



OLTD 511 - Reflection on eWarrior Program

At the time I started working on the eWarrior website, I had not yet learned the theory and the different models found on blended learning. It was a place with information designed for students to learn by themselves, but there was no order or real idea on how the workshop was going to look like. After reading *Blended*, by Horn and Staker, and going over different articles and videos, I was able to design a structure so that teachers can use the website with their students in a more organic and less intimidating way. I picked a modified flex model, where students break out into groups and learn about the rules on their own pace, and come back to collaboration tables with their groups to create meaningful products to reinforce their learning.

This evidence fulfills the following course outcomes:

- **Create blended structures that fit in your potential or existing teaching environments.**
- **Engage in building learning communities and communities of practice.**
- **Develop blended environments/programs that maximize the positives of both online and face to face environments.**

The flex model is my favourite in-class model as it allows for enough choice and it is easy to adapt even for the younger grades; I also like the enriched virtual model, but feel like it is more appropriate for older students. They seem to provide the most freedom for students, and the most amount of choice in terms of their educational path. This, of course, would depend on the teacher; I see how you could get a good model and completely throw the choice and self-guided elements out of the window, making just another teacher-guided course. OLTD 511 brought a lot of questions to the surface, and also helped me reevaluate what exactly I have been doing to give my students the reins, as well as examine where I could do more. My main takeaway from this process and from understanding blended learning was how important it is to have these models in mind when creating activities for

the classroom. It seems like every single activity I have created was made stronger by keeping these principles in mind. It's like instead of giving me a recipe, someone sat down and taught me what every ingredient does, and how I can achieve different flavours depending on what I pick. I have become much more confident on my choices and how they improve student experience, and am looking forward to continue to experiment and grow every year.