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Classroom Instruction and Assessment

Homework Policy

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Mr. Schmidt's Homework Policy

After learning about some of the negative effects of homework in our class lecture, I have changed the way I think about it. I was never a fan of homework because it always made me stressed about the class and made my evenings with extra-curriculars difficult. Therefore, I do not plan on assigning frequent homework assignments in my class. I might occasionally make a discussion board online that goes along with something we learned in class, which would be graded based on completion. The only other type of homework that my students will primarily complete will be papers or projects, which they will be given a few weeks and class time to complete depending on the size of the assignment. By assigning papers and projects weeks in advance of the due date, I believe it gives enough time for the students to complete it without being stressed and also work on their time management skills for their futures in college.

When I do assign my students with homework, I will be very clear on my expectations and explain to them what standards and objectives they will be completing by doing the assignment. I will always be sure to give the students plenty of time to complete the assignment which should allow for them to ask questions if they are confused. I also will have a clear and easy to read rubric that corresponds with each assignment. I don't think I will give the students a specific time that they should spend working on the assignment, because I think it will vary from student to student. As long as the assignment is completed in accordance with the rubric, the students will receive a good grade.

I will keep up with grading by not assigning more than I can handle. By assigning limited amounts of homework, I should be able to stay on top of the things that I do assign in my class. I also plan on having students peer review each other's papers and help make corrections so that when I correct them, there should be less to correct. If I do assign the online discussion boards in my class, I plan on using technology to make the grading process easier on myself. I will not give out zeros in my class after seeing what that can do to a student's grade as well. I will be flexible when it comes to late work depending on how the student handles the situation. Overall, I do not want to assign anything that the students will not benefit from or find engaging. I want my students to see my class as a learning environment rather than an obstacle to get done with.