

Transcript for “Why I am an Instructional Designer”

My name is DiAnna Palmer and I want to tell you about my background and experience with instructional design

No one ever tells a kid that instructional design is a career option on those elementary career days. We hear we can be doctors, teachers, lawyers, even trash collectors. But we never hear that secretly behind these valuable positions was a super-secret instructional expert who helped them achieve their dreams from behind the curtain.

I actually came to instructional design via two paths. I come from a family of archaeologists and was on an excavation on an apache reservation when I witnessed first-hand the squalor and lack of opportunities that children on the reservation received. I returned from that experience forever changed. In my mind I was going to change the future of those kids and I thought the path to that was either education or social work.

My advisor recommended social work and I began the MSW on Newark campus. In one of the courses, I was asked to evaluate a social service. I chose financial aid due to my interest in education and after interviewing the department and showing them my work I was offered a job in advising. I completed my master’s in education and was tasked with creating online training in orientation, online informational sessions for degrees, and soon online teaching effectiveness strategies.

I moved on to Franklin university where I was tasked with designing faculty teaching effectiveness courses internally and eventually internationally. My course proposals were accepted by SEU, the first online higher Ed institute, and I had the opportunity to travel to KSA to teach how to teach online. - the main objective was teaching females how to teach, so that they could safely teach girls. To this day KSA is the only institute where a woman can get a higher education degree online in the middle east.

While at Franklin I was assistant director to a team who assisted in global course design for KSA, Guatemala, Ghana, and Oman. We worked on course design, platform implementation, and teaching effectiveness strategies for multiple institutes within these nations.

I came to OSU to be an instructional designer, and focus again on effective and engaging teaching strategies. I work as an instructional designer for multiple colleges - and also work with DELTA to provide training and development for faculty who want to reach online.

I'm currently cashing in on a promise I made to myself as a child and working on my doctorate in instructional technology, distance education, and teaching and curriculum.

I believe that instructional design provides me with the best opportunity to change the future in positive ways. My mission and passion in life is to give students the best possible chance at

achieving their potential- and through quality course design that is grounded in teaching and learning theory, I believe I can raise the bar from what education is to what it could be.

As an instructional designer, I promise to be an advocate for the sciences of education and instructional technology. We have to start at the beginning to be able to meet the demand of the modern day learner, and to predict tomorrow's learner. I promise to improve on and enhance current knowledge and research in design and education. I feel that Designers are the ambassadors of a college and to progress a field of study, must be aware of pedagogy and curricular theory and be present in dialogue for future trends in instruction.

I'll do that and more because I'm an instructional designer.