

Reflection

In the following, I will reflect on my work as an instructional designer, particularly during the Instructional Strategies and Assessment Methods course at the University of Wisconsin-Stout.

My background is in higher education. I have been an instructor for almost 15 years, having experience in undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral instruction. One of the biggest aha-moments during the course, development of the alignment chart, and the final project was the importance of alignment and how each step should be developed in order. Aligning objectives with assessment and clearly connecting them to matching activities is a valuable input for me. Making a decision about the assessment before thinking about instruction and activities makes the whole process more transparent and measurable.

I read quite a lot about Bloom's action verbs, and how and why it is important to use verbs that make the whole process measurable. It seems to me that all the parts I mention now lead me back to one aspect of my aha moments: measurement. In my reading, if the objectives are measurable, the whole process will be, and not just for the instructors (to assess or to grade), but for the learners and the stakeholders. I also find the use of rubrics quite effective for the same reason. I do not have any experience with them as an instructor (yet), and I believe they are time-consuming, but their potential contribution to the measurability of the course is huge.

I also think knowledge sharing should be an important component in one's learning, no matter what the subject is. I found the week-by-week discussions during this course challenging and thought-provoking. As a result, I started to write a blog inspired by them.