

Toward a Better World for Children:

Helping Students Practice Real World Applications of Developmental Science

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"Professor Lima warned us at the beginning of the semester this would be a lot of work. I wouldn't want that to discourage anybody from taking it. You really have to work for your grade and I feel a sense of accomplishment of what I have achieved. I know the knowledge I have gained will be beneficial in my future."

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"In most classes it is really easy to just memorize material and get scores on exams – but these activities have really challenged me to think and process things in more detail. It seems strange, but it has been nice to have to really think about things. I think that is what college should really be about – so I appreciate this aspect the most."



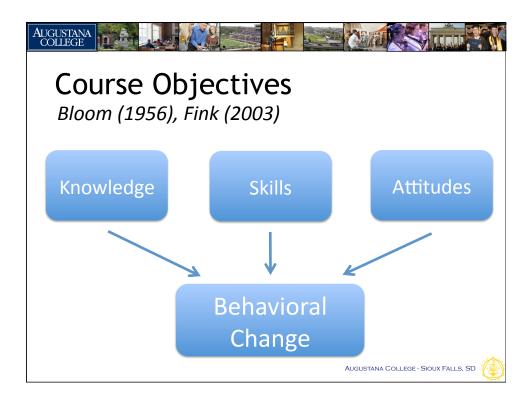


Setting

- College/university size & mission
- Audience for developmental courses
- Class size

Where are you?









Group research activities

Ex: Baby Einstein

- 1) Brainstorm where would you look?
- 2) Go & gather info
- 3) Compile, interpret, discuss
- 4) Reach a (well-supported) conclusion





Case studies

Ex: Depression

- 1) Pre-writing
- 2) Case (Wilmhurst, 2011)
- 3) Research on disorder (inc. assessment & treatment)
- 4) Write (well-supported) recommendations







Service learning

Ex: Afterschool, coaching, hospital

- 1) Select site for semester; regular hours
- 2) Plan interaction/observation (prompts)
- 3) Write reflective (well-supported) reports





Exams: Applied essay questions

Your neighbor says she heard a news story about the recent surge in autism diagnoses. "That's a lot of bunk!" she tells you. "My hairdresser says her boy has autism, but there's nothing really wrong with him. It's just an excuse she uses for his misbehaving. Nowadays people want to turn everything into a 'disorder'!"

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What are the barriers to implementation?

- Scaling to your load
- Student resistance (Felder, 2007)
- Grading
- Coverage







References

Bloom, B. S. (Ed.) (1956). Taxonomy of educational objectives, the classification of educational goals - Handbook I: Cognitive domain. New York: McKay

Felder, R. M. (2007). Sermons for grumpy campers. *Chem. Engr. Education*, 41 (3), 183-184.

Fink, L. D. (2003). Creating significant learning experiences: An integrated approach to designing college courses. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

Wilmshurst, L. (2011). *Child and adolescent psychopathology: A case book*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Sample materials from my classes available at: www.augie.edu/academics/psychology/srcd

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