



Educators' Technology Clinics

Student Project Profile

Course: LTMS 600 Web 2.0 in the Classroom

Project Name: Collaborative Essay Writing

Project Audience: 12th grade, **Social Studies:** Social Issues

Eastern York School District

Project Description: The students collectively wrote an essay on “How their parents and/or peers affected their views on money, marriage, politics and religion.” Final essay:

<http://mixedink.com/vbarr/viewson>

Mixed Ink is a free website (students need email addresses to activate their accounts) where students can post responses to an initial idea and rate others comments, and then edit what they wrote or borrow from other people's posts. The final version is the highest rated and includes statements from many people.

Audience Response: The students really enjoyed both writing their initial statements and rating what other students wrote to contribute to the final version.

Improved Learning Outcomes: In approximately 30 minutes every student in a class of about 25 students was able to contribute their thoughts at least four to five times and they were reading and rating what other students wrote. In an oral discussion of this nature, far fewer people would have participated, and probably some students not at all.

What I Learned: The students were quick to learn how the website worked, the students were very quiet and on task the entire time. I would definitely do this again.