

# SME Statement on Instructional Design

## Context

In the first week of our Instructional Design course, we lay the theoretical foundation for our practical work of creating a Course Syllabus in the following weeks. For Subject Matter Experts (SMEs), it is vital to fully grasp what Instructional Design is and how it can help create and revise courses in all disciplines. For SMEs to design effective and efficient courses, it is crucial to realize what questions are posed before Instructional Design and how those questions are answered. Having a comprehensive picture of Instructional Design as a science, a discipline, and a process, as well as realizing its value in crafting relevant learning experiences, provide SMEs with a solid answer to the question "Why?" behind the "How?" of course design.

If learning occurs all the time, and it is not necessary to go to school to learn something, why then is education of such value? Why do learning experiences need to be purposefully created and masterfully taught? What stands behind well-designed learning? Why designing a course is such a complex task? All those questions need to be answered by all SMEs who seek to bring value to their students.

## Content & Evaluation

In this assignment, you will strive to justify the value of Instructional Design for yourself as a Subject Matter Expert whose goal is to transfer your knowledge to your students efficiently and effectively. You will base your argument on the materials provided in our course and some additional research of your own. In order to do that:

1. Look through the materials provided for you this week.
2. Conduct additional research about Instructional Design, using a minimum of one peer-reviewed source, one multimedia source such as video or podcast, and one web article.
3. Craft a 1000-word statement about what Instructional Design is and why do you as a Subject Matter Expert need it in creating your courses:
  - a. start your statement with an explanation of the main theoretical principles of Instructional Design;
  - b. proceed with connecting those principles with the practical questions that you face as a Subject Matter Expert;
  - c. finish with suggesting some practical application of the Instructional Design theory that you have learned to create the course of your choice in your discipline.
4. Submit the first draft of your statement along with proper APA in-text citations and a list of your sources for some formative remarks at the end of week one.
5. During weeks two through six, return to your statement and adjust it according to the new knowledge obtained.
6. In week six, submit your final draft to get your Complete mark.
7. In week seven, write out a 300-word summary of your statement and share it with your peers on our weekly discussion board.