

OLTD 509 – Reflection of Assignment 1 – Introduction to Emerging Technologies. I chose this piece of evidence to reflect my understanding of the OLTD Learning Outcome – ***Research and identify the main theories attached to emerging technologies including the Diffusion of Innovations and the Technology Acceptance Model.***

This piece of evidence is an infographic I created using Canva. This first assignment was a crash course in emerging and disruptive technologies, and how to differentiate between the two. While completing readings and diving into research, I became more familiar with Everett Roger's Diffusion of Innovations theory which suggests that there are 5 distinguishable categories or stages of adoption, along with the TAM theory (Technology Acceptance Model) which explains that there are two factors that determine whether a technology will be accepted – perceived usefulness and perceived ease of use.

Before embarking upon research around the diffusion of innovations and the adoption curve, I assumed that there were two or three groups of technology adopters; people who adopt right away, people who are open to the idea but need the time to research it, and people who resist new innovations and do not adopt new technologies. What I've come to understand is that while there are 5 categories of adoption, the other significant factor that comes into play is the amount of time it takes each of the categories to adopt the innovation – which is why Rogers provides the 'adoption curve- to give us an idea of when we can expect those people to embrace the technology. I was also given the opportunity to think about other variables that may affect why people 'adopt' an idea or technology. I reflected on my own experiences regarding adopting new ideas or technologies and identified social affluence being a big part of my own ambition/aspiration/desire to adopt an idea or technology.

I'm more familiar with the common terms, definitions and elements around emerging technologies which will be an important part of being an online educator but also come into play in brick-and-mortar school environments as well. Understanding how and why people accept and adopt technology will be a significant component of my teaching practice when I want to implement a new innovation or technology at school. I've come to realize that for a variety of reasons, people move at their own pace in regard to adopting innovations and I will be more confident in how I approach the subject of implementing emerging technologies to groups of students, colleagues, and parents. By having an understanding of ***the main theories attached to emerging technologies, the Diffusion of Innovations and the Technology Acceptance Model*** I will be more prepared as a teacher to prepare my students for the future.