

EDD 8008: Principles of Instructional Technology

EDD 8008 Course Reflection

EDD 8008 course provided me with a history and definition of instructional design. Through the historical development in the field of instructional technology I learned about the major theories of learning and cognition and how they applied in my workplace. By the time I had to write my literature review I was able to synthesize the theories I had learned about with the research on technology integration to support my theory on social learning.

Reviewing lessons on professional associations and conferences introduced me into new possibilities and opportunities for future network and learning opportunities. I had not heard about a couple of the associations or conferences prior to this course and I appreciate the new avenue of information available to me. One of the activities that really stood out to me was to research a professional journal because prepared me for the EDD 8123 class where we had to write an article to be published in a professional journal. Another activity that I enjoyed was the Hall of Fame nomination where I got a chance to learn about several individuals that made an impact in the field of instructional technology. This activity gave us a fun opportunity to learn from our peer through short PowerPoint presentations.

The professor conducted a review on APA style during one of our class sessions and I felt it was very helpful and I appreciate the refresher on the expectations on a major assignment prior to it being due. I also learned the difference between hard and soft technologies and continued to build upon my foundational knowledge in research and instructional technology. Overall this course has made me very involved in conducting research through a variety of activities and exercises and gave me the opportunity to become more comfortable in using different types of resources to gather information.

Assignment 1: Activities

This assignment is broken down into four individual research activities. As an ITDE professional I found these research activities to be very informative and insightful, especially when learning about different individuals in the field of instructional technology. Working in training and development I am aware of some professional associations and conferences, but I don't usually have the time to investigate and look new ones up. The first two activities had us research professional associations and conferences that currently exist in the ITDE field and I have book marked several of them as resources of organizations and events that I could possibly join or attend in the future. Looking up professional journals was a perfect activity for me to learn about some of the professional journals in the instructional design field. This activity gave me an opportunity to learn about the guidelines and requirements that helped me write the journal article assignment for the EDD 8123 course.

Assignment 2: Literature Review

The Educational Research for Practitioners course definitely prepared me for this assignment. Though a long and detailed task, I was able to synthesize what I had learned thus far about instructional technology and support my topic with a range of information and literature sources addressing uses, strategies, risks and opportunities of social media for learning. I strategically wrote my paper in sections to ensure that I covered all necessary areas and made a clear link between social media and learning. This assignment allowed me to further analyze social media and its uses in learning by compiling various research results on the selected topic.