

How this Learning Experience Incorporates Technology Into Instruction To Enhance Student Learning And To Assess Student Performance.

Prior to the actual debate, students had to read the book *The Outsiders*. I would often show scenes from the Francis Ford Coppola movie "The Outsiders" on a VCR/TV set up to enhance instruction and assess student performance in the following ways:

- as a reinforcement for student understanding of their reading.
- as a means to assess student understanding by asking them to compare and contrast a section of the book they were asked to read with the same section in the movie.
- as a means to have students consider the reasons why books and movies often differ.

I also videotaped students during the debate and showed it to them the following day. I wanted them to see themselves debating so they might, as best they could from my primitive video taping, assess their debate performance.

Ideally, this Learning Experience might incorporate more technology in terms of the following:

- Incorporation of additional videotaping in the area of student assessment of their own debate performance. This might take place before and during the actual debate. Pre-debate videotaping would be quite helpful in directing students toward more effective debating strategies for better performance. During debate, videotaping would allow students to assess their actual debate performance, pinpointing positive and effectual debate techniques and identifying weak or less effective practices they might improve upon for next time. This videotaping would also have been very helpful to me in terms of assessing and improving student performance.
- Integration of Power Point presentations from a computer and projected onto a screen using a Proxima, or similar, projection device. I've only recently started doing this and have found this to be an incredible way to present information. Additionally, I would use a computer with a built in DVD so I could quickly go from the Power Point presentation to a scene(s) from the movie *The Outsiders* with very little transition time.