CONFESSIONS OF A LEARNING DESIGNER: WORKING HARMONIOUSLY WITH AN SME

10 top tips for working in Moodle when time is running out

AFTRS
Australian Film Television and Radio School

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BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

- AFTRS (founded 1973)
- Film, TV, radio, digital, media, communications, storytelling & creativity
- Primarily on-campus delivery
- Close industry links
- Moodle since 2013
- Currently Moodle v3.5.3
- Award courses (BA, MA & Grad Dip programs)
- Short courses (non-award, on-campus + blended + online)
- Industry certificates (vocational learning outcomes, on-campus + blended + online)
SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS (SMEs)

I know things

Big pile of content

Learning Designer
LEARNING DESIGNER + SME

I know things

I know how to organise content and design learning experiences...

AFTRS
PROJECT

Schedule

Time

LMS

moodle

Big pile of content

SME

Learning Designer

Course Outline

AFTRS
#01 TRUST

• Meet for a coffee
• Mutual respect and establish confidence
• Confident that you will guide them with online learning
• Prior experience with learning and teaching
• Working styles and personalities
• Approach to project tasks
• Acknowledge each-other’s knowledge, skills and perspectives
#02 SCHEDULES & BUDGETS

- Restrictions
- Opportunities
- Budget
- Timelines
- Complexity
- Schedules
- Milestones
- Deliverables

SME

Learning Designer

Wow, I didn’t know everything that is involved!
#03 AUDIT

- Review, analyse, check, examine, assess, appraise, inspect, examine
- Existing content and/or assets
- Collect & collate
- Text, images, videos, PDFs etc

Does it spark joy?
#04 CONTENT

- Content: Who owns it?
- Content: Stay or go?
- Check, confirm, amend or replace?
- Tasks, workflow & schedule
- Working with content you didn’t create
- Engaging and meaningful learning experiences
#05 LEARNING DESIGN

- Approaches
- Solutions
- Tools
- Parameters
- Metaphors for content/activities/assessment outlines
- Organising and scaffolding
- Walk through the Moodle interface together
- Assessments

- main dish
- side dish
- vegetable
- dessert
#06 NEGOTIATE NEW CONTENT

- Short & long lists assets
- Content not fully formed
- Content yet to be developed
- Keep calm & use a placeholder or dummy text


AFTRS
• How are assets & content developed?
• How do assets pass between various team members?
• Efficient and appropriate communication & documentation mechanisms
• phone, email, face-to-face, online folders, social media, video conferencing, interpretive dance etc
#08 PROOF-OF-CONCEPT

- Build a quick, simple prototype within Moodle
- View, critique & gather feedback
- Develop further iterations
- Achieve a stable prototype *before* developing the rest of the course
#09 UPSKILL

- Show how to use a **particular** Moodle tool
- Need-to-know basis
- Short walk-through of Moodle
- Build a confident SME
- Avoid too much detail
#10 TEAMWORK

- Coordinator
- Librarian
- Media producer
- Back-end infrastructure
- IT support
- Subject Matter Expert (SME)
- Writer
- Manager
- Teacher
- Tutor
- Learning Designer
- AFTRS