

EDTC 6010 Newsletter Reflective Statement

The Project

This project consisted of creating a newsletter that described and defined instructional design and technology. I incorporated a historical timeline as well as descriptions of a few different instructional technology models, such as ADDIE, Dick and Carey's System Approach Model and Kemp, Morrison and Ross's Instructional Design Plan. Since my background and experience is in higher education, I choose to focus on how instructional design and technology is currently used and can be used in higher education. Examples of social media were presented in this newsletter.

I included various graphics obtained through creative commons search engines. These graphics helped to represent and support each of the areas where they were used. For example, graphics were shown with each of the different models and theories present in the newsletter. I used some of the design rules such as contrast, alignment and proximity when creating this newsletter even though I had yet to learn many of these rules or guidelines.

Project Development

I created this newsletter using Microsoft Word. I first created an outline of what I wanted to include in the newsletter. I then gathered my information through various resources, mainly using Google or Google Scholar. I then chose what order I was going to present the information in and how much information to include. The history of Instructional Design and Technology can be quite lengthy. I chose to include most of the more substantial events that took place.

After I laid out my content how I wanted it, I looked for graphics to support and represent the different areas of the newsletter. I tried to use different shapes and colors in order to add

contrast and variety to the overall look of the newsletter. Wordles were a popular thing when I created this newsletter. I decided to include one of those.

I chose a black background because this is a digital newsletter. In order to be a little “green” I hoped that by using a black background, people would refrain from printing it out. Different sections were clearly separated with a horizontal rule and each sections was introduced with the proper heading style.

Professional Goals and Objectives

I really enjoyed creating this newsletter. Finding the content gave me a refresher on the history of Instructional Design and Technology and helped to soak up or learn the different models and theories. Constantly visiting these models and theories helps me to remember them – their similarities and differences.

I have worked with technical documentation in the past and always included screenshots. Creating this newsletter and incorporating images was a refresher on doing that. In my current job role, I create a lot of technical documentation. It is something I enjoy, but yet do not enjoy. I am looking to learn different types of software applications to find one that works the easiest for this type of documentation.

I find presenting not so interesting information in a beautiful and engaging way makes the content seem not so boring. Using the different principals of design can help create documentation like this. I look forward to learning more guidelines and principals of design in my future classes in order to really tailor my technical documentation skills.