Abstract

If there ever was a time to create a flexible structure for student learning and success, the time is now. One of the most empowering and compassionate practices that we can integrate into our classrooms is scaffolding, an instructional strategy that provides students with a framework to guide and support their learning. The Internship Seminar is a 400-level undergraduate course offered in the music and performing arts management program at Hartt School. Scaffolding the writing process in this course has transformed the research paper assessment in more ways than one. The course aids students as they delve deep into writing a comprehensive analysis of an arts organization.

The creation of a research paper can become a daunting and challenging task for students. Add in pressures from the COVID-19 pandemic, and the benefits of giving students structure and support through this scaffolded assessment becomes invaluable. Through this process students have more clarity because they understand exactly what they need to do. The presentation will look at four ways to create a strong scaffolded structure for teaching including organizing a large assessment with a matrix and research organizer, mind map and brainstorming tools, and offering clarity through templates, exemplars, and rubrics.

Keywords: music industry pedagogy, student learning, scaffolding

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