Supplemental Material: Scaffolding Examples

By Vicki Caruana, Ph.D.

Below are two examples of a scaffold for a major assignment/assessment in an undergraduate

capstone course. Included are the mini assignments and rationale for each designed learning

experiences as they contribute to the final major assignment/assessment.

Reaction Journals (11 within a 16 week course)

• Go over rubric

• Begin with an in-class writing exercise in response to a Narrative Prompt (listed in

syllabus)

• Give full points for first 2 journal entries, but provide feedback and the grade they would

have gotten

• Students write EVERY WEEK in order to gain writing fluency skills and improve their

•	Hold them accountable for APA format
•	Since the reaction journals will be the building blocks for their auto-ethnographies, it is
	Supplement to: Scaffolding Student Learning: Tips for Getting Started

- o Life map activity (in-class): see activity description and samples. This makes it personal and offers students a way to conceptualize their own journey.
- o Choose a metaphor and item: Students have difficulty deciding how to structure