Statewide IT Bridge Curriculum:

Contextualized Social Studies Module

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FOUNDATIONS FOR DESIGN

- ✓ Instruction emphasizes learning by doing through projects and simulations; therefore, the instructor is a facilitator or learning coach.
- ✓ Each module emphasizes communication, teamwork, and critical thinking.
- ✓ Content is contextualized for social studies skills.
- ✓ Learning outcomes often require learners to engage in collaborative and individual projects involving authentic materials and resources and complete documents and tasks for social studies with the guidance of learning facilitators.
- ✓ Specific units within modules may serve as precursors for additional units within the module. Many lessons and units may be repeated and expanded from one module to another.
- ✓ Self-advocacy and continual self-assessment and self-monitoring are inherent to each module while students must be introduced to, required to meet with, and encouraged to consult with program coordinator as well as academic and employment professionals.
- ✓ Guest speakers and conferences with employment and academic professionals are integral to the relevance and value of the program for students.

ASSUMPTIONS:

- ✓ Each agency or instructor who may use these modules or this program will adapt instructional strategies, content level of difficulty, learning activities and projects to meet the needs of the program's target population and adult learners of lower and higher academic levels.
- ✓ Referenced resources, relevant Internet links, learning activities (created, suggested, attached, or referenced) will be used, modified, or omitted based on student need and restraints of class time and resources.

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✓ This curriculum will work in established internal partnerships within the academic community as well as external partnerships/relationships in the employment community.

✓ Units and lessons will be adapted to fit within varying contact hours of a program.

Module Description: The Contextualized Social Studies Module is designed to provide students with an understanding of how social studies as a whole fits in and is used within information technology and that a basic understanding of it will serve them well within an employment context.

Module Objectives:

Students will:
- Research
- Problem solve
- Think critically
- Compare and contrast
- Define terms
- Develop inquiry skills
- Speak publicly
- Write clearly and comprehensively

Methods of Instruction
- Lecture
- Small and large group discussions
- Group presentations
- Online research/paper writing
- Guest speakers

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Methods for Evaluating Student Performance
- Individual and group presentations/writing
- Self-assessment
- Teacher observation logs

Module Overview

Module Outline
I.   Present findings on current events in Information Technology
    a. Research and present a current technology news event
II.   Understand internet safety and security practices
    a. Internet safety experiences
    b. Internet safety video
    c. Creating strong passwords
    d. Application activity: Common password mistakes
    e. Browser safety features
    f. Check browser safety features
    g. Avoid spam and phishing
    h. Other common e-mail scams
    i. How to avoid malware
    j. Research antivirus and anti-malware software
III.   Manage your online presence and identity
    a. Safe online shopping
    b. Understand browser tracking
    c. Understand social media privacy
IV.   Create an online newspaper
    a. Create an online newspaper about cyber-security