

Team 8 Feedback for Team 7

When we first read the instructions for this lesson, we had a very clear idea of what we were supposed to do. We felt that team 7 set up a realistic problem that many taking this course might actually have to deal with at some point. So, on that end, we felt good about the lesson.

However, we felt that the problem was way too large to tackle well in the short amount of time that we had. As most on our team has mentioned, it would take weeks and weeks to actually do it right! Thankfully, team 7 gave us three specific concerns to deal with rather than leaving it wide open. They also mentioned in the instructions that on some of the questions we may need to gather more information.

Once we broke the email down on a wiki into the three specific concerns we needed to address, it seemed more manageable. We could address just those things for this lesson, knowing full well that, in real life, much more would need to be done.

Still, we appreciate having been introduced to some of the resources team 7 provided and feel they would give a good starting point if we run into this issue in real life someday. Perhaps the lesson could be improved by clearly including in the instructions that we are not expected to become experts on videoconferencing nor figure out every detail of implementation, but just give some general answers to the teachers' concerns.

Regards,

Team 8

07-28-2008 **Subject:** Re:Team 8 feedback for team 7
14:34:22
Student 1
Last edited: 07-28-2008 14:14:53
Messages: 212
Location: a little west of Columbia, MO

Thanks, Team 8. Your questions and comments along the way served to improve our lesson as we worked through it. We did have trouble getting our ideas down to an assignment that would be manageable in the timeframe. The instructions probably reflected too much of our original thinking about the assignment. Explaining that the assignment was the initial stages of the

planning process earlier would probably have relieved some of your stress. You were a wonderful group to work with. Thank you.

07-29-2008 **Subject:** Re:Team 8 feedback for team 7
09:34:21
Student2
Last edited: 07-29-2008 09:14:49
Messages: 116
Location: <http://www.hallsville.org/middleschool/german/index.html>

Team 8,

Thanks for your review. Initially, we had a semester long project put into one lesson. Yikes! We tried to pare it down into something manageable. I think Carla is correct in that too much of our initial thoughts were still in the directions.

Team 1 Feedback for Team 7

The scenario was very well written. We got lost a little in the brainstorming activity. There was a specific structure for the brainstorming, but we were unclear where to post our discussion. It might have been better for us, if the brainstorming activity had been less structured and we just kept the observation, hypothesis and reason in mind.

We enjoyed researching the different possibilities. Hardware limitations and a cap on the real \$ budget would have reduced the scope of the assignment.

We did our best work via Skype, but posted some on our team 1 db that we regularly use. Our external wiki gave us more freedom to be creative and a common place to review and create simultaneously

Overall we enjoyed the assignment and discovered a few resources such as Dimdim that we didn't know were out there.

07-28-2008 **Subject:** Re:Team 1 feedback for team 7
14:13:13

Student 1

Last edited: 07-28-2008 13:53:45

Messages: 212

Location: a little west of Columbia, MO

Thanks for the thoughtful feedback, Team 1.

I can see where the brainstorming part of the assignment could be more implied than structured. We included the structure because we were replicating the PBL format, in which teaching the students to approach problems in an organized way is an important outcome. Do you think the round-robin activity would have worked better as a collaboratively completed chart of the observations, issues, hypotheses? I am very interested in your thoughts because I would like to try this in a course this winter. In the f2f classes the team creates a chart collaboratively, but we often have trouble getting them to connect their proposals back to their hypotheses and observations. Any insight you could provide would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks!

07-29-2008
09:30:43
Student 2
Last edited: 07-29-2008 09:11:11
Messages: 116
Location: <http://www.hallsville.org/middleschool/german/index.html>

Team1,

As adults in a graduate course, you should not have needed the structure of the round robin. We, team 7, were trying out something that we may use in our own courses that we teach. Those less-experienced students require more structure to brainstorming. I hope you can understand our attempt to try to apply ideas we learned in this course to our regular jobs.

I am really interested in your feedback as well. It is difficult to get students to truly collaborate and learn the material at the same time. I view collaboration as the next step from cooperation. I was hoping that this structure prevented students from falling short on collaborating. In my classroom, I would be able to see their discussion. I felt that setting up a discussion board area for you to do your Round Robin in was not treating you as the self-motivated learner a grad student is.

Thanks for your feedback team 1