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ACTIVITIES

Solving World Issues One Smartphone at a Time

Applied Strategy: [Project-based Instruction](https://www.saltise.ca/strategy/project-based-instruction/) (<https://www.saltise.ca/strategy/project-based-instruction/>)

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SOLVING WORLD ISSUES ONE SMARTPHONE AT A TIME

At a Glance

DISCIPLINE

Social Sciences

Applied Arts

Health Sciences

INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL

College & CEGEP

Tasks in Workflow

SOCIAL PLANE(S)

Individual

Group

TYPE OF TASKS

Collecting & seeking information

Discussing

Solving problems

Reviewing & assessing peers

Creating & designing

Reading

Technical Details

USEFUL TECHNOLOGIES

Smartphones recommended but laptops and tablets also suffice

An open innovation platform such as Viima or Nureva's Span Workspace

CLASS SIZE

Small (20-49)

TIME

Single class period (< 90 mins)

PURPOSE

Preparation & knowledge activation

Application & practice

Overview

The purpose of this activity is to familiarize students with the potential of online tools for problem-solving.

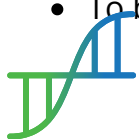
Students will be divided into teams of 3 to 5 people. As an in-class activity that can be completed for homework, each team will be assigned the same problem to solve using online tools on their smartphones. It can be a complex math problem that introduces new formulas they haven't been taught yet or an important social problem like hunger, poverty or the lack of privacy in the 21st century. Students will be encouraged to think outside the box and consult online resources (journal articles, ...

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Instructional Objectives

- To realize the potential of creativity and open innovation for problem-solving
- To learn to evaluate the ideas of their peers and give constructive feedback

- To become aware of new pedagogical ways to use smartphones



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Workflow & Materials

ACTIVITY WORKFLOW

Solving World Issues One Smartphone at a Time

DOWNLOAD (/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2020/06/SOLVING_WORLD_ISSUES.PDF)

Contributor's Notes

BENEFITS

- The students practice their skills in teamwork and become acquainted with different apps and technology
- They become more familiar with current world issues and/or complex problems of interest to them (how to reduce traffic jams in Montreal, how to stop the destruction of the Amazon Forest, how to find an eco-friendly alternative to plastic, etc.)

CHALLENGES

- If using Google Suite, those students with iPhones will need to download the google-relevant app and be logged on to their gmail to access all the features (1)
- When sending a link for a Google Suite document via MIO, students with iPhones will have a harder time accessing the document (2)

TIPS

- For challenge (2) once the student has installed the google-relevant app, the student must click on the option 'open with Safari' so as to be able to use all the features like sharing hacks and editing

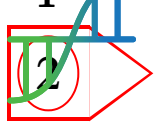
Applied Strategies



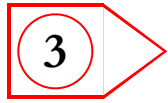
PROJECT-BASED INSTRUCTION



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Feedback

Leave a comment! Activities get better when we receive feedback and understand how they might be adapted and reused. Please let us know what you think after using this Activity, or if you have questions about how it might be used differently.

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