

OLTD 502 Reflection B

The evidence piece I have chosen is my final paper assignment for OLTD 502. This paper looks at research about blended and fully online learning courses and what cost savings and benefits are there compared to traditional F2F courses. While there are limitations, the paper finds that blended and fully online courses can save school districts money over the long term compared to traditional methods.

As I researched for this paper, I came across terminology and definitions for fully online, blended, and traditional learning. I also came across terminology for LMS and non-LMS (Learning Management Systems). These terms and ideas were unknown to me before hand and subsequently had to learn about them to understand what the research was saying. I then had to incorporate that knowledge into my paper. I'm sure that as I move forward in these courses, I will learn even more about the new terminology I have come across in my research.

Becoming familiar with common terms, definitions and elements related to online environments is mandatory to even begin to tackle the challenge of teaching or designing an online course. Knowing the current terminology will allow for smoother discussion with colleagues and allow you to interpret studies in a more efficient manner. Knowing about the pieces related to online environments provides the foundation to build the more in-depth knowledge still to come and lessens confusion as terminology and methodologies get used in conversation.