

Design Rationale - Welcome to Canvas Course

1. Learner-Centered Approach:

- o In the "Welcome to Canvas" course, a learner-centered approach was adopted to cater to a diverse group of learners with varying degrees of familiarity with the Canvas Learning Management System (LMS). By providing step-by-step guidance and interactive tutorials, learners are empowered to explore Canvas at their own pace, accommodating individual preferences and needs.

2. Content Alignment:

- o The course content aligns with the introductory nature of the "Welcome to Canvas" course. I've structured the course to introduce essential Canvas tools and features progressively, considering the ease of comprehension for beginners and the opportunity for advanced users to revisit and reinforce their knowledge.

3. Instructor Role and Engagement:

- o In this asynchronous course, the instructor plays the role of a guide and facilitator. Discussion forums and collaborative activities have been integrated to encourage learners' engagement and offer support as needed, fostering a sense of community among participants.

4. UDL and Technology Use:

- o Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles are applied to enhance accessibility. I've incorporated features such as closed captioning for video content and alt text for images, ensuring that all learners, including those with disabilities, can fully engage with the course. The course leverages Canvas LMS tools to provide a familiar and intuitive learning environment.

5. Assessment Strategies:

- o Assessment methods include knowledge checks, quizzes, and interactive activities that allow learners to practice using Canvas tools in real-life scenarios. These assessments are carefully aligned with the course's learning objectives, ensuring learners acquire practical skills in navigating Canvas.

6. Outcomes:

- o The primary learning outcomes for the "Welcome to Canvas" course include:
 - Proficiency in navigating and using essential Canvas LMS features.
 - Confidence in accessing and interacting with course materials, assignments, discussions, and announcements.
 - The ability to communicate effectively within Canvas through discussion boards and messaging.
 - Understanding of the resources available for technical support and assistance within the Canvas environment.

7. Rationale Development:

- o The rationale behind the design of this course is based on the recognition that an effective introduction to Canvas is foundational to a successful online learning experience. The choice of asynchronous delivery allows learners to engage with the course content at their own convenience. This decision was informed by research on adult learners' preferences for self-paced, online learning experiences. Additionally, UDL principles and technology integration ensure that the course is inclusive and accessible to all participants.