GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

EDPD 504: Business of Learning Design and Technologies 3 credits, Fall 2015, September 14 – December 14 Mondays, 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Management Concepts, Tysons Corner, VA

PROFESSOR:

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UNIVERSITY CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Explores the business issues underlying the selection, implementation, and evaluation of technology-based learning interventions. Focuses on developing the skills necessary to improve performance and achieve measurable, positive change that supports an organization's strategic goals.

COURSE PURPOSE AND INTENDED AUDIENCE:

A Management Concepts priority is to enhance the ability of their learning professionals to gain awareness and appreciation of the business context in which the learning function operates. This course will help those professionals to acquire and apply the business skills needed to align learning with individual, business unit, and organizational performance goals. **Note**: Course credits not applicable to a degree program.

LEARNER OUTCOMES:

At the conclusion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Discuss the ways in which the learning design function relates to other theoretical and practitioner fields such as Training and Development, Human Performance Improvement/Technology, Human Resource Development, Talent Management, and Human Resource Management
- Describe the role of a learning designer in solving performance problems in an organization
- Discuss the various ways in which organizational culture and business decision-making impact the learning design function
- Compare and contrast the various types of learning and non-learning interventions
- Describe the process for determining the most appropriate intervention to solve a performance problem
- Discuss the various ways in which emotional intelligence (EIQ) affects a learning design team's performance
- Describe the cost management process for learning design projects
- Discuss the various enterprise tools and technologies to support the learning design function
- Compare and contrast evaluation models and their associated metrics/measures that seek to capture the business impact of the learning design function
- Construct a business case for a performance intervention, including costs and timing

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS:

A. International Board of Standards for Training, Performance and Instruction (IBSTPI)

(http://www.ibstpi.org/instructional-designer-competencies/):

- a. Plan & manage instructional design projects:
 - i. Write proposals for instructional design projects
 - ii. Establish project scope & goals
 - iii. Use a variety of planning & management tools for instructional design projects
 - iv. Allocate resources to support the project plan
 - v. Manage multiple priorities to maintain project timeline
 - vi. Identify & resolve project issues
- b. Apply business skills to managing the instructional design function:
 - i. Align instructional design efforts with organization's strategic plans & tactics
 - ii. Develop a business case to promote the critical role of the instructional design function
 - iii. Develop financial plans & control for the instructional design function
 - iv. Obtain & maintain management & stakeholder support for the design function
 - v. Market instructional design services & manage customer relations (internal audiences)
- c. Manage partnerships & collaborative relationships
 - i. Identify stakeholders & the nature of their involvement
 - ii. Build & promote effective relationships between the design team & stakeholders
 - iii. Conduct project reviews with design team members & stakeholders
- d. Revise instructional & non-instructional solutions based on data
 - i. Identify product & program revisions based on review of evaluation data
 - ii. Revise the delivery process based on evaluation data
 - iii. Revise products & programs based on evaluation data

B. Association for Talent Development (ATD) Foundational Competencies

(https://td.org/Certification/Competency-Model):

- a. Business skills
 - i. Analyze needs & propose solutions
 - ii. Apply business skills
 - iii. Drive results
 - iv. Plan & implement assignments
 - v. Think strategically
- b. Interpersonal skills
 - i. Build trust
 - ii. Communicate effectively
 - iii. Influence stakeholders
 - iv. Demonstrate emotional intelligence
- c. Personal skills
 - i. Demonstrate adaptability
 - ii. Model personal development

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Van Tiem, D.M., Moseley, J.L., & Dessinger, J.C. (2012). Fundamentals of performance improvement: Optimizing results through people, process, and organizations (3rd edition). San Francisco, CA: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

All other reading materials are available on our Blackboard course site.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

There are **three (3)** assignments required for successful completion of this course:

1. Panel Discussion of Course Materials (30 points)

The purpose of the discussion panels is to encourage reflection on the topics covered in the course that allows for deeper engagement with the topics and with your fellow course members than often occurs with a traditional instructor-driven Q & A. The discussion panels also foster identification of the ways in which the themes and ideas in the course readings, instructor presentations, videos and other assigned resources apply (or can be applied) at Management Concepts.

- a. There are **ten (10) topics** to be discussed in depth in this course [see the CLASS SCHEDULE section of this syllabus].
- b. For each topic, **two (2)** course members will sign up to serve as panelists for the topic of their choice via the **MY GROUPS** link in the left-hand navigation menu of our Blackboard course site.
- c. Each panel will present a summary (**30 minutes maximum**) of their perspectives on the topic of their choice. For detailed information about how to prepare for the panel discussion, please consult the *Panel Discussion Preparation Guidelines* document posted under the **RESOURCES** link in the left-hand navigation menu of our Bb course site.
- d. Panelists will also provide a **one-page handout** for the class that describes the key takeaways from their topic summary. To assist course members who are participating remotely as well as those who would like to prepare their own thoughts in advance of the class discussion, panelists will upload the handout and any other visual aids they plan to use for the discussion (e.g., slides, links to websites, audio files) to the **DISCUSSION BOARD** link in the left-hand navigation menu of our Bb course site on the date indicated in the **COURSE SCHEDULE**.
- e. During class, the panelists will pose questions or employ other facilitation techniques (e.g., offer hypotheses, critiques) to stimulate class discussion. Panelists should emphasize the **relevance** of the topic and associated materials to their work situation at Management Concepts.
- f. For more information on how discussion panel quality is assessed, please refer to the *Panel Discussion of Course Materials Grading Rubric* posted on our Bb course site.
- g. **Note**: Due to instructor travel commitments, the October 12 panel discussion on Organizational Culture will take place totally online.

2. Real-world Business Case (40 points)

- a. Each course member will identify a learning challenge experienced at Management Concepts. The challenge must have a negative impact on the performance of a client's department/division/organization (e.g., client/customer satisfaction and/or retention) or a performance problem internal to Management Concepts.
 - You may also revisit a past, failed business case/proposal for a learning intervention

- Work with your colleagues and supervisors on selecting a challenge, with the
 understanding that your completed business case may be used at your workplace, if so
 desired (Note: Make sure that you select a challenge that you can share with fellow
 course members).
- b. Construct a **written business case** for a solution to the performance problem that the learning challenge has caused. The business case document will include the following components:
 - Executive Summary
 - o Nature of the Learning Challenge/Opportunity
 - o Alternatives to Consider
 - o Assumptions and Risks Associated with Each Alternative
 - o Financial Metrics and Measures
 - Business Impact of Each Alternative (including "soft" intangibles)
 - o Conclusions and Recommendations
 - o High-level Implementation and Evaluation Plan
 - Appendix (detailed tables, graphs, source materials, etc.)
- Papers are to be **single-spaced** using standard English (no academic jargon). You may use the
 business case template in our course textbook or the business document format at Management
 Concepts.
- d. There is no minimum or maximum word count for the complete business case document. However, the **Executive Summary** section should be **no longer than 300 words**.
- e. Upload your completed business case to the **ASSIGNMENTS** link of our Bb course site on the date indicated in the **CLASS SCHEDULE**.
- f. On the same day, upload a copy to the designated forum on our Bb **DISCUSSION BOARD** to share with fellow course members.
- g. For tips on preparing your business case, see the document *Tips on Writing Business Cases* posted under the **RESOURCES** link of our Bb course site.
- h. For information on how your business case will be evaluated, please consult the *Business Case Grading Rubric* at the back of this Syllabus and on our Bb course site.

3. Peer Review of Business Case Components (30 points)

- a. There will be a total of **three (3) rounds** of peer reviews, each corresponding to a draft of your business case.
- b. Each course member will be asked to provide constructive evaluative feedback to other teams as you work on the various components of your business case
- c. There will be two (2) in-class peer reviews per round, so that everyone can familiarize themselves with the peer review process
- d. You will then select **two (2)** draft business cases (other than the ones reviewed in class) to review and post **at least one comment** on each of the two drafts to the designated forum on our Bb **DISCUSSION BOARD**.
- e. Please consult the *Guidelines for Peer Reviews* posted in the **RESOURCES** section of our Bb course site for more information about providing feedback on the business case drafts.

- f. Your peer review comments will be grounded in the relevant criteria set down in the *Business Case Grading Rubric*, located at the back of this Syllabus and on our Bb course site. Your feedback should be **constructive**, **specific** and identify what is (not) clear in each draft, as well as **suggestions for improvement**.
- g. For more information about how your peer review feedback is evaluated, please consult the *Peer Review Grading Rubric* posted on our Bb course site.
- h. Instructor comments on each draft version submitted for peer review will be posted to your **private** Mason email Inbox, so as not to unduly influence the feedback of fellow course members.
- i. Note: Postings made after a peer review week has ended will receive zero points.

Total Possible Grade for All Deliverables: 100%

GRADING:

The grading scale used in this course is the official George Mason University scale for graduate-level courses. Decimal percentage values ≥.5 will be rounded up (e.g., 92.5% will be rounded up to 93%); decimal percentage values <.5 will be rounded down (e.g., 92.4% will be rounded down to 92%).

Letter Grade	Total Points Earned
А	93%-100%
A-	90%-92%
B+	88%-89%
В	83%-87%
B-	80%-82%
С	70%-79%
F	<70%

GMU POLICIES AND RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS;

- a. Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code (See http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code/).
- b. Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (See http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/).
- c. Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
- d. The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students' personal experience and academic performance

(See http://caps.gmu.edu/).

- e. Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester (See http://ods.gmu.edu/).
- f. Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
- g. The George Mason University Writing Center staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing (See http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/).

PROFESSIONAL DISPOSITIONS

Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.

CORE VALUES COMMITMENT

The College of Education & Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/.

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, Graduate School of Education, please visit our website http://gse.gmu.edu/.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE:

DATE	CLASS AGENDA	READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE		
		FOLLOWING WEEK		
Week 1 Sept. 14	TOPIC: COURSE KICKOFF AND GETTING ACQUAINTED Introductions Review syllabus Blackboard course site orientation Instructor presentation: The Learning Design Profession in Context	 Complete the assigned readings Aziz, D. (2013). What's in a name? A comparison of instructional systems design, organization development, and human performance technology/improvement and their contributions to performance improvement. Performance Improvement, 52(6), 28-35. Foshay, W.R., Villachica, S.W., & Stepich, D.A. (2014). Cousins, but not twins: Instructional design and human performance technology in the workplace. In J.M. Spector et al. (Eds). Handbook of research on educational communications and technology. (pp.39-49). New York: Springer Chapter 1 of van Tiem, Moseley & Dessinger Click on the MY GROUPS link in the left-hand navigation panel, sign up to lead one (1) of the topic panel discussions by 11:59 PM on Sept. This is first-come-first-serve, so decide fairly 		
Week 2	TOPIC: LEARNING DESIGN	 quickly in order to get your first choice of topic. Complete the assigned readings Case Study #1.2 Strategic Performance 		
Sept. 21	 Instructor-led discussion of assigned readings Confirm teams for panel discussions 	 Management in Van Tiem et al, pp. 89-94 Chapters 2 & 3 of Van Tiem et al Human Performance Improvement panel to upload their materials to the designated forum of our Bb DISCUSSION BOARD by 11:59 PM on Sept. 25 		
Week 3	TOPIC: HUMAN PERFORMANCE	View Garry Platt's video From Performance Gap		
Sept. 28	 IMPROVEMENT: IT'S ALL ABOUT CHANGE Human Performance Improvement panel leads class discussion Instructor wrap-up of Human Performance Improvement Instructor-led discussion of course member reflections on content to date 	to Needs Analysis. Complete the assigned readings Case Study #2.1 The Blake Company/Mutschler Kitchens in Van Tiem et al., pp.179-184 Chapters 4, 6, 7 & 8 of Van Tiem, et al Performance Analysis panel to upload their materials to the designated forum of our Bb DISCUSSION BOARD by 11:59 PM on Oct. 2		

DATE	CLASS AGENDA	READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE		
		FOLLOWING WEEK		
Week 4 Oct. 5	 Performance Analysis panel leads class discussion Instructor wrap-up of Performance Analysis Group work: Performance analysis exercise 	 View Dan Denison's video What is Organizational Culture? Why Culture Matters to Your Organization. Complete the assigned readings Egan, T.M. (2008). The relevance of organization subculture for motivation to transfer learning. Human Resource Development Quarterly, 19(4), 299-322 Chapter 5 & 16 of Van Tiem et al Organizational Culture panel to upload their materials to the designated forum of our Bb DISCUSSION BOARD by 11:59 PM on Oct. 9 		
Week 5	TOPIC: ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE	Complete the assigned readings		
Oct. 12 Online Class	 Organizational Culture Panel discussion throughout the week Instructor wrap-up of discussion on Oct. 18 	 Case Study #3.2 Acquisition of Westford Bank by Spring Harbor Bank in Van Tiem et al., pp.459-464 Chapters 9, 10 & 18 of Van Tiem et al Learning vs. Non-learning Interventions panel to upload their materials to the designated forum of our Bb DISCUSSION BOARD by 11:59 PM on Oct. 16 		
Week 6	TOPIC: LEARNING VS. NON-	View the three-part video Business Cases and		
Oct. 19	 Learning vs. Non-learning Interventions panel leads class discussion Instructor wrap-up of Learning vs. Non-learning Interventions Instructor-led discussion of course member reflections on content to date 	 RFPs: Establishing the Value of Learning Complete the assigned readings Case Study #3.1 No Room for Error:		
Week 7 Oct. 26	 TOPIC: INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS CASE WRITING Introduction to Business Case Writing panel leads class discussion Instructor wrap-up of Introduction to Business Case Writing Individual work: Identify issue/challenge for your business case 	 View the eLearning Network's video eLearning Project Management Time and Budget Complete the assigned readings Chapter17 of Van Tiem et al Budgeting and Cost Management panel to upload their materials to the designated forum of our Bb DISCUSSION BOARD by 11:59 PM on Oct. 30 		

DATE	CLASS AGENDA	READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE		
		FOLLOWING WEEK		
Week 8 Nov. 2	 TOPIC: BUDGETING AND COST MANAGEMENT Budgeting and Cost Management panel leads class discussion Instructor wrap-up of Budgeting and Cost Management Knowledge sharing discussion: Business case issue selection (and reasons why) 	 Upload a draft of the first three sections (Nature of the Learning Challenge/Opportunity, Alternatives to Consider, Assumptions & Risks of Each Alternative) components of your business case to the <i>Peer Review #1</i> forum on our Bb DISCUSSION BOARD by 11:59 PM on Nov. 6 Complete the assigned readings Case Study #5.2 Community Healthcare Association of the Dakotas: A Five-level Evaluation Model in Van Tiem et al., pp. 577-584 Chapters 23 & 24 of Van Tiem et al Evaluation panel to upload their materials to the designated forum of our Bb DISCUSSION BOARD by 11:59 PM on Nov. 6 		
Week 9	TOPIC: EVALUATION	View the George Siemens video Introduction to		
Week 10	 Peer Review #1: In-class review of two (2) drafts Instructor summary of peer review process Evaluation panel leads class discussion Instructor wrap-up of Evaluation TOPIC: LEARNING ANALYTICS IN VARIOUS WORKPLACE SETTINGS	 Learning Analytics View the video Best Practices in Learning Analytics: McDonald's Assigned Readings Ferguson, R. (2012). Learning analytics: Drivers, developments and challenges. International Journal of Technology Enhanced Learning, 4(5/6), pp. 304-317. Learning Analytics panel to upload their materials to the designated forum of our Bb DISCUSSION BOARD by 11:59 PM on Nov. 13 Upload a draft of your full business case (excluding the Executive Summary and 		
100.10	 Learning Analytics panel leads class discussion Instructor wrap of Learning Analytics Instructor-led discussion of course member reflections 	 Appendix) to the <i>Peer Review #2</i> forum of the Bb DISCUSSION BOARD by 11:59 PM on Nov. 20 View the video <i>Daniel Goleman Introduces Emotional Intelligence</i> Complete the assigned readings Brackett, Rivers & Salovey article Chapter13 of Van Tiem et a Emotional Intelligence panel to upload their materials to the designated forum of our Bb DISCUSSION BOARD by 11:59 PM on Nov. 20 		
Week 11	TOPIC: EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE	Nov. 24-29, Thanksgiving Break, No Classes		
Nov. 23	 Peer Review #2: In-class review of two (2) drafts Instructor summary of peer review process Emotional Intelligence panel leads class discussion Instructor wrap of Emotional 			

DATE	CLASS AGENDA	READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE
Week 12 Nov. 30	TOPIC: BUSINESS CASE DEVELOPMENT • Status check on business case development: Open forum • Individual work: Continue working on your full Business Case	 FOLLOWING WEEK Upload a draft of your complete business case (all components) to the Peer Review #3 forum of the Bb DISCUSSION BOARD by 11:59 PM on Dec. 4 View the video Enterprise Tools and Technologies Complete the assigned readings ATD report How Web 3.0 Will Transform Learning in High-Performing Organizations: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY Exhibit 3.1, pp. 465-472 of Van Tiem et al Tools and Technologies for Performance Improvement panel to upload their materials to the designated forum of our Bb DISCUSSION BOARD by 11:59 PM on Dec. 4
Week 13 Dec. 7	 TOPIC: TOOLS AND TECHNOLOGIES FOR PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT	 Upload the final version of your complete business case to the ASSIGNMENTS link on our Bb course site by 11:59 PM on Dec. 11 Upload a copy of your completed business case to the designated forum on our Bb DISCUSSION BOARD by 11:59 PM on Dec. 11
Week 14 Dec. 14	TOPIC: BUSINESS CASE DE-BRIEF AND COURSE WRAP-UP Discussion of selected business cases Instructor wrap-up and distribution of Mason Course Evaluation survey	

Business Case Grading Rubric

(Total Possible Points: 40)

Criteria	Does Not Meet	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards
Executive Summary	Standards Summary misses most	Provides a summary of	Provides a clear
Executive Summary	components of the	most components of	summary of all
	Business Case or is	the Business Case;	components of the
	unclear; exceeds word	exceeds word limit	Business Case in 300
	limit	exceeds word illillit	words or less
	0.00-1.59 points	1.60-1.94 points	1.95-2.00 points
Nature of the Learning	Learning challenge/	Clear learning	Clear learning
Challenge/Opportunity	opportunity definition	challenge/ opportunity	challenge/ opportunity
Chanenge/Opportunity	not clearly stated, gap	definition but	definition supported by
	and cause analysis	supporting gap and	gap and cause analysis
	incomplete or missing	cause analysis	gap and cause analysis
	incomplete of fillssing	incomplete	
	0.0-4.79 points	4.80-5.94 points	5.95-6.00 points
Alternatives to Consider	Pros and cons either	Some pros and cons	Pros and cons of each
Alternatives to consider	not provided or do not	provided and flow	alternative are
	flow logically from	logically from evidence	provided and flow
	evidence presented	presented	logically from evidence
	evidence presented	presented	presented
	0.0-3.19 points	3.20-3.94 points	3.95-4.00 points
Assumptions and Risks of	Assumptions,	Some assumptions,	Assumptions,
Each Alternative	consequences and risks	consequences and/or	consequences and risks
	of each alternative are	risks associated with	associated with each
	not defined, no	each alternative are	alternative are clearly
	supporting evidence	defined, some	defined with
		supporting evidence	supporting evidence
	0.0-3.19 points	3.20-3.94 points	3.95-4.00 points
Financial Metrics and	Financial metrics/KPIs	Financial metrics/KPIs	Financial metrics/KPIs
Measures	and intangible	and intangible	and intangible
	measures for each	measures for each	measures for each
	alternative are not	alternative are defined	alternative are clearly
	defined, no evidence of	but with little or no	defined, with evidence
	input from the	evidence of input from	of input from the
	organization's Finance	the organization's	organization's Finance
	Dept.	Finance Dept.	Dept.
	0.0-4.79 points	4.80-5.94 points	5.95-6.00 points

Criteria	Does Not Meet	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards
	Standards		
Business Impact of Each	Outcomes and benefits	Some outcomes and	Main outcomes and
Alternative	for each scenario not	benefits indicated, with	benefits for each
	indicated, features not	features illustrated in	scenario are clearly
	illustrated in charts,	charts, graphics	indicated, with
	graphics		features illustrated in
			charts, graphics
	0.0-4.79 points	4.80-5.94 points	5.95-6.00 points
Conclusions and	No specific alternative	States which specific	Clearly states which
Recommendations	recommended or no	alternative is optimal,	specific alternative is
	rationale provided for	rationale for	optimal, along with
	recommendation	recommendation not	evidence-based
		fully supported by	rationale for
	0.0.2.10	evidence	recommendation
	0.0-3.19 points	3.20-3.94 points	3.95-4.00 points
High-level	Plan does not identify	Plan identifies some	Plan clearly identifies
Implementation and Evaluation Plan	tasks, responsibilities,	tasks, responsibilities	tasks, responsibilities,
Evaluation Plan	resources or timelines, no success indicators	and resources, general success indicators	material and human
	no success maicators	Success indicators	resources, along with observable,
			measurable indicators
			of success
	0.0-3.19 points	3.20-3.94 points	3.95-4.00 points
Appendix	No references,	Contains some	Contains detailed
- pp - mann	supporting documents	supporting documents,	tables, charts,
	provided	other supporting	references and other
		documents that should	supporting documents
		be in the Appendix are	
		in the main text	
	0.0-1.59 points	1.60-1.94 points	1.95-2.00 points
Language:	Rules of English	Rules of English	Rules of grammar,
	grammar, usage,	grammar, usage,	usage, spelling and
	spelling and	spelling and	punctuation are
	punctuation are not	punctuation are	followed consistently
	followed, multiple	generally followed	throughout the
	·	,	business case
	language errors	throughout the	
	throughout the	business case	document, no
	business case	document, one or two	language errors
	document	minor language errors	
	0.0-1.59 points	1.60-1.94 points	1.95-2.00 points
	·	-	