A Monthly Article Club: Creating Intrigue, Developing Interest and Growing Intelligence

Strengthening Academic Support and Communication with Students



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Navigating the nuances of professional and postgraduate

studies can be challenging for both staff and students, especially in a PGCE program. As a course leader for secondary physical education, I have faced the **challenge of balancing professional requirements with academic excellence in**

postgraduate study. Moreover, the complexity of a nine-month course with a significant portion of time off-campus and on placement can present challenges to supporting students academically and maintaining regular communication. To overcome these challenges, I decided to implement a monthly article club. The club aimed to be intriguing and intellectually stimulating, offering students an **Opportunity to engage with thought-provoking content and deepen their understanding of concepts and**

ideas. This intellectual challenge is a critical part of the academic journey. The club's premise was simple: I selected additional and challenging papers in Physical Education to be sent monthly. During that month, students were encouraged to read and reflect upon what spoke to them and link the paper to their

practice. The initiative has grown each year, and I am continuously learning with the different cohorts that come through. In this presentation, I aim to explain my rationale, share its impact on the students, and develop the next steps for future learning.



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Rationale for the Monthly Article Club



WHY?

FINDING THE BALANCE

INTELLECTUAL STIMULATION

Implementation and Structure







Selection of articles

Timing of articles

Communication with students

Deenadayalan, Et al (2008) reported no standard practices regarding the effectiveness of a journal club (health)

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Adjustments made



Oslawski-Lopez & Kordsmeier (2021) found that listening to readings increased engagement of accessing the readings

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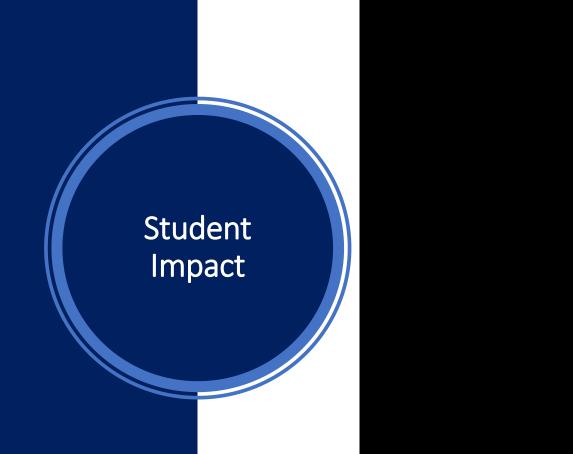
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Examples of adjustments

https://padlet.com/d_woodward1/striking-and-fielding-articleclub-hdjx4w6tuppr





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Conclusion







Finished article? – never!

Future of the article club – rebrand and a refresh. 'Live'

Reading of the week?

Over 80% papers in a systematic review of journal club interventions showed usefulness in cultivating knowledge and appraisal skills (Deenadayalan (2008)

Zavell et al. (2017) showed that from 30-minute live 'journal' clubs, 68% of participants felt one article would change practice.

References

Deenadayalan, Y. *et al.* (2008) 'How to run an effective journal club: a systematic review', *Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice*, 14(5), pp. 898–911. Available at: <u>https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2753.2008.01050.x</u>.

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Valentini, R.P. and Daniels, S.R. (1997) 'The journal club.', *Postgraduate Medical Journal*, 73(856), pp. 81–85. Available at: https://doi.org/10.1136/pgmj.73.856.81.

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