

Critical Video Production in K-12 Classrooms: Curriculum Connections

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Designing, creating, and sharing videos through a critical lens in school has been found to positively influence and engage students’ diverse identities and perspectives in interdisciplinary ways. Scholarship suggests that when students’ video productions are infused with powerful insights from the cultures, literacies and society around them, they are better able to investigate their own identities. Here, they are able to address social justice issues relevant to their lives and communities, to advocate for social change, and promote respect for students of diverse backgrounds.

Video creation can also promote academic success and motivate students’ reading, writing, and designing. It can develop their confidence, regardless of writing ability, in ways not available in traditional school settings. Indeed, various studies have found that when we shift students’ identity from media consumer to media *producer*, we create a vehicle for youth agency, voice, confidence, and engagement in the classroom (Ito, et al., 2010). Overall, the conclusions met by numerous media education scholars is that students feel motivated to learn and engage in literacy practices at school when the purpose of the project is embedded in their identities, cultures, literacies, and societies. Using technologies that are relevant to their lives is pivotal in this regard.

Cross-curricular activities: Elementary context	Cross-Curricular Connections
Students can interview family members about their cultural heritage using a critical lens.	The Arts, Language, Native Languages, Social Studies.
As a class, students can act out the plot of a story using a critical lens.	The Arts, Language, Native Languages, Social Studies.
As a class, students can create a video inspired by a science show using a critical lens.	The Arts, Language, Mathematics, Science and technology.
Students can interview peers about content knowledge using a critical lens.	The Arts, French as a Second Language, Health and Physical Education, Language, Mathematics, Native Languages, Science and Technology, Social Studies.
In groups, students can create craft-style videos to express content knowledge using a critical lens.	The Arts, French as a Second Language, Health and Physical Education, Language, Mathematics, Native Languages, Science and Technology, Social Studies.
As a class, students can create claymation videos to express content knowledge using a critical lens.	The Arts, French as a Second Language, Health and Physical Education, Language, Mathematics, Native Languages, Science and Technology, Social Studies.
Students can record a video for their ‘future selves’ using a critical lens. This can facilitate the “what ifs?” as students apply current learning with their hopes for the future. Here, a cause that relates to one or more subjects could be identified as goals for the future.	The Arts, French as a Second Language, Health and Physical Education, Language, Mathematics, Native Languages, Science and Technology, Social Studies.

Subject specific (with informal curricular connections): Secondary context	Course Connections
<p>Students can create course trailers to summarize their overall learning using a critical lens.</p> <p>Students can create a video inspired by a science show using a critical lens.</p>	<p>The Arts, Business Studies, Canadian and World Studies, Classical and International Languages, Computer Studies, English, English As a Second Language and English Literacy Development, French As a Second Language, Guidance and Career Education, Health and Physical Education, Interdisciplinary Studies, Mathematics, Native Languages, Native Studies, Science, Social Sciences and Humanities, Technological Education.</p> <p>Science, Technological Education</p>
<p>Students can create news stories using a critical lens.</p>	<p>The Arts, Business Studies, Canadian and World Studies, Classical and International Languages, Computer Studies, English, English As a Second Language and English Literacy Development, French As a Second Language, Guidance and Career Education, Health and Physical Education, Interdisciplinary Studies, Mathematics, Native Languages, Native Studies, Science, Social Sciences and Humanities, Technological Education.</p>
<p>Students can watch the film Baraka before using a critical lens to create their own video of phenomenon from the environment.</p> <p>Students can create public service announcements using a critical lens.</p>	<p>The Arts, Canadian and World Studies, English, Interdisciplinary Studies, Science, Social Sciences and Humanities.</p> <p>Business Studies, Canadian and World Studies, Computer Studies, English, Guidance and Career Education, Health and Physical Education, Interdisciplinary Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities, Technological Education.</p>
<p>Students can record their creative and critical process through time-lapse video.</p>	<p>The Arts</p>
<p>Students can make creative and critical historical recreations with archival footage and voice-overs using a critical lens.</p> <p>Students can interview family members about their cultural heritage using a critical lens.</p>	<p>Canadian and World Studies, English, Native Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities, Technological Education.</p> <p>Canadian and World Studies, English, English, English As a Second Language and English Literacy Development, French As a Second Language, Native Languages, Native Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities,</p>

Subject specific (with informal curricular connections): Secondary context	Course Connections
Students can make music videos that illustrate content knowledge using a critical lens.	The Arts, Business Studies, Canadian and World Studies, Classical and International Languages, Computer Studies, English, English As a Second Language and English Literacy Development, French As a Second Language, Guidance and Career Education, Health and Physical Education, Interdisciplinary Studies, Mathematics, Native Languages, Native Studies, Science, Social Sciences and Humanities, Technological Education.
Students can make documentary style videos of social critiques using a critical lens.	Business Studies, Canadian and World Studies, English, Health and Physical Education, Interdisciplinary Studies, Native Studies, Social Sciences and Humanities, Technological Education.
<p>Students can create video memes using a critical lens.</p> <p>Students can use a critical lens to make tedX inspired videos of their presentations.</p>	<p>The Arts, Business Studies, Canadian and World Studies, Computer Studies, English, Guidance and Career Education, Health and Physical Education, Interdisciplinary Studies, Mathematics, Native Languages, Native Studies, Science, Social Sciences and Humanities, Technological Education.</p> <p>The Arts, Business Studies, Canadian and World Studies, Computer Studies, English, Guidance and Career Education, Health and Physical Education, Interdisciplinary Studies, Mathematics, Native Languages, Native Studies, Science, Social Sciences and Humanities, Technological Education.</p>

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