Course 3 - Teaching Online: Optimizing Digital Learning Design

Specialization Overview:

This course is part of the **Digital Pedagogy: Teaching & Training Online** specialization, which is designed to provide professionals with an overview of educational technology and its application in teaching and learning. The courses are devised to enable educators to integrate the advancements in the edtech field into their teaching pedagogy for enhanced effective learning. Led by experienced LUMS faculty, this specialisation will provide you with a comprehensive overview of best practices for structuring your course or training experience, engaging your learners, and measuring their progress. Whether you're interested in designing new courses/programs/trainings or revamping an existing one, you'll gain practical insights and techniques that you can immediately put into practice in your teaching.

This specialization is offered collaboratively through the LUMS Learning Institute and the LUMS Center for Continuing Education Studies. It covers the history of EdTech, its benefits and challenges, as well as the tools and resources available. Participants will gain practical skills and knowledge to integrate EdTech into their teaching and learning environments, enhancing the overall effectiveness of their educational practice. Upon successful completion of the specialization participants will have gained valuable skills and knowledge that can be applied in different domains within the capacity of teaching and Training.

Course overview:

This course is designed to provide educators with the skills and knowledge needed to optimize digital learning design for effective and engaging online learning experiences. Participants will learn how to design, develop, and implement digital learning experiences that foster critical thinking, promote learner autonomy, and enhance the learning experience for students promoting collaboration as well. Through these skills the participants will be able to design and deliver effective courses customized to a digital environment with suitable assessment techniques and resource utilization.

Learning outcomes:

1. Identify key design principles for online courses, and evaluate different online learning models.
2. Understand the benefits and challenges of online learning, and design effective assessments for online courses.
3. Foster learner engagement and motivation, and create interactive and engaging online learning experiences.
4. Facilitate online discussions and debates, and design group projects and peer review activities.
5. Use virtual simulations to enhance learning experiences, and evaluate learning management systems (LMS).

6. Evaluate authoring tools and multimedia production software, and use multimedia effectively in online courses.
7. Design effective synchronous and asynchronous online learning experiences, and use best practices for online facilitation.
8. Promote learner autonomy and self-regulation, and use strategies for fostering learner engagement and motivation.
9. Design assessments that align with course objectives, and use assessment results to inform instructional decisions.
10. Apply course concepts and skills to design and deliver a high-quality online course.

Course outline:

This course will equip participants with the skills and knowledge needed to design and implement effective digital learning experiences that foster critical thinking, promote learner autonomy, and enhance the learning experience for students. Participants will learn best practices for digital learning design, how to create effective assessments, how to use multimedia effectively in digital learning design, and how to evaluate the effectiveness of digital learning experiences. By the end of the course, participants will have the tools and knowledge to design and implement high-quality digital learning experiences that optimize the learning experience for their students. They will be assessed through quizzes and a summative assessment at the end of the course.

I: Introduction to Online Learning
- Understanding the benefits and challenges of online learning
- Examining different online learning models
- Identifying key design principles for online courses

II: Engaging Learners Online
- Creating engaging and interactive online learning experiences
- Strategies for fostering learner engagement and motivation
- Techniques for designing effective assessments in online courses

III: Creating Collaborative Learning Experiences
- Designing online discussions that promote critical thinking
- Facilitating group projects and peer review
- Using virtual simulations to enhance online learning

IV: Module 4: Tools and Platforms for Online Learning
- Understanding different learning management systems (LMS)
- Identifying authoring tools and multimedia production software
- Best practices for using multimedia in online courses

V: Delivering Online Learning
- Strategies for delivering effective synchronous and asynchronous online learning experiences

- Best practices for online facilitation
- Techniques for promoting learner autonomy and self-regulation
- Developing interactive and engaging digital learning materials
- Creating effective digital learning resources for students

VI : Evaluating Digital Learning Design
- Assessing the effectiveness of digital learning experiences
- Using assessment results to inform instructional decisions
- Identifying areas for improvement in digital learning design

Assessment:
- Weekly assignments and quizzes (50%)
- Final project: Design an online course and apply learned strategies for effective online delivery of the content. (50%)