. You will be required to post a rough draft of your innovation action plan for "workshopping" before the due date.   (Course Objectives 1, 2, 3,4, 5; rubric).
These questions were adapted from http://www.ncrtec.org/capacity/guidewww/eval.htm

- Describe your innovation, and why it is needed.
- How and when will you evaluate the impact your technology innovation has on student performance?
- Who will be responsible for collecting ongoing data to assess the effectiveness of the innovation?
- What windows of opportunity exist for reviewing the effectiveness of the technology innovation? (For example, the plan might be reviewed during curriculum review cycles or in-service times.)
- How will accountability for implementation be assessed?
- How will you assess the level of technological proficiency gained by students, teachers, and/or staff?
- How will you use technology to evaluate teaching and learning?
- What is the key indicator of success for each component of the plan?
- What are the funding requirements and how will this innovation be funded?
- How will you analyze the effectiveness of disbursement decisions in light of implementation priorities?
- How will you know if the innovation has failed or needs to be abandoned?
- How will you analyze implementation decisions to accommodate for changes as a result of new information and technologies?
- What organizational mechanism will you create that allows changes in the implementation of the technology plan and in the plan itself?
- Anything else you think is important.