



MODULE 2 ORGANIZER SCRIPT

Welcome to the module two organizer.

As we established in the previous module, in your future career in the field of educational technology, it is likely that you will be expected to oversee and to design distance education workshops, tutorials, courses, and programs. Thus, the purpose of this course is to learn about the management and process of instructional design (ISD). Before we can begin managing and developing ISD projects, we need to understand some foundational theories. Thus, that is our primary focus in this module.

In this module, we will focus on learning theories, we will answer questions such as: How does learning occur? What factors influence learning? How should instruction be structured to facilitate learning? For, underlying every effective ISD project is a theoretical foundation, namely a learning theory, and the implementation of an ISD model (Smith & Ragan, 2005). As our text book authors imply, ignorance or lack of understanding of theory, especially human learning theory, can lead to ineffective course development and media selection; thus, hindering learning (Clark & Mayer, 2008).

Then, we will look at a few instructional design models.

We will thoroughly explore different theories and models through our reading and the instructional unit. Through our reading, we will identify the importance of instructional design, especially as it relates to the management of distance education. Then, we will reflect upon the theories and models and their application to distance education in our blogs.

Having a foundational understanding of distance education, learning theories, and ISD models, in the next module we will begin working on the large project for this course, the ISD project. In preparation for the project, you will develop the team whom you plan to work with and identify at least one synchronous technology you will use to work together.

Some of my favorites collaborative tools include conferencing systems such as Skype, chat systems such as Google Talk, and collaborative work spaces such as Google docs and wikis.

After you are done listening to the module organizer, take time to read our objectives for this week. I also encourage you to take some time to write your personal objectives for this course and for this module.

Also, download the "To Do" list and begin planning your week.

Have a blessed week.