Course Building Strategy – IDT 675

Course Building Strategy – IDT 675: Online Teaching and Learning

This document outlines strategies for building effective online courses grounded in instructional design principles and aligned with best practices from IDT 675.

Key Focus Areas:

- Aligning learning objectives with assessments and activities:
  - Begin by clearly articulating what learners should know or be able to do by the end of the course. Ensure that all assessments and learning activities are purposefully designed to measure and support these objectives, creating a cohesive and focused learning experience.
- Chunking content into manageable modules:
  - Organize course material into logically sequenced, easily digestible modules or units. This approach helps reduce cognitive overload, supports mastery of complex topics through scaffolding, and allows learners to track their progress more effectively.
- Applying Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles:
  - Design course elements to be accessible and inclusive, offering multiple means of representation, engagement, and expression. UDL ensures that learners with diverse abilities, preferences, and backgrounds can participate fully and achieve success.
- Integrating multimedia using Mayer's principles of multimedia learning:
  - Incorporate visuals, audio, and interactive elements thoughtfully, following evidence-based guidelines such as coherence, signaling, and redundancy. Well-chosen multimedia can clarify complex ideas, boost engagement, and cater to different learning styles.
- Incorporating asynchronous and synchronous components effectively:
  - Blend real-time (synchronous) sessions, such as live webinars or discussions, with flexible (asynchronous) activities like forums, recorded lectures, and self-paced assignments. This balance provides structure and support while accommodating varied schedules and learning preferences.
- Designing for learner engagement and self-regulation:
  - Foster active participation through interactive discussions, collaborative projects, and opportunities for reflection. Embed support and prompts that encourage students to set goals, monitor their progress, and take ownership of their learning journey.