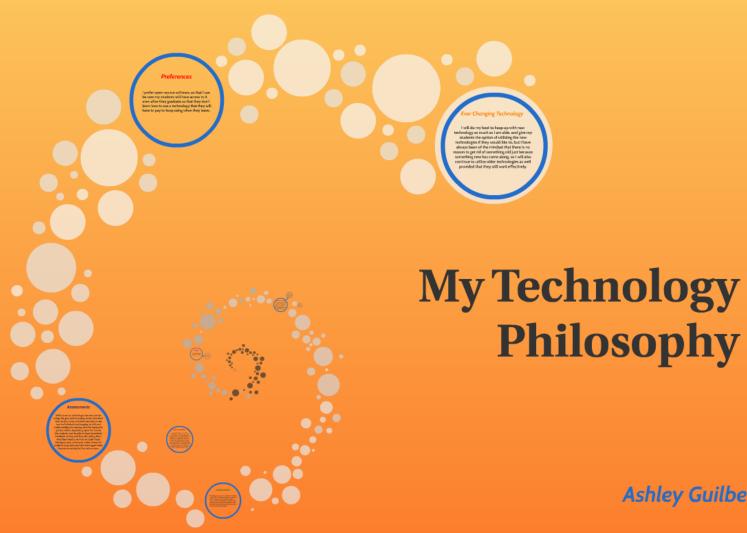


Ashley Guilbert









Introduction

In this age, technology is all around us, and, should we use it well, it can serve as a great asset for teachers and students alike.



Technology and Teaching

Technology should be used as a tool to help the teacher teach the students and to help the students learn. Technology is a great resource for information, ideas, tools, and all kinds of other things.



Uses in My Licensure Areas

In an English classroom, technology is a great tool to use for assigning at home reading checks, for students to look up unfamiliar words or references within the work they are studying, and for many other uses.

In a Japanese classroom, technology can be used to find real, practical documents in Japanese for the students to study, such as advertisements and blogs, and can also be used to research cultural aspects as well as for various other things.



Integrating Technology

I plan to integrate technology into my classroom as much as I am able in order to better help myself, my students, and their families. I plan to have an online course calendar that everyone can access-students and parents-where I will post in class and homework assignments so that everyone can see what we'll be working on and plan accordingly. I also like lectures that have a visual aid, such as a power point or prezi, to go along with it, and if I have access to a SMART board I will use that to make my lessons and lectures more interactive. I also like to show short, relevant video and audio clips and images using the internet during lessons which is only possible through the use of technology.



Benefits

By using technology, I can do things like show videos and clips during my lessons, play interactive review games, and have my students contribute directly to the lesson through the use of voters or other devices that allow them to submit things to the SMART board. These kinds of things help to make the lessons more interactive and therefore more memorable and meaningful for the students as well as more fun.



More Benefits

Utilizing technology can be a way for teachers to experiment with their lesson plans and allow them to create new activities for students or add a twist to something old. It can also allow students to experiment and try something different while working on a project or assignment.



Collaboration

Technology is a great way to allow for student collaboration through things like Google Docs, Prezi, and even email. By giving students access to these technologies, it enables them to better communicate and collaborate with each other and allows them to create creative and interesting final products.



Assessments

With access to technology, teachers can do things like give online reading checks that don't take up class time, and allow teachers to see how well students are keeping up with and understanding the reading. Also, by having the quizzes online, depending upon the format, the students may be able to have immediate feedback on how well they did, telling them what they need to work on or study more. Having quizzes online also makes it easy for students to go back and take them again when they are reviewing for the test or exam.



Communication

Technology is also a great tool for communication with others, and is one I fully intend to utilize to help communicate with students, parents, and community members. I am a big believer in communication, and I believe that the more you communicate, the smoother everything will run. I plan to utilize technology to create a course calendar that everyone can access, an email list for my students so that they can contact each other as well as myself, and the same for the parents, as well as a website of some kind where I can post all of the resources used in class for fast and easy access.



Preferences

I prefer open-source software, so that I can be sure my students will have access to it even after they graduate so that they don't learn how to use a technology that they will have to pay to keep using when they leave.



Ever Changing Technology

I will do my best to keep up with new technology as much as I am able, and give my students the option of utilizing the new technologies if they would like to, but I have always been of the mindset that there is no reason to get rid of something old just because something new has come along, so I will also continue to utilize older technologies as well provided that they still work effectively.



