OLTD 501 ePortfolio Reflection #1

OLTD Program Learning Outcomes:

- Become familiar with common terms, definitions and elements related to online environments.

- Demonstrate basic competency with design and implementation within a variety of online learning environments and tools.

- Understand, design and commit to student success in online learning environments.

Evidence:

- OLTD 501 Learning Activity #4 - Pecha Kucha

Reflection:

The evidence I have chosen to support this learning outcome is the Pecha Kucha PowerPoint presentation that I created from October 6th to 10th 2017 to complete Learning Activity #4 for Topic 5 of OLTD 501. A Pecha Kucha is a presentation in which 20 slides are shown for 20 seconds each, with each slide containing a full screen visual and one or two words. The Pecha Kucha we were asked to make for Learning Activity #4 was on what we imagined our ideal online learning environment, including characteristics, essential attributes, and philosophical considerations. We were asked to have each slide show for 8 seconds instead of the traditional 20.

Creating this Pecha Kucha allowed me to reflect on and summarize many of the concepts, theories, vocabulary, and philosophies related to online learning that I learned throughout the first 5 weeks of OLTD 501. I was able to incorporate terms from learning theories such as constructivism and connectivism as well as elements of blended and fully online delivery that I feel are important for student success. The words that I used in this presentation reflect that I have an understanding of the common language of best practice for teaching online and are the basis for my beliefs about what an online learning environment should be. Although I competed numerous assignments during OLTD 501 that helped me to learn the basic terms, definitions, elements, and tools for teaching online, this assignment incorporates many of the concepts from those other assignments into one concise example. The strength of this selection is that it summarizes that I have an understanding of these learning outcomes a concise and engaging format.

This learning outcome is important to me as online educator because it is the foundation upon which my knowledge about online learning will be built. Understanding these key terms, definitions, elements of online learning will allow me to build my own philosophy for teaching online that incorporates best practice and current learning theories. The elements that I have learned will influence how I structure my classes, create an online community, interact with students, and provide feedback. As an online educator, if I have greater understanding of these things I will be able to more adequately meet the needs of my students and offer them a well rounded, informed education. I have found that now that I have an understanding of these outcomes I have begun to think about education differently and have already incorporated some of the online tools and teaching methods that I have learned in OLTD 501 into my teaching.