

# Keeping the "Tech" in Career and Technical Education

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## Introduction

- Integrating technology into the classroom is a continual need for pre-service education
- Remaining current on classroom technologies is critical to classroom success (Kimav & Aydin, 2020)
- Pre-service educators better understand technologies when presented as practical knowledge (Tondeur et al., 2012)
- The University of Kentucky is using experiential education practices increase student's knowledge of technology
- The importance of technology has increased due to the impact of the Coronavirus

## How it Works

- Students design a lesson around a technology to be used in their future classroom
- For completion of the lesson students:
  - a. Write instructions for using the technology specific enough for someone else to teach
  - b. Demonstrate the technology to the class
  - c. Reflect on the process of teaching with technology
  - d. Provide feedback for their classmates
- Students are encouraged to use a variety of technologies: applications, websites, virtual field trips, etc.
- Develop a list of technologies and instruction sets from the completion of multiple lessons for future use

## Results to Date

- Students have developed an increased awareness for time management and potential difficulties
- Students reflected on the lessons expressing the importance of visibility of technology, specific instructions, and keep students on task:
  - "It challenged me to step out of my comfort zone...and learn about a new tool to enhance my teaching"
- Students have used the technologies and instruction sets to enhance future lessons and lesson plans

## Future Plans

- Further integrate distance technologies and integrate new technologies into instruction
- Expand reflection methods to include lesson plan modification and a written component to enhance effectiveness of lessons
- Explore the use of videography and music in creating unique curriculum

## Costs/ Resources

- Pre-service teachers are encouraged to use free technologies
- Device with Internet access for the educator and each student
- Depending on the technology, a downloaded application, specific link, or QR code may be needed

