



mLearning Field Activity Instructions & Questions

Before the Activity

Before setting out on your mLearning field activity, it is important to consider the following. If conducting this activity with students, have them work in groups and submit this as their first reflective activity.

1. Location
 - a. Choose a location from within the area that will be explored. Ideally, this area will be no bigger than a neighborhood, but preferably smaller than an individual street.
 - b. Discuss what you want to learn about that particular area. These discussions form the research questions. Write out the research questions explicitly (for students, there should be no more than three research questions).
 - c. Discuss what media will contribute to answering those research questions. Select the forms of media and briefly describe why they are important to answering those research questions.
2. Tools
 - a. Discuss which mobile technologies and analogue technologies (paper and pencil) you will use to collect data. Discuss which applications you will use to do the following:
 - i. Take notes
 - ii. Capture images
 - iii. Capture video
 - iv. Capture audio
 - v. Reflect on the data (blog or otherwise)
 - b. Load these tools and applications to your mobile devices.
3. Discuss your sequencing of activities through the selected location. It is good for students to develop workflow skills so they can visualize, organize, and then execute a project with multiple steps and tools. Have students create a simple timeline of the day's activities along with a list of deliverables for the fieldwork.

During the Activity

During the mLearning field activity, the participants should follow their timeline and collect data that meets their deliverables. One participant should be appointed to be responsible for each of the following:

1. Have we answered all the research questions? One member leads a quick discussion on whether the group has collected data to answer their research questions.
2. Have we collected enough data? Make an inventory of all the data collected by the team.
3. Have we all taken notes? Make sure each member has taken some notes to help with analyzing the data later.
4. Have we all saved our work? Make sure that each application has saved the data that was collected.

After the Activity

After the mLearning field activity, the group members should gather to discuss what data was collected and how it has answered the research questions. Data should be exported and collected locally on a computer or laptop or even through a mobile device. This can be done by emailing the data to a centralized location (a group email) or by quickly analyzing the data by looking at each other's mobile devices.

The discussion in this section should answer the following questions. This discussion can then be assembled as a blog post with media, as a multimedia creation (a montage, movie, mosaic, etc.), as a map with multimedia, etc.

1. What will we include in the final composition? What data will we exclude? Why?
2. How does the selected data answer our research questions?
3. How will we present this data (montage, blog post, etc.)? How does this presentation align with our research questions?
4. How would we adjust our timeline and list of deliverables if we were to do this project again?
5. What tools proved especially useful for this activity? What tools would we replace? Why?

The students then construct their final composition and present it online. The work is then assessed by how well it answers the research questions and how aligned the media and presentation format is with its research questions.



