

Solving Incarceration Camp Cases with Computational Storytelling

Spring 2021, Sarah Buchanan, iSchool, University of Missouri

With Educator Network, developed and used CT enhanced lesson plans in a “Data Modeling” unit of the graduate course IS_LT 9492 Data & Records Management. Grateful to Geoff Froh, Densho (Index Card Data).

Developed and conducted pre- and post-unit assessments of student (and faculty) knowledge of 6 CT practices as they relate to archival topics and practices.

(“tell me about your prior experiences. 7 Qs by Feb 12, we’ll be joined by Densho directly in Feb 15 class.”)

pre (n=27 -all): (Likert 1 low-6 high, ‘comfort and experience’)

Decomposition & Pattern Recognition = highest. Abstraction = 3s and up. Modeling, Scale, Algorithm Design = 1s&2s.

post (n=20):

“ = same about, but no 1s&2s. **Modeling** now the highest # (13 students said 5). Scale had 17 4s&5s. No more 1s anywhere, just 3 2-scores.

Student-Pre: “I’m really good at breaking down complex problems into smaller more manageable tasks because that’s how I honestly approach my life. The last skill [**Scale**] I am least confident about because I have no experience with any sort of programming and it takes me a while to adjust to new systems.”

Student-Post: “For the skill of **Abstraction**, working with the Densho data and figuring out how to manipulate the data allowed me to practice abstracting the data that was not needed in our computational story.”

