

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.

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)

IMAGE REDACTED

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Adjustments made



Covid Tasks



Students suggested
podcasts



Increased use of note
sharing

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



IMAGE REDACTED

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Examples of adjustments

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



Student Impact

This video could not be played because it either
was not found or you do not have access to it

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

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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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