

Before 654: What knowledge and skills do you feel are most critical to you to learn in this course as they pertain to: 1) your students 2) your teaching 3) your personal creative work?9 responses

divergent thinking, encouraging creative approaches in gen ed curriculum

I feel the most critical skills and knowledge I want to learn in this course is learning how to best support creative students in my classroom, as well as fostering creativity for everyone.

To know of two or more creativity assessment instruments and to articulate a rationale for and challenges associated with creativity assessment. Design a room that encourages creativity. Be confident and seek to creatively add or change my curriculum.

1. I hope to be able to recognize examples of creativity in students that I may fail to recognize now. 2. I had not previously thought about this, but I would like to learn about different models of the creative process 3. I would like to learn if my creative approach is more in tune with one particular model or approach than others. By learning about new approaches I could perhaps better enhance my own creativity.

I have always participated in band and theater and enjoy painting, so I feel like I am very open to the idea of including and embracing creativity in the classroom. I need to learn how to assess and find creative talent and the best ways to help develop it. I want to be able to plan creative lessons that are effective for portraying and/or assessing content, but also want activities that will be meaningful to the students. As far as my own personal work, I can be very critical of myself, so I would love to learn strategies to help my students and myself step away from the project and not be so critical, especially of the process.

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1. For my students, I need to understand the unique and myriad of ways creativity is expressed. I want my students to "think" again. 2. I want to create amazing lessons for my students that can enhance their gifts. 3. I feel since being removed from "advanced" art, my whole life changed at age 10. I always wanted to be a fashion designer, but alas, I am a teacher that has had to find ways to be creative, but it has never seemed enough. I am hoping this course will enable me to develop creatively, so I can help my students.

As far as supporting my students, I think 9. (I am comfortable applying creative problem solving in my content area.) and 11. (I am comfortable creating a classroom environment that supports motivation and creativity.) are most important. I am excited to learn about creative problem solving strategies that I can incorporate into science, and I need a stronger foundation for building a classroom environment that supports the risk-taking of creativity. As far as my teaching and my own creative endeavors, 14. (I know the areas in which I am creative and am comfortable exploring my own creativity and creative process.) would be areas where I know I can grow. I

tend to favor writing as creative expression and can share this with my Power of the Pen students, but I need to get comfortable sharing it with a wider audience.

1) I think it is important to learn about how best to bring out creativity of my students. This could be with my gifted and talented students, or even students that are not. I also think it is critical I learn different ways to do this, so I am able to connect with all of my students. 2) When it comes to my teaching, it is critical that I know the strategies to bring out creativity in my students. I also need to learn better ways to create challenging problem solving in my classroom. 3) It is important that I also know how to find the creativity in myself. If I am unable to find my own creativity, it would be hard to guide my students to find and use their creativity.

Before 654: What are your thoughts on this statement? "A teacher who explores their own personal creativity is better prepared to supporting creativity in the classroom." 8 responses

wholeheartedly agree. I have always believed that not every classroom needs to be a "Pinterest" worthy classroom, but creative thinking should be encouraged to develop in all students.

I agree with this statement. As with anything I believe you need to be self aware before you can help others.

I agree with the above statement. While there are different ways in which creative can be applied or manifest, they all share certain characteristics such a tolerance for ambiguity and questioning. Thus, in order to help cultivate the creativity in others it is important to understand how to cultivate it within one's self.

I agree with this statement, but I do not think it is necessarily essential for teachers to explore their own creativity. As long as teachers have an open mind and a willingness to listen, they could be capable of implementing creativity in the classroom, but someone who has been through it themselves will be more familiar with the creative process and should be better prepared and able to relate to the students and plan more valuable lessons and activities.

A classroom environment is one of the most important places to start encouraging and nurturing creativity in young people.

I agree 100%, unfortunately society does not allow creatives the time they need to be creative. Everything is so pressed and sometimes creativity cannot be pressed within the expectations of others.

I both absolutely agree with this and absolutely struggle to live it. It's so easy to get caught up in the never-ending to-do list that taking time for creativity feels like a luxury some times. I am hopeful that this course will give me more grounding in how to budget time for creativity in my life so that I can be a more inspiring teacher.

I think that this statement makes a lot of sense. As teachers, we need to understand how to find our own creativity. When we are able to do that, we can guide our students to do the same. We can't expect our students to feel their creativity is supported, if they can tell we have not explored our own.

After 654: Where did you feel you made the most growth in this class? What areas do you still feel you need or want to improve?6 responses

I feel that I made the most growth in being able to provide clear rationale for including creativity in the classroom and discipline in setting aside time each day to create (thought-log). I feel that I still need to work on assessments of creativity

I feel like I grew in the areas of self-discipline and reflective meditation. After this course I notice creativity everywhere and am constantly thinking about it.

I feel I have learned to be more observant of my students to notice that creativity. I would love to learn more about exploring my own creativity and how to enable students to take risks with their own creativity.

I think I made the most growth in improving the core aspect of self discipline. Although I did this imperfectly with my Thought Log, missing a few days, I did a whole lot more work in these last 2 months than I had in the last five years. I think learning to carve out time for creativity, even just 10 minutes a day, helped me open up to the idea that creativity is not a luxury, but part of the process of a life. I gained more appreciation for taking time for creative works as a form of self therapy and reflection. I realized that some of my other goals--exercise and meditation especially--feed into creating a habit for creativity, and that all of these things are important in building a happy and productive life.

I feel in this class, I made the most growth with understanding my own creativity. Before taking this class, I always told myself and the people around me that I am not a creative person. I realized that we are all creative and some people just need to find the time to be alone and find the best way to find their creativity. I feel that the areas I need to improve in are giving my students more opportunities to be creative in the classroom. I also need to improve on my understanding of the creative process and how much goes into creativity.

I believe I was able to reflect on myself as a creative person and start to identify issues that may arise for my students that struggle creatively. I also feel more capable of providing opportunities for my students to be creative. I still want to improve on my application to the classroom.

After 654 Reflection: Please comment on the course itself, the texts, the instructor, the format, pace, level of challenge, anything you wish to share so that I can improve the course:7 responses

I enjoyed this course. I checked "no" on meeting with a group for the meditation day because I like enjoy nature and meditate alone. However, even though it is an online course, interaction with other students is always appreciated.

I enjoyed the non traditional format. The readings were relevant and the projects were enjoyable. I enjoyed completing the creative activities for this course. Dr. Groman went above and beyond instructing this class.

Course: Excellent curriculum and well synthesized Texts: I really loved the Jigsaw activity. I am now going back to read about artists and writers. Instructor: A+, Thoughtful and helpful feedback on assignments. Thank you for taking the time to comment. Format: I loved how I was able to do a deeper dive into chapter 9 because I chose it. I also LOVED seeing everyone's work on the Padlet and very much appreciated to uniqueness of our class demographic. I enjoyed learning about the other chapters in Understanding Creativity Pace: THANK YOU for allowing the Meditation Day to be at home and removing FQ6. Challenge: This course forced me to open up in ways I have not for a very long time-THANK YOU.

I loved this course, and I'm very grateful to you, Dr. Groman, for your love of this course and your sharing of your own music (which is inspiring and moving) and talents. The monster and sculpture videos put to your own songs are beautiful and model the risk taking that we should be doing as teachers of gifted and creative students. Overall, I found the readings very helpful and loved Piirto's work. The pace moved quickly, but a 12 week course in 7 weeks will do that. I felt assignments were fairly spread out on the syllabus. As far as readings, I did find myself reading the Creative Process/5 Core Attitudes/Inspiration & Other I's/Core Attitudes chapters assigned for FQ4 earlier in the course to help me with my biographical sketch and jigsaw assignment, so the only real idea I would have is to assign those readings earlier (or even to acknowledge that they are towards the end of the course but might be helpful for earlier assignments--which you might have done and I have forgotten, in which case I apologize!). I found this course challenging in that it was moving me to form healthy habits for creativity and life. The content was very straightforward, and the assignments were fair. With the risk-taking that came from sharing some of the creative work, I was grateful that your grading and evaluation was lenient and was not a harsh evaluation; I appreciate you "feeding back" rather than just giving feedback and grades. Thank you for everything!

I thought that this course was very informative and I learned a lot. The Piirto text, Understanding Creativity, was very eye-opening and easy to understand. I felt that I was challenged with the amount of assignments, but it challenged me with time management, while also having a full time job.

This class was wonderful and so well organized. The professor was passionate which rubbed off on me. The weekly videos were so helpful in the online setting.

After 654 Reflection: What are your thoughts on this statement? "A teacher who explores their own personal creativity is better prepared to support creativity in the classroom." 7 responses

I agree. Engaging in the creative process and thinking about one's own thinking while doing so will help the teacher aide students on their own journeys in creativity

I absolutely agree. A teacher does not have to be an expert or possess immense talent to support creativity, but they have to be aware of the process and how people go through it, which can not fully happen unless they have been through it themselves.

We learned that we can enhance creativity in the classroom. The core attitudes for enhancing creativity can be taught. Many suggestions were given on how parents and teachers can enhance creativity in children. I look forward to trying them.

I still agree, as I said on the pre-assessment, 100% that teachers that explore their own creativity are better prepared to support creativity in the classroom, but what i noticed while completing the Bio-Sketch is that technology, if we are not careful, can interfere with Incubation.

I'm not sure my answer has changed much here from before the course. I absolutely believe this statement is true, but now, after spending time with my Thought Log and compiling my Poetry Collection, I see even more that it is important to live the creatively exploratory life. The Thought Log also proved to me that making time for creativity doesn't need to take hours and hours a week. Ten minutes a day can sometimes get creativity flowing enough that I want to spend more time with on creating something to satisfy myself, and that is an awesome feeling. I think sharing this experience and the idea of a Thought Log with students will give them an easy, doable strategy for spending more time with their own creativity.

When students see that we express our creativity, they will do the same. A teacher who can understand their own creativity and show that to the students will promote a creative classroom in general. Give students the option to find their creative self and give them the opportunity to express their understanding through their creative way.

I agree with this statement. I think understanding yourself creatively can help you understand how to support your students.