

LRNT 523 Aug 2022
Intro Video script

Welcome to LRNT 523 – Foundations of Learning and Technologies. I am so thrilled to be facilitating this course and working with you this fall as we explore some of the histories and debates of educational technology, situated in a firm understanding of how people learn and how technology may (or may not) impact how they learn.

I am honoured to come to you from the lands of the Xwsepsum (Esquimalt) and Lkwungen (Songhees) ancestors and families. I have been a settler here since 2000 having moved progressively west. I was raised by a lake and on the land of the Williams Treaties Peoples of Southern Ontario, specifically the Curve Lake First Nation and the Kawartha Lakes. I became a wife and a mamma on the traditional lands of the Xwsepsum (Esquimalt) and ɫəkwəŋən (Songhees) people, ancestors and families and it is on those lands that I live, work and play and for that I am so very grateful. I would be remiss if I also did not welcome and honour the ancestors, family and colleagues who have supported me in my work, those who I have yet to meet and the next generation.

For many of you it has been a while since the MALAT annual virtual symposium and the last time we have connected. You have two LRNT courses under your belt, well done, and the symposium recordings have been viewed over 400 times by a global audience. For our MAIS students, this may be your first LRNT course and to you we extend a warm welcome to the MALAT community. We are excited to work with you and learn from you as we move through this fall.

I have had the pleasure of co-conceptualizing this course with Dr. George Veletsianos, our RRU Canada Research Chair in Innovative Learning and Technology. He has taught this course for several years, iterating it each year based on the good thinking and feedback from students and incorporating the evolution of the field and literature base. This year its over to me to facilitate which I am quite excited about! You will notice that I have left the Unit video introductions done by George in our course. There are a few reasons for that and because we are all in this field I thought it would be interesting to you if I took a minute to unpack my design decision on this.

There are a few reasons I chose to keep these videos in versus redoing them myself. As the course creator, George does a wonderful job setting up the context for each Unit and explaining the scaffolding and connection between the unit activities, the unit focus and the assignments, it seemed wasteful to redo work that was already very well done. They are also a great way for you to “meet” George and get a sense of his approach to this work and the field – demystify his title a little bit perhaps and encourage you to reach out and connect with him as you move through your program and start thinking about your completion pathway. Also, in keeping with the design principles that guide this program, one of which is openness, reusing the videos is in keeping with one of David Wiley’s 5 R’s and as such, it made the decision to keep the videos in straightforward. Finally, because we have connected several times during the MALAT virtual symposium and our 1:1’s, I felt that you had enough of a sense of what Garrison, Archer and

Anderson would refer to as my “social presence” and my “teaching presence” that we were not starting from scratch 😊. So there you have it! I have also put a gentle reminder of this in the text by each Unit video so that when things get busy and you forget this explanation you are not surprized at who is introducing the units 😊

Well that is about it from me at this point. Have a great time exploring the course, don't forget to start with the Schedule where you can see at a glance how the course is set up, the requirements for each week and the timing for our live synchronous sessions. I am really looking forward to getting started. Have a great week and we will speak soon.

Ciao,
Elizabeth