

## 690 – Master’s Project

### **Abstract:**

*In the last 20 years, the world has undergone a dramatic change. The invention of the internet has enabled the instant accessibility of information from anywhere in the world. With this has come and ever shrinking global marketplace in which businesses, even small businesses, are able to compete in the world wide marketplace. This new globalization, one in which the individual is now in the power seat, brings with it unique challenges for the workforce to come. The students of today will be entering a workplace in which they are not only competing against local job seekers, but also with a new world wide pool of anxious and qualified individuals. The role of business is changing. The role of the employee is changing. In order to compete and survive, we must change the way we teach our children. The 20<sup>th</sup> Century model of education will not work in this new 21<sup>st</sup> Century world. We need a new set of 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills in order to be successful in this new world. This is not to say that our efforts of the past need to be abandoned altogether. Instead, we must find new, efficient ways of bridging the past with the future of education. In this paper, I will explore how the world has changed with the introduction of the internet, what new skills our students will need to master, and the nature of reflection and how these practices can provide that bridge between 20<sup>th</sup> Century educational practices and the new set of 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills our children will need in order to survive in the current, and future, global marketplace.*

### **Outline:**

- 1) Globalization (Friedman)
  - a) How the internet has helped to change the world over the last 20 years.
  - b) The flattening of the world.
  - c) What are the challenges facing today’s employees.
- 2) The Global Achievement Gap (Wagner)
  - a) How US education rates against the world.
  - b) The 7 new survival skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- 3) Dewey
  - a) What is the nature of education.
  - b) How should we be educating our students and why.
  - c) What role should reflection play in the educational experience
- 4) Schon
  - a) What are the types of reflection.
  - b) How are reflection and learning related.
  - c) Teaching as coaching.
- 5) Putting it all together
  - a) Reflection as the process of learning.
  - b) Utilizing reflection in the classroom as a way to teach 21<sup>st</sup> century skills in a 20<sup>th</sup> century school system.
  - c) Coaching, not teaching.

## **I.**

### Bibliography

Dewey, J. (2004). *Democracy and Education*. Mineola: Dover Publications.

Friedman, T. L. (2007). *The World is Flat*. New York: Picador/Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Schon, D. A. (1987). *Educating the Reflective Practitioner*. San Francisco: Wiley Imprint.

Wagner, T. (2008). *The Global Achievement Gap*. New York: Basic Books.