Amy Lindsay  
Educational Philosophy  

In completing the M.Ed. program in Educational Technology, my view of education and has not changed dramatically. I do, however, believe I have refined my educational philosophy, especially with respect to technology. As I stated in my initial statement of intent, I believe individuals learn best by doing and that technology can assist this process. I now further understand that the inclusion of technology must be intentional and approached with respect to personal responsibility.

My teaching style has evolved to include a little bit of everything. I fundamentally believe in a constructivist approach to instruction where students are active participants in their own learning and largely responsible for constructing their own knowledge and understanding. Admittedly, constructive methods of teaching are not always most effective, especially in a second language setting. There are times when an objective approach is necessary and most effective. However, in my experience, students tend to learn more and achieve greater success when they are personally involved and invested in the learning process. That being said, I have yet to find a one-size-fits-all application of this concept. As every class and every student are different, instructional plans and methods must constantly be tailored for optimal impact, student understanding and success. As a teacher, it is my goal to draw students into the subject or project at hand and help generate excitement that engages the students in learning.

Regarding the role of technology in education, I believe that technology has limitless potential. It continues to expand in terms of efficiency and application, and I cannot begin to imagine the full extent of its future possibilities and global impact. Individuals are increasingly connected and students come to the classroom with certain expectations for technological access, availability and relevance. As a teacher, I think it is imperative to include technology with specific intention. Using technology for its own sake does not provide any tangible benefit for students who are increasingly proficient with technology and its expansive nature. Instead, technology must be used in order further specific content and critical thinking skills. While technology provides unparalleled access to information and increased efficiency, original individual thought and creativity remain of utmost importance in today’s society. Technology should be used to further these skills.
and not to replace or stifle them. Furthermore, the sheer prevalence of technology in life today necessitates education in responsible use and digital citizenship.

I was raised to believe in the principle that “...to whom much is given, from him much will be required...” (Luke 12:48, NKJV). I believe this sentiment also applies to education and technology. It is a great privilege for me to teach. My students never cease to inspire me both professionally and personally. As their teacher, it is my responsibility to bring material alive and make it accessible so they can understand it and achieve greater success. Technology is an amazing tool in this process. However, in today's technologically advanced society that values immediacy and instant gratification above all else, technology must be used intentionally in the classroom, and with responsibility, in a way that encourages critical thinking and creativity.