



Teaching Conference for
Management Educators

**OBTC 2015 at University of La Verne
June 17th – 20th, 2015**

Submission Template

SUBMISSION GUIDANCE

** Remove all identifying properties from this document **

** All files must be saved in PDF format **

Please include ALL supplementary text at the end of this document

Only one document should be submitted

Submission Template for the 2015 OBTC Teaching Conference for Management Educators

1) Title of Proposal:

Oh SNAP! How a one week learning experience provides your students with a world of management understanding.

2) Abstract:

Please include a brief session description (not to exceed 100 words). If your proposal is accepted, this description will be printed in the conference program.

We know that students love to read textbooks, but it is still nice for an instructor to find another way to drive home key management concepts like empathy, justice, motivation, decision-making, collaboration, emotions, etc. This past year I used the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Challenge in a series of leadership classes to help students understand empathy and justice. The results, though, proved that there were a lot of other management concepts wrapped up in the experience. This discussion-based session will share the SNAP exercise, student blog and video feedback, and how to facilitate this experience in your classroom.

3) Keywords:

Use three or four keywords to describe your session.

SNAP Challenge, Experience-based Learning, Management Concepts

4) Format

- Activity or exercise
- Discussion roundtable (60 minute only)
- General discussion session

5) Time Requested:

30 Minutes

60 Minutes (*Roundtables must select 60 minutes*)

90 Minutes

6) Planning Details:

Does your session have any special requirements for space or materials?

N/A-provided by presenter

7) Learning Objectives or Goals for the Session:

What are 2-4 specific learning outcomes that participants will get from your session?

1. *How to use the SNAP Challenge in most management classrooms*
2. *How to pre-brief and debrief the experience*
3. *Real student feedback via digital media that the participants may access at any time.*

8) Management or Teaching Topics:

Describe what management and/or teaching topics are relevant to your session, and why. Please include theoretical, disciplinary, or theoretical foundations that will help reviewers understand how your ideas fit within the broader field of management.

In this project students get to experience, and therefore better understand (as evidenced in their own words), a variety of management theories and concepts, including:

- Empathy
- Justice
- Critical Thinking
- Emotions
- Decision-making
- Collaboration
- Learning
- Time and money management
- Planning
- Stress

9) Session Description and Plan:

What will you actually do in this session? What activities will you facilitate, how long will they take, and how will participants be involved? Reviewers will be evaluating how well the time request matches the activities you'd like to do, and the extent you can reasonably accomplish the session's goals. Reviewers will also be looking for how you are engaging the participants in the session. Include a timeline for your session.

In this session I will first introduce the SNAP Challenge background, concept, and parameters to the participants (20 minutes), and let them experience some of the decisions that individuals and families experience who are involved in the SNAP program (20 minutes). I will then share student feedback about the project via blog entries and videos, and facilitate the participants' resulting comments and feedback via small roundtable discussions (30 minutes). In the end, I will share my experiences as the instructor, take questions, and provide links to the Challenge and to the students' digital work so participants are comfortable using the Challenge in their classrooms as well (20 minutes).

10) For Activities and Exercises:

Attach any materials needed to run the activity and debriefing questions. Evidence for effectiveness may also be included.

There is a lot of information available about the SNAP program and SNAP challenge, including popular press articles and government websites. In addition, I used articles about childhood hunger. Below are just a few examples:

http://site.foodshare.org/site/PageServer?pagename=programs_movement_education_snapchallenge

<http://frac.org/initiatives/snapfood-stamp-challenges/>

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/news/snap-challenge/>

At the end of the project, students were asked to reflect on questions like:

- Do people have a right to good food? (Empathy, justice)
- What is our responsibility to others when it comes to hunger? (Empathy, justice, planning, collaboration, critical thinking, decision making, leadership)
- What type of planning is involved in being food challenged? (Time, money, resources)

- What ways do food insecurity and hunger impact your life? (Stress, collaboration, learning, decision making, emotions, critical thinking, planning)

11) Implications for Teaching or for Teachers:

What is the contribution of your session?

The idea of “learning in community” is presented in a comprehensive form throughout this activity. The SNAP Challenge experience provides students a way to understand a part of their community, from a local to global perspective, that most of them have not even considered. It also drives home the importance of community and collaboration in how the students choose to embrace and complete this difficult, and many said life changing, assignment.

From this experience many of the management concepts that we address in the classroom - decision making, justice, empathy, emotions, collaboration, planning, time and money management, critical thinking, learning, stress - are reinforced via the students’ own observations and learning.

12) Application to Conference theme:

How does your session fit with the overall OBTC theme of Learning in Community?

The SNAP Challenge offered students the perfect opportunity to, in the words of the OBTS Theme, *Learn in Community by Connecting with the broader local and global community to inform and deepen student learning.*

As an example, did you know that over 16 million children in the United States do not know where their next meal is coming from? My students did not, and I use this statistic as a starting point for the challenge. In addition, there is a wealth of information to help support instructors using the SNAP Challenge in the classroom, including:

http://site.foodshare.org/site/PageServer?pagename=programs_movement_education_snapchallenge

<http://frac.org/initiatives/snapfood-stamp-challenges/>

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/news/snap-challenge/>

In sum, this presentation and the SNAP Challenge provide a unique opportunity to embrace this year’s community and connection theme in an experience-based learning

opportunity that students will never forget. As a result of participating in this challenge, students are provided with a platform for understanding a world outside of their comfort zone, and they begin to understand how they can help effect change in their community as young business professionals.

13) Unique Contribution to OBTC:

Have you presented the work in this proposal before? If so, how will it be different? Is this proposal under current review somewhere else? If so, please explain. How will your proposal be different for the OBTC conference?

All OBTC baby!

14) References and/or Additional Materials:

<http://oliverohsnap.blogspot.com/>

<http://ohsnapchallenge.weebly.com/>

<http://traceohsnapchallenge.blogspot.com/>

<https://www.dropbox.com/l/Mrpp9hB2Jhn05p8LUmV15t>