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# ***Going Digital with Service Learning in Online Courses***

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Oct. 6, 2015

National Society for Experiential Education

44<sup>th</sup> NSEE Annual Conference



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## In this Presentation

- We will look at the development of service learning (SL) projects conducted by graduate students in the College of Education at UNC Charlotte from face-to-face, hybrid and then online formats.
- Discuss and share ideas for enhancing SL using digital tools and in online formats.



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## My divided life

- **College of Education:** my academic home at UNC Charlotte is the Dept. of Reading & Elementary Education.
- **University College:** my administrative home (AD for our QEP, the Prospect for Success)
- *I come at this from my COED silo and the campus bigger picture*



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# Themes that guide this work

- Sociocultural perspectives of literacy and learning
- Multiliteracies and digital literacies
- Community-based literacy



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### Sociocultural

Literacy and  
learning in context

Research with  
teachers &  
students



### Multiliteracies

Meaningful uses of  
technology in  
teaching and  
learning



### Community Based

Literacy Tutoring  
Service Learning



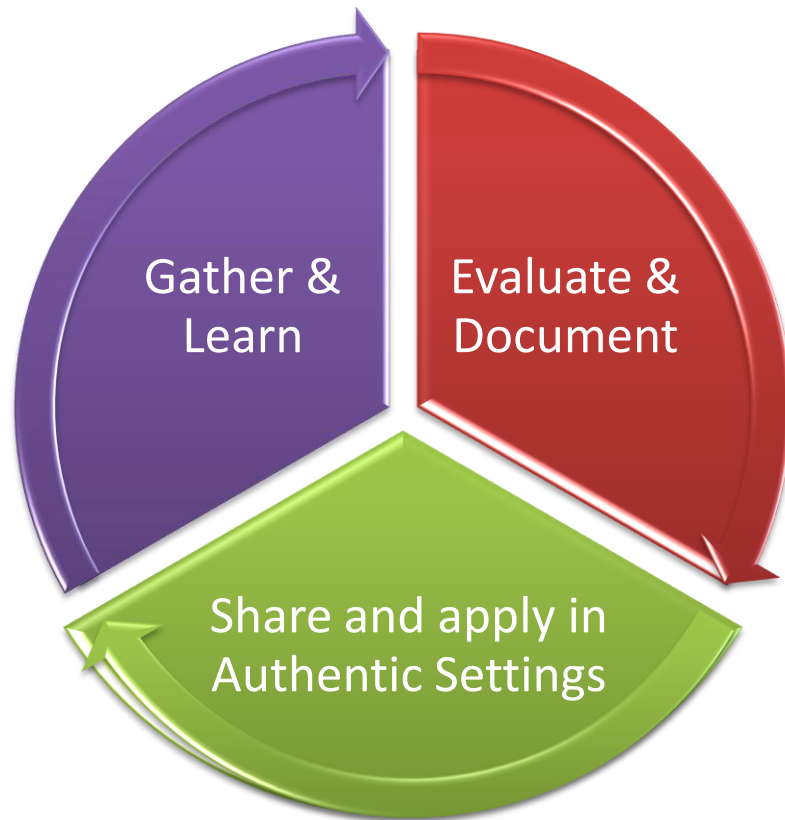
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## About these courses

- The M.Ed. programs at UNC Charlotte seeks to prepare education professionals to work in P-12 schools as teacher leaders and specialization (reading specialists, literacy facilitators and academic coaches).
- Integration of theory, research, application and more recently, service and service learning.



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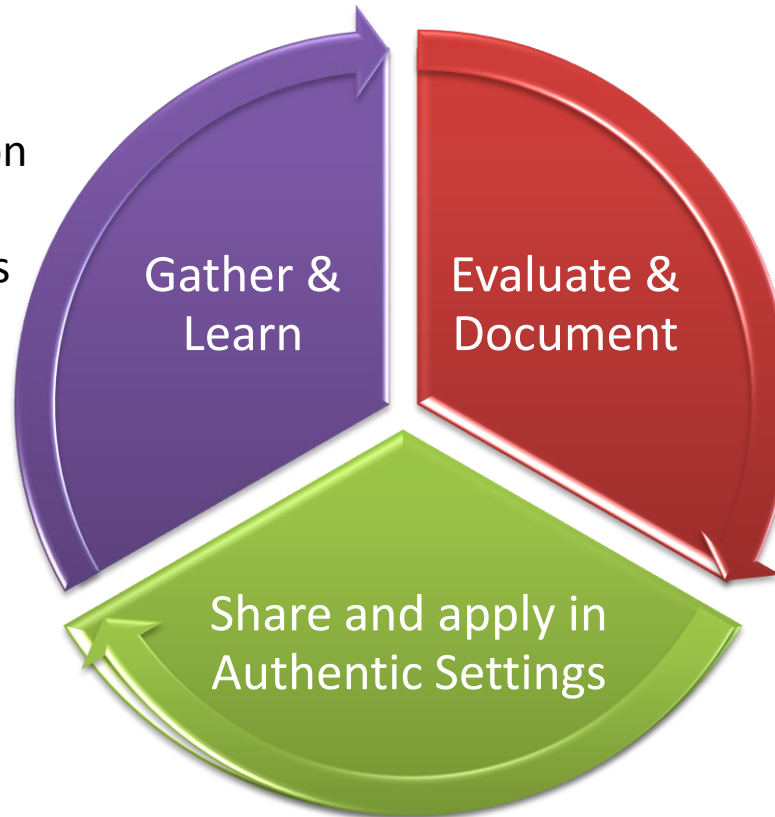
**I believe that good teaching and learning include:**

- Gathering ideas and learning new approaches
- Evaluating and documenting those ideas/approaches
- Share and applying them in authentic settings and real world contexts



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- Research
- Inquiry and discussion
- Journal, blog
- Threaded discussions
- Debate



- Essays and reports
- Presentations
- Multimedia texts
- Document in wikis
- Video documentaries

- Presentations
- Workshops
- Collaborating with kids
- Service Learning





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## Courses that include SL\*\*

- **READ 6255** Middle & Secondary Reading and Writing
- **READ 6252** K-12 Writing Development and Instruction
- **READ 6265** Multiliteracies in a Global World: Reading & Writing Texts in New Times

*\*\*These are NOT SL designated courses. The SL is an option.*



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## Two Epiphanies

1. **My Students are Smart & Talented.** It's dumb to contain their talents to just our university classrooms.
2. **Service Learning is Good Pedagogy.** We can apply their talents to real-world contexts.

**Service-Learning** is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities. (Learn & Serve Clearinghouse)



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Face-to-Face

# **SERVICE LEARNING 1.0**



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# Service Learning 1.0 (F2F)

From an in-class assignment to create a mini professional development presentation we launched a 3-hour face-to-face PD workshop for teachers.

- Year 1: Graduate students developed and presented their PD presentations at two of three session times. 127 educators showed up.
- Years 2, 3, 4, 5, etc. Workshops on literacy, technology, SL.

Students in the Multiliteracies class worked with a Freedom School site in our community (a summer youth program) to create a weeklong digital learning project for the K-8 students:

- Year 1: created a website to tell their story of Freedom School
- Year 2 & 3: created digital videos around key themes to use in the program
- Digital writing project with students in a school



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## Snapshot of SL 1.0

- Work with partners to create focus and workshop ideas
- We create online sign up for participants and a PDF program.
- Face-to-face workshops at partner site (school, community organization)
- Use online survey for feedback
- Issue Certificates of Participation (can trade for CEUs)



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## Let Your Imagination Soar!



**Created and published by  
The Winecoff Writers**

Winecoff Elementary School KidsPlus Program in Concord, N.C.  
The UNC Charlotte Graduate Reading Program &  
The Center for Adolescent Literacies at UNC Charlotte



Fall 2011



**Dream, Believe, Achieve** video created in  
collaboration with Freedom School Scholars:

<https://youtu.be/aSOCvXlbtQ8>

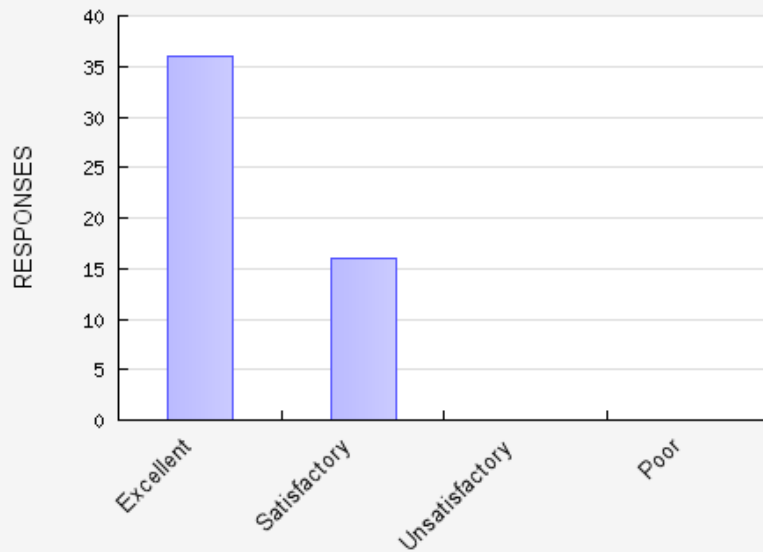
**Digital Stories** co-authored by UNC Charlotte and  
Winecoff Elementary Students



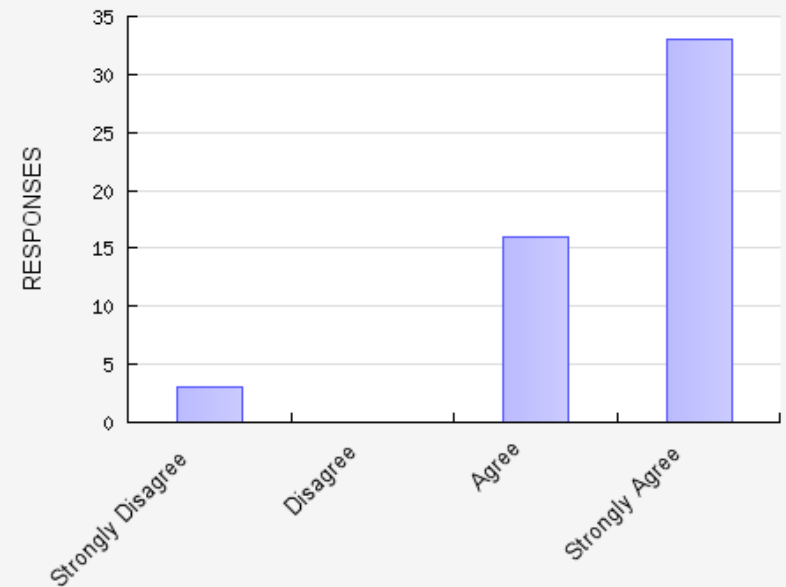
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# SL 1.0 Participant Feedback

**How would you rate the quality of the information presented?**



**The workshop activities were helpful and informative.**

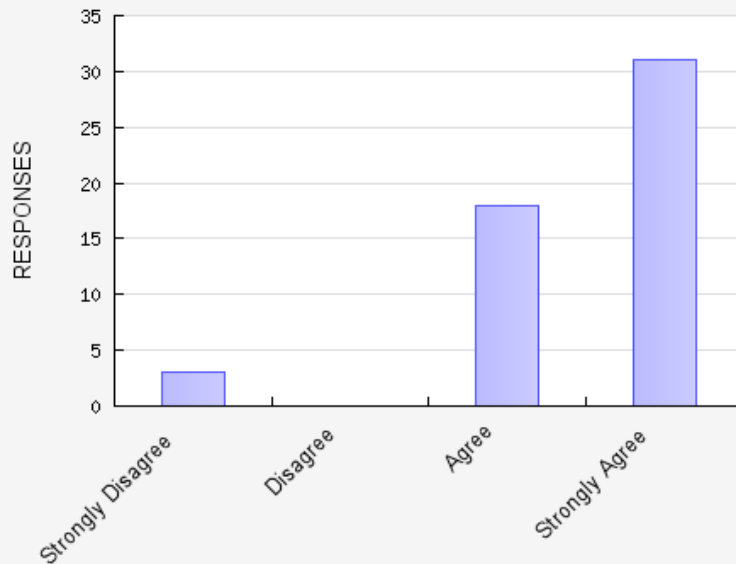




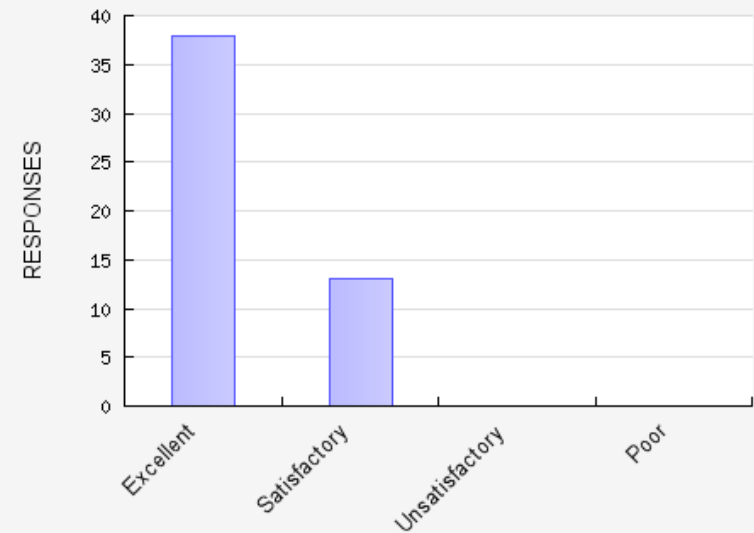
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# SL 1.0 Participant Feedback

**I will be able to apply what I learned to my job.**



**How would you rate this workshop overall?**







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## Comments

- The timing, the location, the quick, to the point sessions---NO FLUFF, easy to share with staff and implement.
- I enjoyed how many options were offered. I also liked how different strategies were introduced so they could be implemented immediately in the classroom.
- The energy of the presenters. It was obvious that they believed in their "product". The research base at the beginning. So many educators don't take or have the time to keep current on new items that pertain to education.



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Hybrid

# **SERVICE LEARNING 1.5**

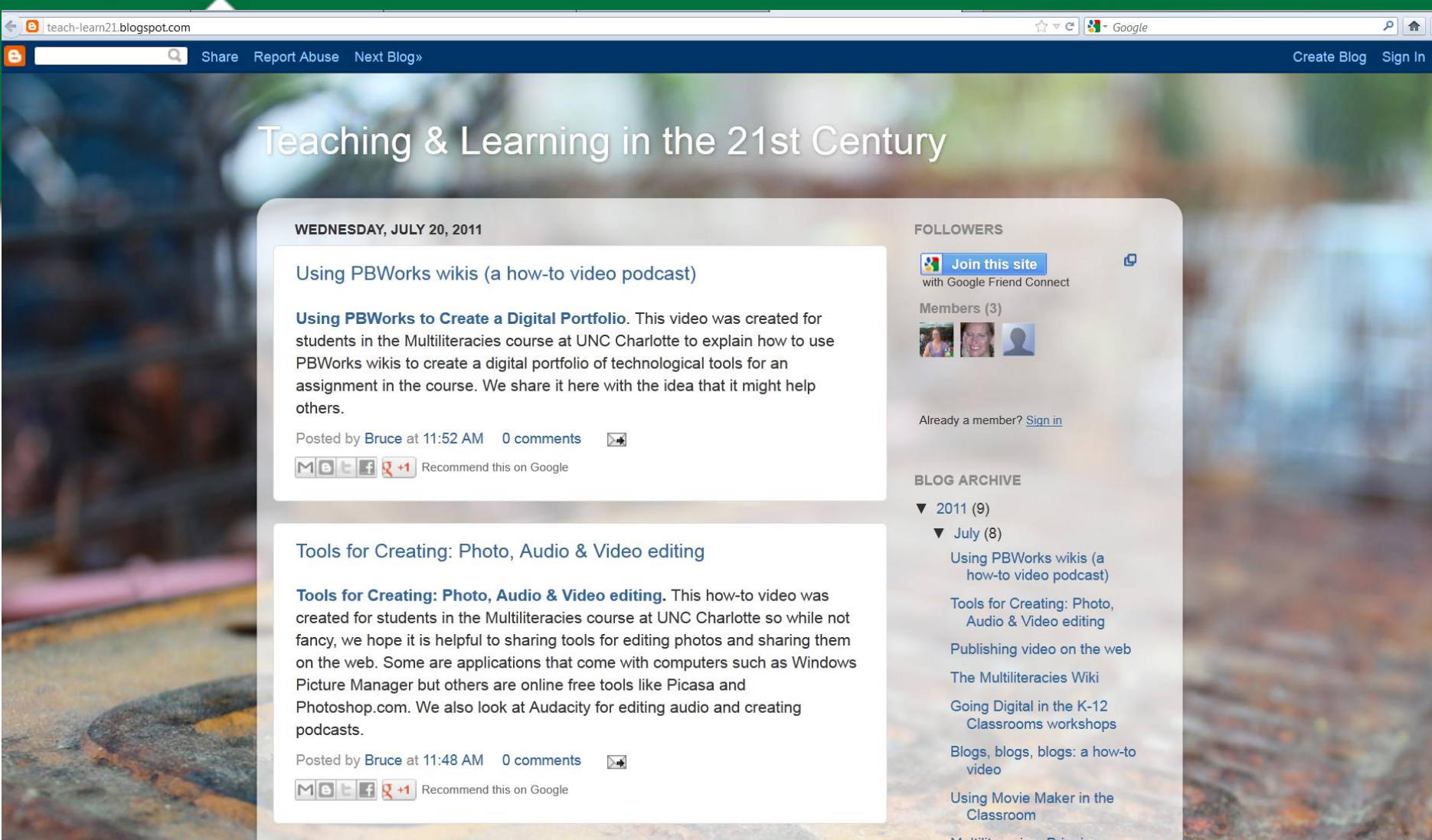


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## Service Learning 1.5 (Hybrid)

From the SL 1.0 we created hybrid service learning opportunities, F2F & online

- 2 and 3-day workshops then a week long workshop for teachers
- Blogs and Ning to foster discussion outside the F2F workshop sessions
- Wikis to share resources and content
- Jing to create video how-to's



The Teaching & Learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Blog

<http://teach-learn21.blogspot.com/>

PB multiliteraciesatuncc.pbworks.com/w/page/21913615/FrontPage

My PBworks Workspaces multiliteraciesatuncc Upgrade Now!

Wiki Pages & Files Users Settings

VIEW EDIT


# ★ FrontPage

last edited by [bruce.taylor@uncc.edu](#) 8 months ago [Page history](#)

## Welcome to the Multiliteracies Wiki

This is a project of the [Center for Adolescent Literacies at UNC Charlotte](#). Drawing on the work of The New London Group (1996), we seek to advance what it means to be literate by expanding our understanding of literacies and texts.

### [A pedagogy of multiliteracies designing socia](#)



view on slideshare

Share 1 / 12

View more [presentations](#) from [bluegrassjb](#).

The Multiliteracies Wiki

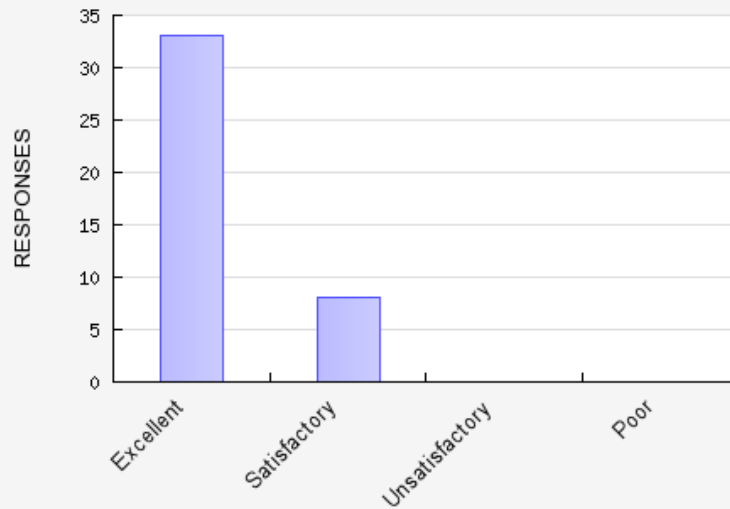
<http://multiliteraciesatuncc.pbworks.com>



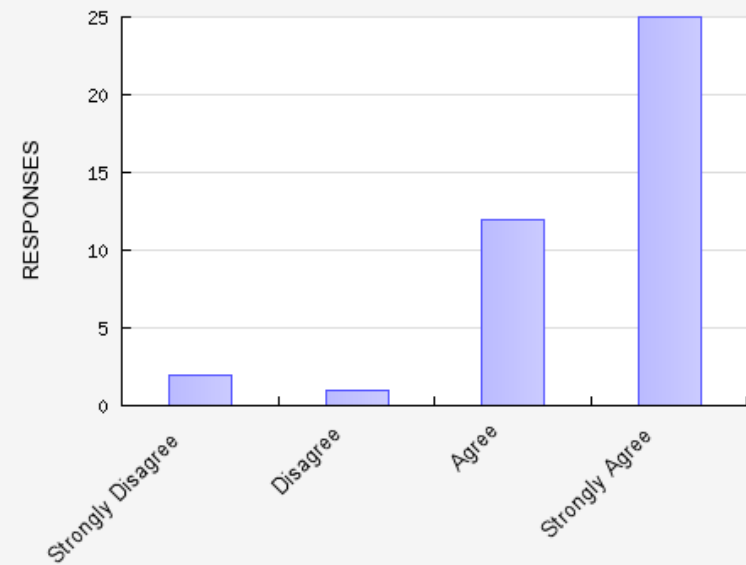
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# SL 1.5 Participant Feedback

**How would you rate this professional development for meeting your needs or expectations?**



**The workshop activities were helpful and informative.**

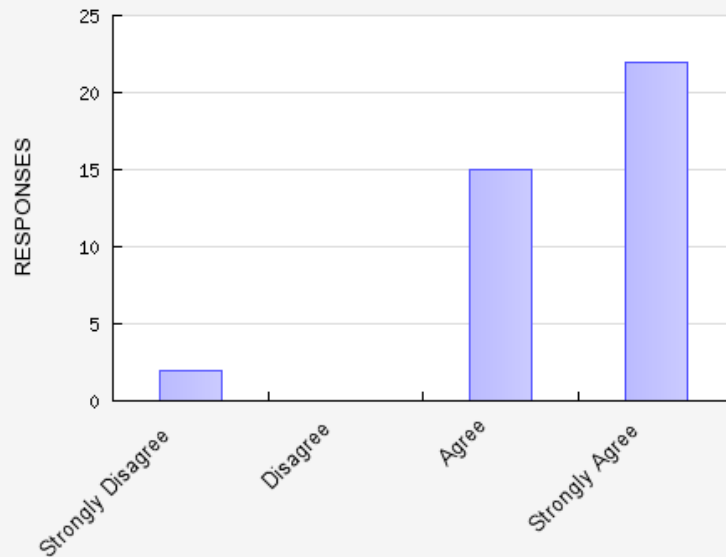




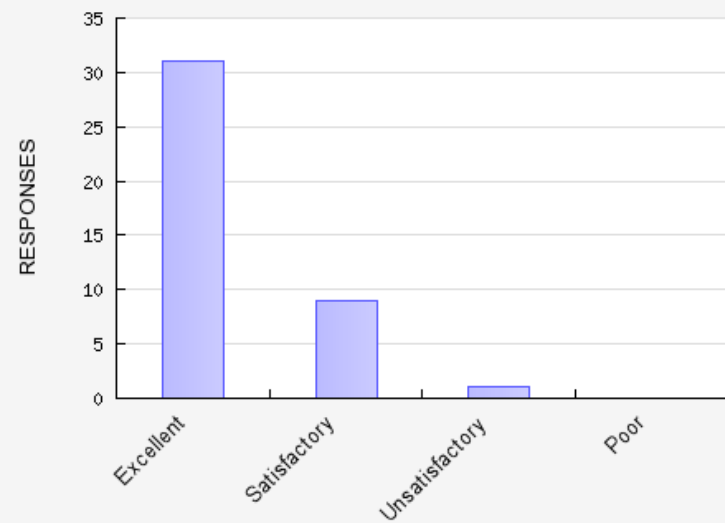
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# SL 1.5 Participant Feedback

**I will be able to apply what I learned to my job.**



**How would you rate this workshop overall?**





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## Comments

- Presenters were knowledgeable and handouts wonderful. The computer workshop was very beneficial and has many uses for me to bring back.
- Being able to blog after to ask questions helpful.
- Just needed a little more time in each session particularly the technology sessions:)





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Fully online

# **SERVICE LEARNING 2.0**



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## Service Learning 2.0 (Online)

Programs and courses moved online, so too, did our SL. We had to adapt or abandon SL.

- *Advancing Literacy: Going Digital in the K-12 Classroom* online workshops
- Digital collaborations with Freedom School Scholars
- Developed a website for community volunteers working with young English learners



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# Snapshot of SL 2.0

## Online PD Workshops

- We created online sign ups for participants, a PDF program, Centra/Wimba how-to PDF guides, Jing how-to videos
- Online workshops in Wimba then Centra (now Saba)
- Use online surveys for feedback
- Issue Certificates of Participation (can trade for CEUs)

## Digital Collaborations

- Connect with a community partner (Freedom Schools, United Way, one proposed by students)
- Talk with partner, identify need
- Develop product or resource in collaboration
- Websites authored by Freedom School Scholars
- Web resources for volunteers

## La Escuelita De St. Alban

[Intro Page](#)
[Literacy & Young ELLs](#)
[Effective Practices with Young ELLs](#)
[Books & Resources](#)

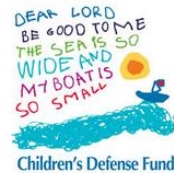

La Escuelita De St. Alban (LESA) is a preschool program designed to ease Spanish-speaking children's transition into kindergarten by helping them learn English.

In an effort to support their mission, this site includes information about Literacy & Young ELLs, Effective Practices with Young ELLs, and Books & Resources. You can click on any of the titles below and it will take you to the page for information.

- \* [Literacy & Young ELLs](#)
- \* [Effective Practices with Young ELLs](#)
- \* [Books & Resources](#)

[Home](#)
[Welcome Letter](#)
[Harambee](#)
[Integrated Reading Curriculum](#)
[Afternoon Activities](#)
[Program Evaluation Report](#)
[Contact Us](#)

### Freedom School Partners



## Welcome to Freedom School at UNC Charlotte



Welcome to Freedom School at UNC Charlotte! The Forty-Niners proudly hosted its first Children's Defense Fund Freedom School® during the summer 2010 in collaboration with Freedom School Partners, Inc. and Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools.

The Freedom Schools program provides summer and after-school enrichment that helps children fall in love with reading, increases their self-esteem, and generates more positive attitudes toward learning.

The UNC Charlotte Freedom School

At UNC Charlotte, our Freedom School program brings together the resources and talents of the university with the energy and enthusiasm of our Freedom School Scholars—students in grades K-8 from CMS schools in our community.



Freedom School website created by Scholars

La Escuelita website:

<http://lesaproject.weebly.com/>



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- Students worked in groups of 2 to 3 to create online workshops
- They practiced on their own in Wimba to present
- We used SurveyShare to register
- I created short how-to videos in Jing and Camtasia for participants and a “Getting Ready” guide

	TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2011	WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2011
9 a.m.	<a href="#">Audio Book Reports Power Point</a> <a href="#">Click to view recorded Wimba session</a> <a href="#">How-to Video on Setting Up Audacity</a>	<a href="#">Digital Storytelling Power Point</a> <a href="#">Click to view recorded Wimba session</a>
11 a.m.	<a href="#">Bringing History Alive</a> <a href="#">Click to view recorded Wimba session</a>	<a href="#">Screencasting Power Point</a> <a href="#">Click to view recorded Wimba session</a>
2 p.m.	<a href="#">Virtual Field Trips Power Point</a> <a href="#">Click to view recorded Wimba session</a>	<a href="#">Web 2.0 Tools for Science Power Point</a> <a href="#">Click to view recorded Wimba session</a>
4 p.m.	<a href="#">Wikis and Comprehension Power Point</a>  This session was not recorded	<a href="#">LibraryThing Power Point</a> <a href="#">Click to view recorded Wimba session</a>
6 p.m.	<a href="#">Using Smart Notebook in Math Power Point</a> <a href="#">Click to view recorded Wimba session</a>	<a href="#">Organizing RTI in Wikis Power Point</a> <a href="#">Click to view recorded Wimba session</a>

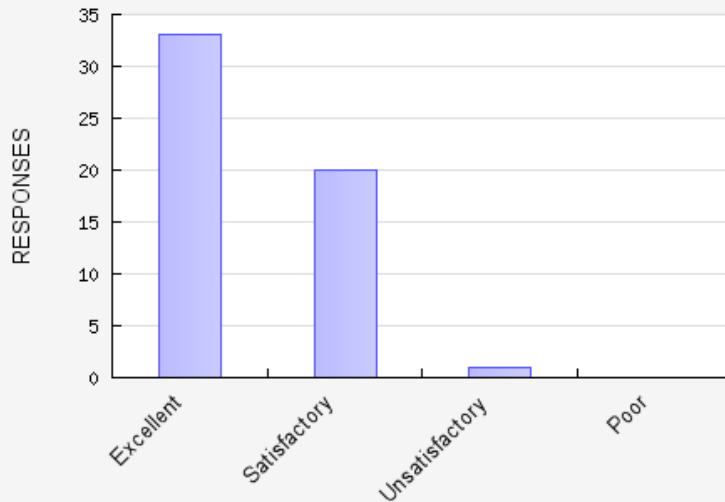
The Center for Adolescent Literacies  
<http://literacy.uncc.edu>



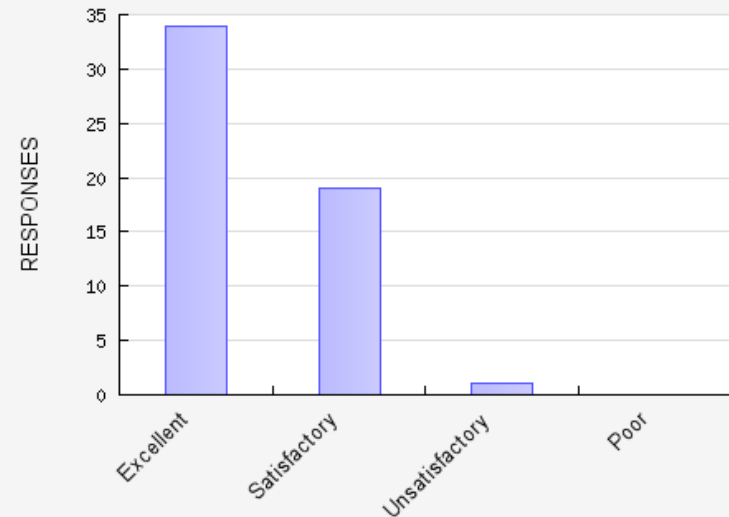
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# SL 2.0 Participant Feedback

**How would you rate this professional development for meeting your needs or expectations?**



**How would you rate the quality of the information presented?**

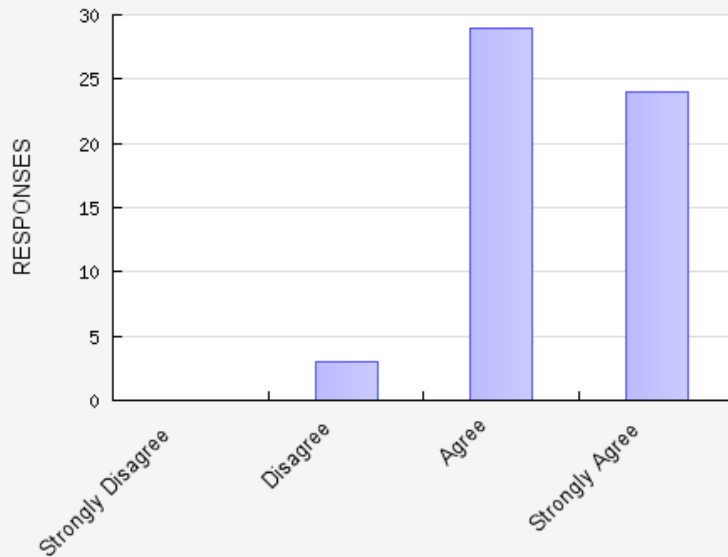




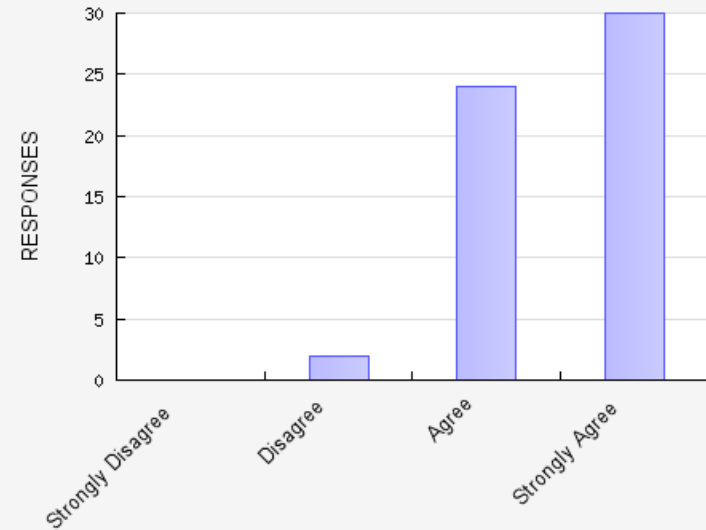
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# SL 2.0 Participant Feedback

**The workshop was well-organized.**



**The workshop activities were helpful and informative.**







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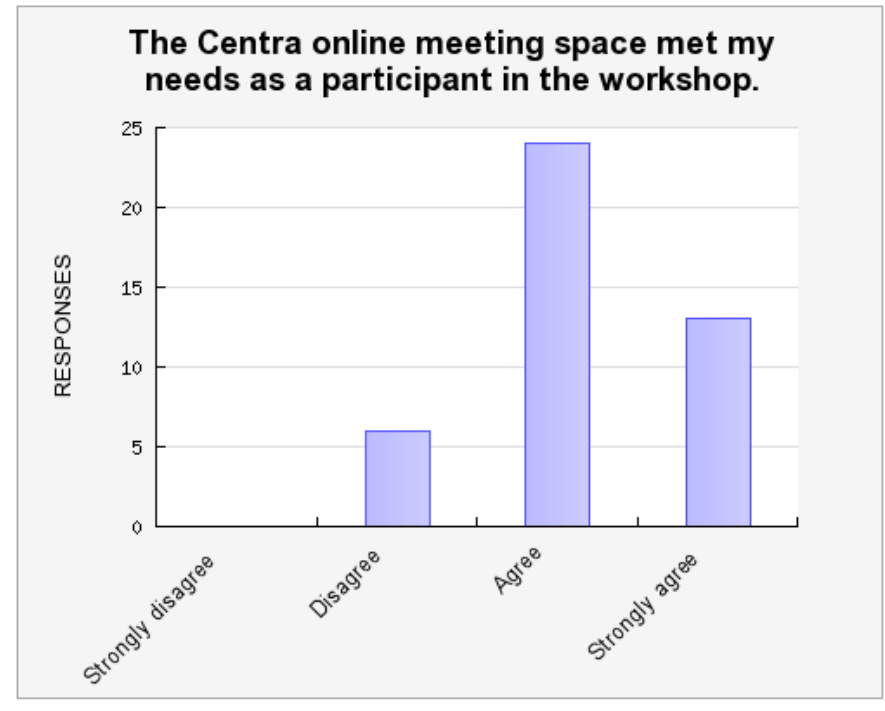
## Comments

- I enjoyed being able to listen to the workshop and still be able to submit questions as the workshop was continuing. Also, being able to get feedback/ideas from other teachers.
- Introduced me to new things. I love the CENTRA format. I loved being at home for Professional Development. It was great being able to type a question right on the screen and have it addressed.
- The ability to IM with the participants and instructors and exchange ideas about practical applications of these ideas. Loved how Centra worked (minimal tech. problems) and I was able to get in some PD conveniently!



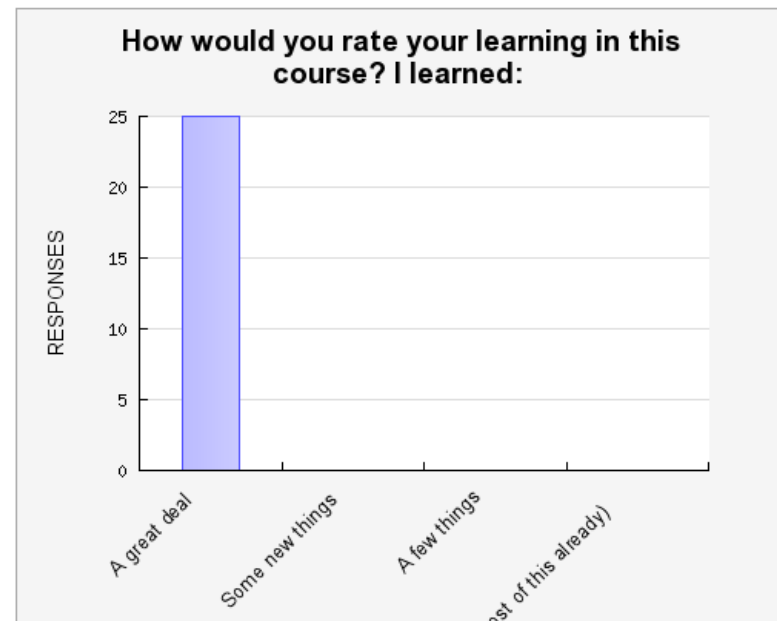
# More SL 2.0 Participant Feedback

- Glitches with Centra when audio was lost (I know this was no fault of the presenters.)
- Technical issues, Centra problems, glitches, etc.
- Issues with Centra App -- I felt for the presenters. With this valuable experience you have given, I will be more relaxed if I get to take another online course, and I will not be as worried about accessing sites or perhaps not understanding directions, etc.



# Student Feedback

- If I could work with those two girls for the rest of my life I would. They were fabulous! We met several times through Wimba and Skype to practice our PD and all fulfilled our roles during the presentation. It was a great experience.
- Our group worked exceptionally well together on our service project. We each had areas that we excelled in and brought those skills to the table to share. It went really well, and I was very happy with our group's presentation and overall work ethic.
- I learned so much from this project. I hope that you do this again for your students. We were able to work together (and cover one another when technical issues arose).





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# Let's Think. Think. Think & *Share!*



Think, think, think.

- **Can you use digital SL?** If so, where, with what, and how?
- **With whom?** What kinds of community partners?
- **What do you need to get started?** What tools & technologies do you need?



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# Ideas-Partnerships-Technologies

Digital SL Ideas	Potential Partners	Tools & Technologies

You can work in Google Docs:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gGqJ\\_Fh6ReAPFEnIUaoKIPuwnF8GzgleXwAh8kd5ZnU/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gGqJ_Fh6ReAPFEnIUaoKIPuwnF8GzgleXwAh8kd5ZnU/edit?usp=sharing)

Find link in Twitter **@btaylor64** **#DigitalSL**

Or use paper & ink and I'll update the Google Doc.



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# **LESSONS LEARNED (SO FAR)**



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# Making Online Service Learning Work

- Like any SL project **you must include your students in planning.** *They should drive the project!*
- **Provide training** (using the online classroom) and support (how-to's, 800# help lines)
- **Focus on real community needs** (PD for teachers, for example)



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# Making Online Service Learning Work

- **Start small and grow** (F2F to hybrid to online)
- **Bring in help.** We had our Center for Teaching & Learning help us with the online classroom and training for students.
- **Make it count for community partners.** We provide certificates of participation for teachers to get CEUs from their districts.



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# Making Online Service Learning Work

- **Have faith/trust/good Karma.** Stuff happens in online learning but if you plan well, it usually goes well.
- **Build on your successes.** As we grew, we kept in touch with past participants. We built on partnerships.
- **Spread the word.** Talk about what you are doing. Share it with colleagues and community partners.





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## Questions???

- Post them in Google Docs
- Write them on note cards
- Leave me with a name and email on the notecard and I'll send out the link to the Google Doc



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# Contacting Me

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