**Blendspace (TES) Agency Tutorials**

By the end of this assignment, students will be able to:

1. Analyze agency websites for sufficient content and efficiency of use
2. Demonstrate ability to create TES Blendspace tutorials that are effective learning tools
3. Identify web-based material that has potential benefits to client populations or social work professionals

**Assignment Description**

The purpose of this assignment is to learn more about agencies and resources available to serve a variety of client populations. In addition to learning about a variety of services, you will also be able to assess the agency’s website and determine the efficiency of the website. By utilizing the online tool Blendspace, you will have access to each student’s lesson and be able to access the information in the future.

There are three parts to this assignment:

1. Create a Blendspace lesson on your assigned agency
2. Present a brief overview of the lesson to the class
3. Complete a reflection of the assignment and the agency website

**Part 1: Blendspace Lesson Creation**

You will create a Blendspace lesson on an agency assigned by your instructor. Your Blendspace lesson should be educational and help other students understand the agency’s services, referral procedures, and eligibility requirements. You may include agency websites, YouTube videos, and other internet resources. You should use only information that is relevant and targeted to your topic (not broad websites or links). You should use information that you deem valid and reliable. Once you complete the assignment (and classmates review the lesson), your classmates should know who is eligible for services and how to make a referral.

The last tile of your lesson should be a quiz covering the information provided in your lesson. The quiz questions should be of high quality and focus on services available, referral procedures, and eligibility. Use a variety of question formats.

Your Blendspace lesson should contain the following:

1. At least 6 tiles, but no more than 9
2. At least one YouTube clip, but no more than 2
3. One quiz with a minimum of 10 questions
4. No more than 1 picture tile
5. Useful information related to the topic you choose

You will need to “share” your lesson in the “class” on Blendspace before your presentation.

**Part 2: Class Presentation**

You should be prepared to present a brief overview of your agency to the class (5 – 10 minutes). In your overview, discuss the following:

1. The agency and its purpose/mission
2. Why you included specific information in the lesson
3. What you learned
4. Highlight any particular tiles in the lesson you feel are important

**Part 3: Assignment Reflection**

In two to three typed pages, assess your experience according to the following:

1. Describe your experience using the agency website. Was it hard or easy to find what you needed? Did you obtain most of your information directly from the agency authored website, or did you use other reliable websites? Why or why not?
2. Was the website designed with potential clients or professionals in mind? If English wasn’t your first language, could you use the website? If your vision was impaired, could you use the website? If your reading level was below 8th grade, could you understand the information?
3. What would you change about the website or the method of accessing the information?
4. Describe your experience learning about the agency. Was the information easy to understand? If you had to utilize the service would it be easy or hard? If you had to make a referral, would it be easy or hard?
5. What new information did you learn as a result of this assignment?
6. What is your assessment of this assignment as a learning method?

**Other Instructor Notes**

* A sample lesson may be found at this link:

<http://blnds.co/1in7dq7>

* YouTube tutorial on Blendspace:

[http://www.YouTube.com/watch?v=aQ\_Mg3lSoew](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQ_Mg3lSoew)

* Link to Blendspace to create account: [www.blendspace.com](http://www.blendspace.com).
* The instructor will need a list of agencies to assign to students. This list may be from the textbook used in class or a list of local agencies (or a combination).
* The instructor could use the questions in an exam format to ensure students have covered the material.
* The instructor could allow the students to follow along on their personal devices in class on the day of the presentations.
* Another addition to this assignment is to have the students visit the agency or conduct a phone interview. This can be added to the Blendspace lesson by attaching a Word document, linking a YouTube “news bulletin” video, or any other method.
* It is important to have a discussion about reliable internet resources before beginning the project.
* Students did like the idea of having access to the information after the class ended. If they are worried about the technology or losing the information, they can also print the lessons (with website links) to store a paper version or PDF version.
* QR codes and links can be generated for the lessons for ease in navigation.
* This method can be used by instructors outside of class to prepare students for in-class discussions.
* Students should be introduced to the idea of creating lessons and educating various client populations.
* The instructor should set up the “class” in Blendspace prior to the students beginning the project. This will allow students to upload their lessons directly to the class without additional work from the instructor.
* Average prep time required by faculty: 1 – 2 hours
* Average assignment time required by student: 5 – 7 hours

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