

**CSOTTE: Fall 2013: Session 4H**

**Ilna Colemere and Janet Scott**

**“My Story”: Student Teachers’ Multi-Media Autobiographies**

*Directions describing the My Story assignment are provided to student teachers mid-way through the semester before student teaching begins. For the fall 2013 semester, student teachers were encouraged, but not required, to participate in the project. Starting with the spring 2014 semester, all student teachers will be required to produce a My Story autobiography to submit to their cooperating teachers. Students are given the following directions for the assignment:*

The **My Story** autobiographical assignment is designed to help you identify and reflect on the life events that have contributed to your development as an individual and as a teacher. By sharing your **My Story** autobiography with your cooperating teacher and introducing yourself to him or her before you actually arrive at your school campus, you will enhance the likelihood of a quicker assimilation into your cooperating teacher’s classroom.

**Directions:**

- ❖ Ask parents, siblings, relatives, and other significant individuals about your interests, your relationships and your school experiences. Consider all events that have shaped your life and contributed to your development as a teacher.
- ❖ You are encouraged to record your interviews and research via photo, video and/or audio captures.
- ❖ Gather these anecdotal stories and digital evidence about yourself, and then fashion the information into a **three-to-five minute** digital story using the creative medium that best suits your project. You may use PowerPoint, Prezi, iMovie, Soometa, Meograph or other media.
- ❖ The presumption is that every student teacher’s **My Story** presentation will be different because every student is coming with their own individual story. There is no ‘one right way’ to complete the assignment and there is not a formula as to how the presentation should look. Remember that the purpose of the assignment is to introduce yourself to your cooperating teacher. Cooperating teachers may also use the presentation to introduce you to the class prior to your arrival. The content you include should be carefully chosen and not include inappropriate material.
- ❖ **Guiding Questions:** Consider the following questions to help you craft your **My Story autobiography**
  - ❖ What events and individuals in my life have led me to become a teacher?
  - ❖ What kind of teacher do I want to be? What goals have I set for myself?
  - ❖ Is there a specific teacher I hope to be like?
  - ❖ How have my own experiences in school influenced the kind of teacher that I hope to become?

**Specifics:**

- ❖ Your presentation should be about **3-5 minutes** in length and should be appropriate for possible viewing by the students in your assigned classroom. Be careful in your choice of photos, music, and other media to create a favorable impression.
- ❖ Your **My Story** presentation will be reviewed by your student teaching field supervisor and then you will send it electronically to your cooperating teacher during the second week of the semester.
- ❖ **Your My Story is due to your student teacher field supervisor on Friday, January 17, 2014.**

**The foundation for this assignment was designed and developed by:**

***Dr. Ambika Gopal Raj, Professor, Division of Curriculum & Instruction, California State University, Los Angeles, California***

**Resources:** Listed below are several resources to help you create your **My Story** autobiographical multi-media project. Review the resource list and select the application that suits your presentation. Additional assistance in the use of the applications will be offered to you. See the Workshop information below.

**Power Point:** <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/powerpoint/>

**Prezi :** <http://prezi.com/>

**Meograph:** <http://www.meograph.com>

**Soometa:** <http://www.metta.io/>

**iMovie:** <http://www.apple.com/support/imovie/>

**Windows Movie Editor:**<http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows-vista/Getting-started-with-Windows-Movie-Maker>

**My Story Workshop Information:** See Binary Bistro Workshops, specifically the following. Registration for Binary Bistro Workshops is here: <http://tinyurl.com/nytdzkw>

- ❖ Windows Movie Maker: Oct. 15
- ❖ Meograph: Nov. 4
- ❖ Soometa: Nov. 11
- ❖ iMovie: Nov. 18
- ❖ Digital Storytelling: Nov. 19
- ❖ Open Lab session will be offered on Jan. 15. Details coming soon. Check student teaching website.

Also check **Live Binders** for more info about each application: <http://www.livebinders.com/play/play?id=938790>

**Questions** about the **My Story** assignment or **need help** creating your project? **E-mail:** [teacher.edservices@utsa.edu](mailto:teacher.edservices@utsa.edu).

