

Annotated Portfolios

Description:

Annotated Portfolios are an assessment technique commonly used in graphic arts, architecture, photography, etc. but they work equally well in the vocational field for documenting student's work with automobiles, solving managerial issues, writing computer programs and learning nursing skills. Basically, students select a limited number of examples of completed work and add their own commentary on their significance related to course content or goals. The technique allows assessment of capability of making connections between subject matter and its real-world application and fosters generalizations to new situations and use of technology relevant for the topic.

Directions:

1. Adopt a central topic or problem and invite students to respond with samples
2. Express that this is an assessment and they should strive to show best work only
3. Ask learners to explain in writing how the portfolio pieces relate to course topic
4. Have them present portfolios in folder to prepare for real interviewing settings

How might you use this strategy in your classroom? Share at least one idea with your peer instructors in class.

Resource: Classroom Assessment Techniques, T. Angelo & P. Cross, Jossey-Bass 1993



Benefits:

- ✓ Develops ability to apply principles to new problems
- ✓ Encourages creative and analytical thinking
- ✓ Utilizes technology and materials central to course



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