

Software Evaluation

Course Introduction

The skills you will develop while engaging with the tasks of this module will help you to make best-choice decisions on selecting, evaluating and integrating computer software, mobile applications or emerging technologies (emerging technology is a contemporary advanced technology in a field such as augmented reality, Google glasses, etc.) into your learning plan, instructional design or training program. You will be able to use, and ultimately develop your own, specific criteria to be able to evaluate its capability to meet your learning, instructional or training objectives. The ability to evaluate learning and instructional products is a skill that will help learners make decisions about their own learning as well as help instructors, instructional designers and trainers with the ability to enhance their learners' experiences towards their learning goals. With the successful completion of this module you will earn three hours of credit toward your ITMA degree. You will develop an important piece of your ITMA portfolio.

Course Objectives

By the end of this module, you will be able to

- Examine affordances of a selected computer software/website/mobile app/emerging technology as a learning/instructional/training tool.
- Integrate evaluated computer software/website/mobile app/emerging technology into learning/ instructional/training objectives to assist in the achievement of learning/training goals.
- Create an evaluation report that will include descriptions, summaries, critiques, and recommendations for the use of a specific piece of computer software/website/mobile app/emerging technology to support the learning of a specific instructional objective.
- Create your own expert review checklist for evaluating a piece of instruction.
- Evaluate a specific piece of computer software/app/emerging technology and its potential ability to facilitate specified outcomes through the lens of a prescriptive "expert review"

As a result of your active participation in this module's instructional component, you will be able to conduct an instructional design "expert review" prescriptive evaluation of a specific computer program or web site's potential ability to facilitate specified outcomes. This type of evaluation emphasizes the manner in which the following areas of instructional design are addressed within the program or web site: the instructional context cultivated and/or supported, the instructional components and conditions presented, and the organization and arrangement of the messages displayed.