Empowering Teachers to Enable Social Justice with UDL

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Kibbutzim College (Israel)
About us

• Amir Bar
  – Dyslexic
  – UCNLEARN
  – Instructional Designer / Oil & Gas

• Dr. Betty Shriber
  – Leading Assistive Technologies programs
  – Specialized in ADHD and Learning Disorders, Assistive Technologies, and Executive Function

• Kibbutzim College
  – Founded in 1939
  – Biggest College of Education in Israel (6,000 students)
Project Objectives

• Build a program for technology and Special Education (the first one in Israel)
• Introduce UDL to professionals in Israel
• Give hands-on experience

CAST
Universal Design for Learning

1 course ➔ 2 professors ➔ 19 teacher graduate students ➔ 19 classrooms ➔ 200+ special-ed pupils
Our Students

- 19 Graduate Students
- All have 3+ years of special education teaching experience
Course Delivery Methods

- Online Assignments
- Video Lectures
- Face to face activities
- Mentoring in small groups remotely (WhatsApp, Skype, emails)

12:00 PM (Israel time)
4:00 AM (Houston time)
Syllabus outline

• **Meetings:**
  - Online lecture (Weeks 1 & 2)
  - Face-to-face class (Weeks 3 & 4)
  - Individual meetings online (the rest of the semester)
  - Presentations of final projects in class (Last week of the semester)

• **Content:**
  - Academic research reading and reflections
  - Class activities in groups
  - Final Project work with weekly milestones (2 people per group)
Lego Assignment

- Pre-class Technical Assessment
- Arrange groups based on results
- Work in class to create instructions in four methods:
  - 1. Text instructions (no images)
  - 2. Audio (for a blind person)
  - 3. Video
  - 4. Image (no words)
Work in Teams

• Individual work vs. group work
  – Sharing experience
  – Sharing ideas
  – Sharing strengths
  – Sharing resources
Final Project

• Created a UDL-based educational product:
  – Leverage SurveyGizmo (online survey tool) to build a digital activity.
  – Leverage iPads if possible.
  – Test the product with their pupils, evaluate, improve, and test again.
Two aspects of being able to leverage UDL digitally are:

- The ability to create content
  - Audio files, images files, video files
- The technical knowledge of using eLearning platforms
  - SurveyGizmo, open resource apps, YouTube, etc.
Select which project you want to see:

• Example #1: Intellectual Disabilities
• Example #2: Deaf & Hard of Hearing
• Example #3: At risk adolescent

A UDL Movement

Come see us at the Poster Session today at 4:00 p.m.
Example 1

Team:
Hanen Sanallah & Dafna Tsoran

Audience:
Intellectual Disabilities
Example 2

Team:
Orna Levi & Avigail Provisor

Audience:
Deaf & Hard of Hearing
Example 3

**Team:**
Ronit Ben Simon & Naor Zion

**Audience:**
At risk adolescent
Challenges

• Working with SurveyGizmo
• Distance Teaching (time difference)
• Internet Access in Schools
• Using Hebrew on English-based platforms
• Availability of UDL information in Hebrew
• Students’ technology skills
• Balancing between theory vs. hands-on
• Grading projects
Conclusion

• Allow students to work on multiple platforms
• Clear guidelines and criteria for assessments
• Emphasize academic research
• Co-teaching this course enables creativity
• Hands-on project is memorable and engaging
Thank you!
Come see our students’ projects at the Poster Session.