

MODULE 1 ORGANIZER SCRIPT

Welcome to the module one organizer. Each module contains an organizer that provides a brief introduction to the module and overview of what is in the module and what the learner is expected to complete. This is the module 1 organizer.

I would like to start this organizer with a quote:

- "Learning is interactive when learners are actively engaged in a variety of activities, and along with their peers and teacher, they are co-constructors of knowledge."
- Chamberlain & Zrasidas, 2001, p.79

We know that key components of engaged distance learning include: (a) learners establishing personal learning goals, (b) learners working together in groups, (c) learners exploring resources to answer meaningful questions, (d) learners completing multidisciplinary authentic, real world tasks and (e) learners creating products and artifacts that can be used and shared beyond the classroom (Johnson, 1998). Each of these components will be realized in this course.

In this module, we must begin by creating an environment in which community can be built. Thus, we will engage in an icebreaker activity (e.g. introductory blog) to establish individual presence and open up lines of communication. You will also attend a live session at a time and date specified by your instructor.

In addition to getting to know one another, we will also get to know the structure of the course by reading the course syllabus, schedule, and assignment appendix.

We will also begin reading about unique aspects of distance education instructional design and the importance of community in the distance education environment classroom by completing the instructional unit. Finally, do not forget to submit evidence of your membership in a professional organization.

After you are done listening to the module organizer, take time to read our objectives for this week. They include:

- Gaining familiarity with instructor and classmates to build a sense of teacher and social presence within the online environment.
- Understanding unique aspects of the distance education environment

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.