OLTD 509 Reflection #2

This evidence piece is a research paper that examines the latest research regarding online learning and environments. The paper examines the barriers, benefits and provides strategies for students and instructors to succeed in online courses and environments.

I learned that learning in online environments requires many skills that aren't always practiced in F2F settings. Creating online courses that encourage student engagement, train new students to be self-regulated in their learning, and regularly check-in with your students are pivotal pieces amongst other things that as an instructor I need to be aware of as well as a learner in an online learning environment myself. Overall, I feel I have found some great resources and learned some useful tips and strategies for employing my own online courses.

Critically assessing and evaluating resources for best practice in online learning is a useful skill for siphoning out resources that aren't well researched or contain limitations that may discredit the research conducted. Also being able to identify material that is useful amongst many other sources and confirming its integrity is necessary before thinking about implementing any new methodology or resource guide into a course. Ensuring that the resources and methodologies used are sound and relevant to what you are teaching and how you teach is important. There is nothing worse than finding out mid-lesson that the resource you chose leads down an entirely different path than the one you were planning or that the educational strategy you've employed isn't working at all or is negatively affecting your student's performance.