

George Mason University  
College of Education and Human Development  
Instructional Design and Technology Program (IDT)  
EDIT 730 - Advanced Instructional Design – Section 001 – 3 Credits  
Fall 2019 Syllabus

**General Information**

**Time:** Tuesdays, 4:30 PM – 7:10 PM  
**Location:** Thompson Hall L003  
**Instructor:** Dr. Nada Dabbagh  
**Phone:** (703) 993-4439

**Division of Learning Technologies**  
**IDT Program:** <http://learntech.gmu.edu/idt/>  
**Office:** Thompson Hall, L047 (office hours by appointment)  
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**Course Description**

Catalog Description: Provides students with the knowledge and skills for designing highly contextualized and engaging problem-solving learning environments using a grounded, theory-based design approach. Emphasizes the design of technology supported learning environments using a variety of pedagogical models and instructional strategies.

Expanded Description: Provides students with the knowledge and skills for designing and facilitating highly contextualized, engaging, and meaningful learning experiences based on the principles of constructivism, situated cognition, and connectivism. Readings expose students to a range of epistemological and theoretical perspectives as evidenced by instructional design literature and applications. The focus is on **grounded or theory-based design**, which differs from the systematic process of instructional design as discussed in EDIT 705 (e.g., ADDIE). However, the principles of systematic instructional design are fundamental to understanding and implementing this design approach. The course also emphasizes the design of **online or technology supported learning environments (TSLEs)** using proven pedagogical models, instructional strategies, and learning technologies.

Pre-requisites: EDIT 705; students are expected to be proficient in the principles and processes of instructional design (e.g., performing task and audience analysis, writing learning outcomes or instructional objectives, and aligning learning outcomes with taxonomies for identifying learning domains and assessment).

Course Delivery Method: This course will be delivered online (75% or more) using an **asynchronous format** via Blackboard Learning Management system (LMS) housed in the MyMason portal. You will log in to the Blackboard (Bb) course site using your Mason email name (everything before @masonlive.gmu.edu) and email password. The course site will be available on the first day of class. The course will have **five mandatory face-to-face meetings** as follows:

- Tuesday August 27, 4:30 – 7:10, Thompson Hall L003
- Tuesday September 17, 4:30 – 7:10, Thompson Hall L003
- Tuesday October 8, 4:30 – 7:10, Thompson Hall L003
- Tuesday November 5, 4:30 – 7:10, Thompson Hall L003
- Tuesday December 10, 4:30 – 7:10, Thompson Hall L003

**Technical Requirements**

**Under no circumstances, may candidates/students participate in online class sessions (either by phone or Internet) while operating motor vehicles. Further, as expected in a face-to-face class meeting, such online participation requires undivided attention to course content and communication.**

To participate in this course, students will need to satisfy the following technical requirements:

- High-speed Internet access with standard up-to-date browsers. To get a list of Blackboard's supported browsers see: [https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting\\_Started/Browser\\_Support#supported-browsers](https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support#supported-browsers)
- To get a list of supported operation systems on different devices see: [https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting\\_Started/Browser\\_Support#tested-devices-and-operating-systems](https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support#tested-devices-and-operating-systems)
- Students must maintain consistent and reliable access to their GMU email and Blackboard, as these are the official methods of communication for this course.

- Students may be asked to create logins and passwords on supplemental websites and/or to download trial software to their computer or tablet as part of course requirements.
- The following software plug-ins for PCs and Macs, respectively, are available for free download: [Add or delete options, as desire.]
  - Adobe Acrobat Reader: <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
  - Windows Media Player: <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/14209/get-windows-media-player>
  - Apple Quick Time Player: [www.apple.com/quicktime/download/](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/)

## Expectations

- Course Week: Our course week will begin on the day that our face-to-face meetings take place (**Tuesday**) and finish on **Monday**.
- Log-in Frequency: Students must actively check the course Blackboard site and their GMU email for communications from the instructor, class discussions, and/or access to course materials **at least 3 times per week**. In addition, students must attend all **five face to face meetings** listed above.
- Participation: Students are expected to actively engage in all course activities throughout the semester, which includes viewing all course materials, completing course activities and assignments, and participating in course discussions and group interactions.
- Technical Competence: Students are expected to demonstrate competence in the use of all course technology. Students who are struggling with technical components of the course are expected to seek assistance from the instructor and/or College or University technical services.
- Technical Issues: Students should anticipate some technical difficulties during the semester and should, therefore, budget their time accordingly. Late work will not be accepted based on individual technical issues.
- Workload: Please be aware that this course is **not** self-paced. Students are expected to meet *specific deadlines* and *due dates* listed in the **Class Schedule (timeline)** section of this syllabus. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of the weekly course schedule of topics, readings, activities and assignments due.
- Instructor Support: Students may schedule a one-on-one meeting to discuss course requirements, content or other course-related issues. Those unable to come to a Mason campus can meet with the instructor via telephone or web conference. Students should email the instructor to schedule a one-on-one session, including their preferred meeting method and suggested dates/times.
- Netiquette: The course environment is a collaborative space. Experience shows that even an innocent remark typed in the online environment can be misconstrued. Students must always re-read their responses carefully before posting them, so as others do not consider them as personal offenses. *Be positive in your approach with others and diplomatic in selecting your words*. Remember that you are not competing with classmates, but sharing information and learning from others. All faculty are similarly expected to be respectful in all communications.
- Accommodations: Online learners who require effective accommodations to insure accessibility must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services.

## Learner Outcomes or Objectives

1. Develop an understanding of epistemological approaches to learning and cognition such as **objectivism, behaviorism, cognitivism, constructivism, situated cognition, and connectivism**.
2. Develop an understanding of **grounded design** or **theory-based design**.
3. Develop an **applied** understanding of **constructivism** and its implications for designing **meaningful learning experiences** using the **Meaningful Online Learning Design Framework**.
4. Examine a variety of constructivist-based **pedagogical models and instructional strategies** and their implications for the design of meaningful learning experiences using a variety of learning technologies.
5. Appreciate the importance of the linkage between theories of learning and instructional design practice.

## Professional Standards

The learning outcomes for this course align with the 2012 International Board of Standards for Training, Performance and Instruction (IBSTPI) competencies of *Professional Foundations* and *Design and Development* as follows (see <http://www.ibstpi.org/instructional-design-competencies/>):

- *Professional Foundations (2)*: Apply research and theory to the discipline of instructional design
- *Planning & Analysis (9)*: Analyze the characteristics of existing & emerging technologies & their potential use
- *Design & Development (10)*: Use an instructional design & development process appropriate for a given project
- *Design & Development (11)*: Organize instructional programs/products to be designed, developed, and evaluated
- *Design & Development (12)*: Design instructional interventions

## Required Texts

Dabbagh, N., Marra, R.M., & Howland, J.L. (2019). *Meaningful online learning: Integrating strategies, activities, and learning technologies for effective designs*. Routledge.

Additional readings will be provided on Blackboard (Bb) or as handouts in class. The Blackboard course website will have a variety of **instructional resources organized according to the learning modules in the timeline below and should be explored with each module**. To access Blackboard, go to [mymason.gmu.edu](http://mymason.gmu.edu)

## Learning Activities, Performance Based Assessments, and Grading Policy

*Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Bb, TK20, etc.)*

<b><u>CLE (Constructivist Learning Environment) Criteria and Application</u></b>	<b>25% of grade</b>
<b><u>Online and In-Class Participation</u></b>	<b>25% of grade</b>
<b><u>Research Brief</u></b>	<b>25% of grade</b>
<b><u>Designing a Technology Supported Constructivist Learning Environment (TSCLE)</u></b>	<b>25% of grade</b>

**Grades are based on the successful completion of course requirements and on the scope, quality and creativity of the assignments. To get an A in this course, students should demonstrate critical thinking skills through active synthesis of reading material, integration of prior knowledge and experience, and through problem-solving, argumentation, and reasoning.**

**Grade distribution is as follows:** A+ = 97 - 100 (exceeds expectations on all requirements); A = 93 - 96 (meets expectations, excellent performance); A- = 90 - 92 (meets expectations, very good performance), B+ = 86 - 89 (meets most expectations, good performance), B = 83 - 85 (meets most expectations, satisfactory performance); B- = 80 - 82 (meets some expectations, average performance); C = 70 - 79 (notably below expectations).

**The instructor reserves the right to deduct up to 10% of an assignment grade per day for late submissions without a valid excuse. Missing more than 2 classes over the semester can also result in grade reduction.**

If you miss class, it is **your responsibility to make up** the work (this includes classwork).

**Professional Dispositions:** Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.

See <https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/policies-procedures/>

**Core Values Commitment:** The College of Education and 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/>

## GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

### *Policies*

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see <https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/>)
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>)

- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason 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.
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see <http://ds.gmu.edu/>).
- Students must silence all sound emitting devices during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

***Campus Resources***

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to [tk20help@gmu.edu](mailto:tk20help@gmu.edu) or <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20>. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <http://coursesupport.gmu.edu/>
- For information on student support resources on campus, see <https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus>

**For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website <https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/>**