Description (click to collapse)

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| In this week, we will continue our discussions on the definitions of the field by examining various definitions suggested by other scholars in our field and comparing them to your own definition. And we will discuss your career path to date (a.k.a., your story of becoming an Ed Tech student). 1. EXPLAIN in several sentences your own definition of the field and your story of becoming an Ed Tech student (by Tuesday, August 31, midnight). See next page for rubric. |

I think educational technology is the study of how to promote or enhance learning by designing and applying appropriate technological tools and technology-based learning environments. Therefore, it also includes how to use or apply those technologies, thus being related to and improving teaching itself. Likewise, I do not think it is limited to the use of technological devices or tools but it also includes how to use them properly to achieve educational objectives. Therefore, the field should also be concerned about the skills or knowledge needed to implement which kind of equipment to use, when to use them, how to use them and the like. This does not necessarily refer to an operation manual. To illustrate, you can just have a boardmarker as a technological tool in class not computers, projectors etc. However, the way you use the boardmarker to actualize your objectives for that specific lecture or class, I think, should also be placed on educational technology agenda.

In addition, since the aim is to improve educational practice, it should also include an “assessment” part in order to determine whether the desirable learning outcomes are achieved by using what technology offers. Finally, I think, it refers to a field examining learning processes including implementation of technology. So, it should focus on the whole body of this process including planning and assessment instead of only focusing on the “technology” part in order to determine the effectiveness and efficiency of this technology part.

As for my becoming an Ed Tech student, my MA thesis opened the doors of educational technology for me. After studying multisensory information processing in a computerized second language learning environment, I earned a keen interest in what kind of help technology may offer second language education specifically and human learning in general.