# You CAN Teach Online – Here's How

May 12, 2009 Vivian Varela

#### **Initial Considerations**

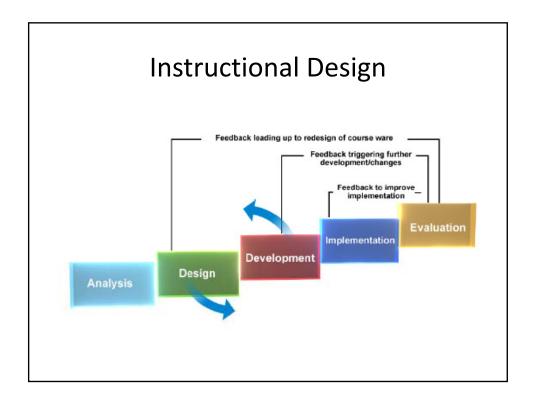
- Differences between planning a F<sub>2</sub>F and an online course
  - The degree to which advance planning of the course before the first day of class is critical!
  - The importance of Instructional Design in effectively using the power of technology to deliver and engage student learning

## Key Factors Found in Successful Adult Learning Programs

- An environment where students feel safe and supported, where individual needs and uniqueness are honored, where abilities and life achievements are acknowledged and respected.
- An environment that fosters intellectual freedom and encourages experimentation and creativity.
- An environment where faculty treats adult students as peers--accepted and respected as intelligent experienced adults whose opinions are listened to, honored, appreciated. Such faculty members often comment that they learn as much from their students as the students learn from them.

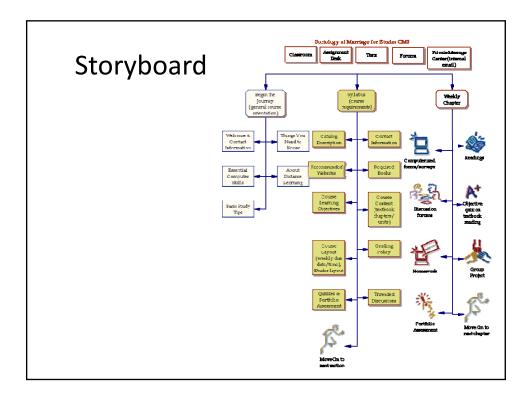
#### Key Factors Found in Successful Adult Learning Programs

- Pacing, or intellectual challenge. Optimal pacing is challenging people just beyond their present level of ability. If challenged too far beyond, people give up. If challenged too little, they become bored and learn little.
- Active involvement in learning, as opposed to passively listening to lectures. Where students and instructors interact and dialogue, where students try out new ideas in the workplace, where exercises and experiences are used to bolster facts and theory, adults grow more.
- Regular feedback mechanisms for students to tell faculty what works best for them and what they want and need to learn--and faculty who hear and make changes based on student input.



# **Analysis**

- Course outline/Course SLO's
- Course syllabus informs students of expectations for learning and interaction in the class
  - Regular Effective Contact



## Design

- Learning activities to support SLOs
  - Web-based with embedded hyperlinks
  - Collaborative interaction
  - Plagiarism issues
- Example: Examine social phenomenon using various sociological models.
  - Emotional Branding clip from The Persuaders
    www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/persuaders/vie
    w/ Discussion topic
  - News article search for article to reflect specific sociological perspective

## Development

- Etudes Tools
- Set up of Modules
  - Additional materials to supplement the textbook, could include lecture notes, multimedia, etc.

Home
Schedule
Announcements
Syllabus
Modules
Tasks, Tests and Surveys
Discussion and Private Messages
Chat Room
Gradebook
Site Info

## Development

- Assessments
  - Question Pools /Tasks, Tests, and Surveys – assignments, quizzes, and exams
  - Discussion topics frequency and expectations

Home
Schedule
Announcements
Syllabus
Modules
Tasks, Tests and Surveys
Discussion and Private Messages
Chat Room
Gradebook
Site Info

#### **Implementation**

- Putting your materials into Etudes
  - Scheduling deadlines, grace periods, pictures/content for course homepage
- Open for Access

#### **Evaluation**

- Keep a running document about issues that occur during semester!
  - Student input about materials
  - Broken links, misspellings, etc
  - Assignments that didn't succeed
- Recommend a course evaluation
  - Anonymous assessment asking student perceptions on course design, course readings, course assignments, and overall comments