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Legislatively Literate: Deeper Learning Through Collaboration

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Legislatively Literate
Deeper Learning Through Collaboration

Students will research and present on one historical/legal event that has impacted English Language Learners (ELLS) in the United States and write a response about the ELL experience across time.

Lesson Learned
1. The icebreaker for academic language was key to understanding the rest of the assignment.
2. There was too much instruction on the front end of the session.
3. Some events were more complicated than others, and not well-suited to the assignment.
4. It might be beneficial to assign each event to a pair instead of an individual.
5. Quick feedback questions were a good idea.
6. There was a correlation of students’ experiences with this difficult assignment to the feelings of ELLs in the classroom. This was expressed in the written reflections.
7. There should be separate instruction for those who chose a case and those who chose legislation.
8. There would be a closer connection to the assignment if the students presented on the same day as the workshop.
9. This exercise could be revised for other interdisciplinary courses (e.g.: POL/CJS/WGS, LAW).

Course: TCH 248 - Foundations for Effective Practice with English Learners (ELLS)