Journal Article Critique: Instructional Planning

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**Author Note**

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I have no known conflict of interest to disclose.

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Teaching material engaging in the classroom can be a rewarding experience for the teacher and the student receiving the instruction. Having the skills to deliver effective education is deeply rooted in instructional planning. In the article, *On the Path to Becoming a Teacher: Student Teachers' Competency in Instructional Planning*, Yurtseven (2021) explores how instructional planning perceptions affect the delivery of instruction amongst student teachers. The author will summarize the article's key points on effective instructional planning and analyze the overall delivery. Finally, they will apply what is learned through personal and biblical application.

**Summary**

Yurtseven (2021) says that a teachers' principal is to provide effective learning measures. Orlich et al. (2017) emphasize that first-time teachers use a lesson plan that was already established; however, they will begin to differentiate their true teaching style. Yurtseven (2021) suggests that teachers should continue to receive professional development and further education and training on the various teaching and learning design models. Yurtseven (2021) also highlights one method known as "backward design," meaning taking the end goal of the lesson and working from the end of the task to the beginning. Understanding and learning the different design models impact how teachers perceive what the other learning models are and whether or not they will employ those methods.

**Analysis**

The article read as a mixed-methods study on how student teaching attitudes on instructional planning can affect delivery in the classroom. The article's intended audience would most likely be academics training teachers and potential teachers who may be considering the profession. The report can be challenging to follow depending on the reader, especially once they get into the research portion of the article. Someone who doesn't have research knowledge of the testing would most likely skip to the conclusions. However, there are valuable points and findings to be considered in the article.

**Personal Reflection**

Coming from a military background with experience in on-the-job (OJT) and Education and Training (E&T), planning and structuring a student's instruction and training is crucial in their success. Therefore, I felt this article topic would be interesting as I believe effective planning ensures the effective delivery of education. Orlich et al. (2017) say a master teacher can control the time of delivering effective and concise instruction (p. 79). When I look at instructional planning from a biblical standpoint, I think about how God planned and prepared His teachings. Examples include planning the delivery of the Ten Commandments for Moses and His people (Exodus 19-20, ESV). In addition, I think of how He took the time, prepared, and gave us a "Master Teacher": His Son, Jesus (Book of John, ESV). Therefore, I believe the example of effective planning and teaching is based on whether you are a Follower or not.

**Conclusion**

A successful teacher will have an effective teaching style but a successful instructional design. A part of that success is the attitudes and perceptions of effective instructional planning and how to implement it. While this study can be hard to follow, the lessons learned from the study's conclusion can be beneficial for first-time and veteran teachers alike. As Christian teachers, we still have to look to Christ and how He instructed his disciples. As we are teachers, we are also supposed to be trained to teach like Christ.

**References**

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