

SERENDIPITOUS FACULTY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH INFOGRAPHIC ACTIVE LEARNING EXPLORATION

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ABSTRACT

This study explores two important college classroom events. First, is enhancing student engagement using a more active learning technique, which is distinctively different than the instructor's traditional didactic and discussion format. Second, is the specific utility of integrating appropriate, relevant and meaningful (ARM) technology, such as an Infographic as an active learning assessment tool. Students in an introductory Criminal Justice class were assigned Infographics as a way to collaborate and as an alternative assessment to a final exam. Results demonstrate that the Infographic provides a meaningful experience for both the professor and the student. Students ultimately connected with the material in a more authentic way, and they learned to collaborate with their colleagues to produce a thoughtful, informative, and attractive artifact. Students also felt that the Infographic was a meaningful way to attain, synthesize and ultimately express knowledge.

Keywords: Active learning, Collaboration, ARM Instructional Technology, Infographics.