

Date:

Backwards Planning

Course Objectives

TEACHERS WILL

1. Examine your current approach to planning
2. Examine the process of Backwards Planning and see how it is a transferable skill that can be applied to your personal as well as professional life

KEY POINTS FROM THE COURSE

1. Definition of Backwards Planning in reference to education: Backwards Planning is a process that educators use to design learning experiences and instructional techniques to achieve specific learning goals.
2. **The Backwards Planning process has 5 Principles: Goal, Assessment, Plan, Checks for Progress, (being)Adaptive.**
3. While following the Backwards Planning process, one must always first think about what one wants to achieve in the end- the 'Goal', followed by how one will know they have achieved the goal- the 'Assessment', and only then plan what to do to achieve the goal – the 'Plan'.
4. Thus in Backwards Planning, the assessment and plan must always be aligned to the goal. It is therefore important to deeply think about the goal, as everything else will be aligned to it.
5. It is also equally important to think about the assessment we'll use to check if we have achieved our goal. We also need to think thoroughly about whether the activities/experiences/lessons we're including in our plan will ultimately help us be successful in achieving our goal.
6. In Backwards Planning it is crucial that one builds in the 'Checks for Progress' within the plan, as they will indicate how close/far one is from the final goal.
7. It is important to remember that 'being Adaptive' cannot be fully pre-empted because it is dependent on the deviation from the plan and can only be seen in person- once on the ground. But one must make efforts to plan in a way that we can be flexible when required.

8. Backwards Planning is a 'transferrable' skill which means that we can use it for personal as well as professional goals, as well as long and short term goals.
9. We need to set goals. Not because they must be easy but because they are difficult to achieve. They must challenge us and our students. An ambitious goal not only sets us a road map to success but also allows us to dream big for our students.

What I learnt from the course

Reflective Question 1

What areas (actual lessons/ classroom management/Professional development/extra-curricular etc...) of my teaching do I need to plan for on a regular basis?
(Daily/Weekly/Monthly/Yearly)

Reflective Question 2

i) Why is it important for me to plan my goal and assessments before I plan the lesson itself?

ii) How can I ensure that I make an adaptive plan?

Reflective Question 3

How could me planning my lessons benefit my own instruction and my students' learning?

My questions and doubts on the course



HOW DO I KEEP TRACK OF MY PROGRESS?

Reflection for the month



NOTES

Date What went well in execution? What needs greater support?

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