

Reflection for Capstone A:

- How has your understanding of instructional design theories changed during your time in EDUC 587?
 - It has changed in so many ways. Honestly, what I was taught before was unclear. This semester has helped stamp and clarifies many of the theories that we have learned. It also helped put a lot of the theories we have learned into practice, which has helped me grasp the concepts further.
- Which knowledge and skill set from the course were most valuable and interesting to you? Which was most challenging?
 - For me, it would have to be the needs assessment. I was unaware that I did not do mine correctly in the beginning, which made sense because I was unsure of how to effectively do it. Once I understood its purpose, it made creating the design plan so much easier and more enjoyable. I feel like truly understanding why the course you are building is needed, helps you build it based on that foundation. I think the data and analysis were the most challenging. I struggle with interpreting data.
- How have you addressed strategies for fostering equity and inclusion in your design?
 - I have completed this task by creating spaces and opportunities for schools and educators to access the program in whichever best fits their financial capabilities. I also make sure that the material is accessible to all learners regardless of their year in education.

Reflection for Capstone B:

Overview of the Instructional Design Process:

Looking back on my process through this program, I would say that it had its ups and downs. Now on the other side, I can say that it was a smooth process, but while transitioning throughout it, I struggled. I had a vague understanding of the ADDIE model and its purpose during the first year of the program. When we started to build our blueprint and materials for the capstone is when the purpose of the ADDIE model began to make sense. That is honestly when the whole program began to make sense. I lacked the confidence that I needed to believe in my design. Once I went through the revisions stage multiple times, I became more confident in my work and was able to articulate my design's purpose more fluently. Before fully comprehending the ADDIE model, I struggled to develop and design my curriculum. My research and materials were not aligned and I lacked a true purpose in my design. If it were not for the ADDIE model, I believe my design would still lack direction and meaning.

Reflection About Capstone:

There are a number of skills that I have learned while going through this program. Many of them were easy for me to pick up, while others I struggled to understand. There are two skills that I believe to be the most valuable to have learned throughout this program. The first would be the in-depth understanding of a person's development from conception to death. I believe it is vital to meet a learner where they are cognitively, socially, and physically. The development stages help an instructional designer build instruction that fits the right developmental group. The second most important skill is the ADDIE model. Initially, I found the process of designing instruction to be overwhelming (especially for someone new to the field). Once I learned the ADDIE model, I could comprehend what was asked of me. Everything that I learned to that point made sense.

The most difficult skill that I had to learn was research methods. I struggled with the concepts and ideas placed in front of me because they seemed so abstract to me. Looking back on the course, I now see how it played a significant role in my learning process and how learning about the research behind why a curriculum may be necessary to a certain group of stakeholders. I also understand why research and evidence are important to back up and explain why the curriculum an instructional designer is building is meaningful.

The task that took the most time to complete in the capstone project was the cognitive task analysis. The CTA was a complicated process that took time for my head to wrap around the idea of what I was actually supposed to do. Once I understood what was asked of me, I was able to complete the assignment. The other reason it was complicated was that my blueprint wasn't aligned. Once I aligned my blueprint, the CTA process became clearer.

What I would do differently is putting more effort into building my portfolio. I love the portfolio that I created, but I was nervous about what I wanted to create and how I wanted the material to be presented, making it look simple. Simple does not express who I am, and I wish I had been bold in the design. This also ties into what I believe was the most critical step. If I knew how important the personal portfolio was, I would have been more intentional about how I

designed it. I knew it was something that I could use to showcase my projects, but I did understand how much would go into it. I thought it would be the basics of what we uploaded during our first semester. Now knowing what I know, I am proud to have a space where I can showcase current and future projects.