



College of Education and Human Development

Instructional Technology Program

Newsletter - Spring 2010

Announcements

New PhD Program

The Instructional Technology program in George Mason University's College of Education and Human Development is proud to announce a new PhD in Education with a concentration in Learning Technologies Design Research. The PhD concentration supports the in depth study of design-based research methods that address cross disciplinary design, development, and research in such areas as innovation and creativity in the design of learning technologies, design and assessment of K-12 technology solutions and technology teacher education, technology solutions to support those with disabilities, and emerging technologies and practices. The Learning Technologies Design Research concentration is the first of its kind with an innovative approach that engages doctoral students in real world, integrated design and research. Doctoral candidates complete a sequence of core courses as well as choosing courses from one of three specialization areas: instructional systems design, integration of technology in schools, or assistive technology.

The doctoral concentration is designed to prepare doctoral candidates to be learning technologies design researchers. The program is designed to graduate doctoral candidates able to:

- Discuss the multidisciplinary nature of the design process;
- Examine the construct of “design thinking” and its instantiations;
- Synthesize an applied design experience with literature on the practice of design;
- Understand the multidisciplinary nature of human learning and cognition and its impact on technology design;
- Describe the interaction between technology and cognition and the learning affordances that this interaction enables;
- Examine the cognitive, social, and technological aspects of pedagogical design;
- Improve formal and informal learning environments in virtual and physical settings by generating design principles based on the theories examined;
- Support design-based research as a research approach;
- Plan multiple cycles of design research to investigate teaching/learning/training phenomenon;
- Apply several design research cycles to an identified research problem;
- Design and develop (or improve) a learning/training intervention;
- Draft or document a scholarly product that evidences a cycle of design research;
- Deeply and iteratively investigate an identified learning/training phenomenon over several cycles of design and research.

For information about the new doctoral program, potential students are encouraged to visit the IT Program website at <http://it.gse.gmu.edu> or to contact the Dr. Priscilla Norton, Program Coordinator at 703-992-2015 or pnorton@gmu.edu.

IT Open House

The George Mason University Instructional Technology Program will be hosting an Open House on **Monday, March 15, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** in Commerce I, Room 100 located at 4085 University Drive, Fairfax, Virginia. Faculty advisors will be available to answer questions from individuals interested in enrolling in IT programs. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Ms. Kelley Shillingburg, Program Manager, at kshillin@gmu.edu or 703-993-3798.

Think Warm Thoughts, Plan Your Summer Courses

Tired of the snow and cold? Our summer course offerings will warm you right up while moving you toward program completion. Take one or more of the following this summer:

EDIT 573 Project Management: Looking for an elective course that you can complete in only five (5) weeks? EDIT 573 Project Management is a great way to continue your program and still leave you with time for a summer vacation. Offered **totally online**, this **2-credit** course covers the principles of project management as applied to instructional design, as well as project management tools to manage, plan, and track large-scale projects. The course will be offered during the summer A-session from May 17 to June 18.

EDIT 575 Podcasting: If you want to learn how to distribute downloadable, radio-style digital audio programs, EDIT 575 Podcasting is the course for you. Offered in a **blended format** (online and face-to-face), this **2-credit** course introduces you to the fundamentals of podcasting, with an emphasis on meeting instructional/training goals. The course will be offered during the summer A-session from May to June 18.

EDIT 575 Captivate: Learn how to create engaging tutorials with Adobe Captivate. Offered **totally online**, this **1-credit** course introduces you to the multimedia capabilities of Captivate and its application in instructional/training settings. The course will be offered July 6 to August 5.

EDIT 772 Flash: One of the most popular tools for e-learning, this course gives you a hands-on introduction to the many graphics and animation capabilities of Flash. Offered **totally online**, this **2-credit** course will be offered July 6 to August 5.

EDIT 772 Electronic Portfolio (GSE PhD Students Only): Need a little help building your doctoral portfolio? EDIT 772 Electronic Portfolio will get you moving in no time. This **2-credit** course is offered in **face-to-face format** on Mondays and Wednesdays, 4:30-7:10 PM, May 17 to June 18.

EDIT 526 Web Accessibility and Design: A required course for our Masters and Certificate programs, this course focuses on web site development in accordance with universal web design standards and Section 508 web accessibility guidelines. Offered **totally online**, this **3-credit** course will be offered during the summer B-session from June 7 to July 28.

EDIT 705 Instructional Design: Just getting started? Learn the basics of instructional design and get acquainted with a variety of instructional design models, with an emphasis on recent contributions from cognitive science and related fields. Offered **totally online**, this **3-credit** course will be offered during the summer B-session from June 7 to July 28.

Summer registration begins **March 16**. Register early via [PatriotWeb](#) and make sure you get the courses you want before they fill.

Assistive Technology Certificate Program - Summer 2010

George Mason University is offering a new, redesigned Assistive Technology (AT) Certificate Program during the 2010 summer semester. The Assistive Technology (AT) Certificate Program provides supplemental training to practitioners needing to use assistive technology with individuals with disabilities. This exciting and challenging pilot program has been structured to better meet the educational goals and interests of working individuals. The subject matter will appeal to a variety of professionals and increase student understanding of AT. Moreover, the classes are flexible and accommodate busy work and personal schedules.

Some people may wish to complete the certificate or choose to only take specific courses to meet their needs. As an additional benefit, the Certificate Program can be applied to a 30 credit Master's degree in Assistive Technology.

Students participate in hands on experiences linking work and learning. This approach is designed to reinforce learning outcomes; thus, some classes will contain face-to-face sessions. In addition, students will complete implementation projects enabling them to bridge classroom knowledge and real client experience.

Other significant aspects of our new offering include:

- Many courses are offered completely online
- Face-to-face sessions are held only one weekend during the semester
- An AT Certificate can be completed in two semesters

Admission requirements for the AT Certificate Program include a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, a minimum GPA of 2.5 in the last 60 hours of an undergraduate degree, and two official transcripts from each college or university attended. Applications must be submitted by April 1, 2010. For more information on the AT Certificate program, please contact **Marci Kinas Jerome** at mkinas@gmu.edu or visit http://it.gse.gmu.edu/cert_at.htm.

Get Ready for the 6th Annual Innovations in e-Learning Symposium

The George Mason University Instructional Technology Program and the Defense Acquisition University are proud to present the 6th Annual Innovations in e-Learning Symposium, June 1-3, 2010, at the Johnson Center of George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. This year's event promises to be particularly exciting with keynote speakers who are e-learning thought leaders in industry, government, and education. The symposium includes workshops and presentations covering current trends, issues, and practices in computer gaming and simulation, design, and mobile and smart technologies. To register, go to <http://innovationsinelearning.gmu.edu/> and complete the online registration form. Don't miss the opportunity to learn and share with those you know as well as those in the know. See you at the Symposium.

Projects & Partnerships

2009/2010 Immersion Project - Update!

The DAU (Defense Acquisition University) Immersion project first presented in the fall newsletter is now well underway. After conducting a front end analysis followed by a needs assessment of the performance challenge to help improve or increase the efficiency and effectiveness of DAU's training programs though the application and integration of Advanced Learning Technologies (ALT), the immersion team guided by Dr. Dabbagh and Dr. Clark is designing an online performance support tool called LATIST (Learning Asset Technology Integration Support Tool).

LATIST will have three components: (1) ALT research and resources (Explore), (2) decision making using learning outcomes and factors that impact ALT selection (Select), and (3) tutorials and emerging technologies (Apply or Experiment). LATIST will be contextualized to DAU's learning assets and will be developed for web and mobile platforms.

For more information on the DAU immersion project, visit: <http://immersion09.onmason.com/>

Center for Digital Media Innovation and Diversity - Update!

The Center for Digital Media Innovation and Diversity was established to 1) create opportunities for educational outreach, research and development of innovative educational media products between faculty, students, artists, entrepreneurs, grassroots and non-profit organizations, among others, and 2) provide access to quality educational media products that target children of color economically challenged, first generation college students, and other diverse or traditionally underserved populations in K-12, higher education, and non-formal learning environments.



Since the formation of the Center in 2009, a website (<http://cdmid.gmu.edu>) has been established, and center researchers have submitted more than \$1.6 million in external funding proposals. In January 2010, Dr. Kevin Clark

was invited to give a talk, "New media, new diversity challenges", at the Kids @ Play Summit (<http://ces2010.kidsatplaysummit.com/>) at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, NV.



Stay Connected

IT Listserv

Join the IT Listserv to learn about new job opportunities, upcoming and new courses being offered, and Instructional Technology Program events. To join go to <http://it.gse.gmu.edu/listserv/>

Calling All Alumni!

Because we would like to keep up with you after graduation, we are encouraging alumni to become part of the George Mason Alumni Directory. Everyone who graduates from George Mason is a member of the University and College Alumni Associations. If you go to the Alumni Association website, you can get information on the association, events, and benefits. The link is <http://www.gmu.edu/alumni/>

Give to IT

In an effort to help the Instructional Technology Program grow and continue to deliver innovative programs, we are asking students and alumni to donate specifically to the program. Donations will be used to support program activities, scholarships, and outreach efforts. To give any amount (check with employers for matching opportunities), please visit <http://www.gmu.edu/development/annual/index.html> and specify the Instructional Technology program.

IT Program Contact

If you have any questions or would like more information on the Instructional Technology Program, please contact Ms. Kelley Shillingburg, Program Manager, at kshillin@gmu.edu or 703-993-3798.