**Mexico:** Conquista Introduction

**Content: Describe what it is you will teach. What is the content?**

I will be teaching an introductory lesson on the Spanish conquering of Mexico. The lesson will provide some background knowledge of the Spanish "conquista" which will be useful in later lessons. As well as introduction to terms such as "conquista" and "malinchismo" which will inform later discussion. The lesson will also provide numerous cross-curricular links, all related to the topic at hand.

**Learning Goal(s): Describe what specifically students will know and be able to do after the experience of this class.**

Students will be able to make informed predictions as to why the conquest of Mexico was so swift. Students will learn new vocabulary and be able to use this new vocabulary throughout the unit. Students will be able to form sentences and participate in the discussion using exclusively the preterit form.

**Rationale: Explain how the content and learning goal(s) relate to your Curriculum Unit Plan learning goals.**

This will be an introductory lesson to a Curriculum Unit Plan on Mexico. It will be an informal assessment on the students background knowledge on the topic, The class wil both familiarize the students with the content as well as encourage students to make comparisons between their current knowledge of early American history with the conquering of the Mexicas / Aztecs.

**Assessment: Describe how you and your students will know they have reached your**

**learning goals.**

Students will work in groups to create a prediction as to the factors that influenced the swift Spanish takeover, and they will reference their predictions to the content as it is taught, as well as reflect at the end of the class on the differences between the two lists, as a form of priming students for the lesson and later synthesizing the information.

**Personalization and equity: Describe how you will provide for individual student strengths and needs. How will you and your lesson consider the needs of each student and scaffold learning? How specifically will ELL students and students with learning disabilities gain access and be supported?**

The class will work both individually as well as in a group to engage in some educated guesses about how the Spanish were able to accomplish such an unlikely conquest. The result of the group work will be written on a sheet of paper and be used to facilitate discussion and prepare students for the lesson. The class will also involve a video as well as the use of different visuals. The reflection instructions are also tiered, allowing for different lengths of composition and multi-modal response options.

**Activity description and agenda**

**Describe the activities that will help your students understand the content of your class lesson by creating an agenda with time frames for your class. Be prepared to explain why you think each activity will help students on the path toward understanding.**

5 minutes: bell ringer

7 minutes: group work / predictions

15 minutes: Mini Lesson

7minutes: Concluding discussion and reflection

**What particular challenges, in terms of student learning or implementing planned activity, do you anticipate and how will you address them?**

Technological malfunction is always a potential problem. I plan on troubleshooting ahead of time to prevent this.

Group work always presents a challenge with inclusive participation, I hope to choose groups that are balanced and allow for a balanced discussion / participation.

**List the Massachusetts Learning Standards this lesson addresses.**

1.1 Engage in conversation, Communication Strand

1.2 Understand Information, Connections Strand

1.3 Present Information, Communication Strand

2.2 Products and perspectives, Cultural Strand

4.2 Compare cultures, Cultural Strand

**Reflection**

**In light of all areas of planning, but especially in terms of your stated purpose and learning goals, in what ways was the activity(ies) successful? How do you know? In what ways was it not successful? How might the activity be planned differently another time?**

**What did you learn from the experience of this lesson that will inform your next LAP?**