IDT 516: Internet Resources for Education and Training

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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday: 8:00-9:00 a.m. in Horrabin 72 (computer lab); also by appointment Monday-Friday via Skype or phone.

IDT Mission Statement: The Instructional Design and Technology (IDT) department seeks to develop in students the ability to apply new and existing technologies to achieve educational goals in a wide variety of instructional settings including, but not limited to, schools, industry, government, health-related agencies, and institutions of higher education.

Course Description: IDT 516: Internet Resources for Education and Training, 3 cr., focuses on developing skills in utilizing resources on the World Wide Web to locate, evaluate, and integrate Internet resources into educational or training situations.

Textbook and Required Materials: There are no texts required for this course. However, there will be required readings from the internet, which will be provided for you.

What You Can Expect from Me:

I will be checking the class throughout each weekday. I may or may not be online over the weekends or on holidays and breaks. All assignments are due before the weekend (end of day Friday), so you should have no problems contacting me if you need assistance with the class. Email is my preferred method of communication, especially as the IDT department transitions to our new location. You can be confident that I will respond to your emails within 24 hours (on weekdays).

What I Expect from You:

This is a 3 credit graduate level course, and the amount of time spent on the class should reflect that. You should be prepared to access the course several days throughout each week. Especially make sure you have a clear understanding of how Discussion assignments will be graded. Also, be sure to pay close attention to the group project guidelines when they become available. Do not hesitate to email me with any problems or questions you may have.

Learning Objectives:

This course has the following learning objectives.

- Use advanced search features of online search engines.
- Discuss the advantages of using advanced search features of online search engines.
- Conduct an effective online search in an online research database.
- Discuss the differences between online search engines (e.g. Google) and online research databases.
- Evaluate web sites for their possible use in educational or training settings.
- Identify a list of web sites on an educational or training topic of your choice.
- Discuss the importance of evaluating web sites.
- Identify copyright guidelines for web sites that you may use in educational or training settings.
- Discuss the importance of following copyright procedures when using internet resources.
- Define Web 2.0.
- Explore social media for their application in educational and training settings.
- Discuss the use of social media in educational and training settings.
- Explore mobile applications for their application in educational and training settings.
- Discuss the use of mobile applications in educational and training settings.
- Use social media and/or mobile applications to share interent resources.
- Explore online collaboration tools.
- Use a wiki to collaborate on a group project.
- Discuss the benefits and challenges of online collaboration tools.
- Design and develop a project using at least one Web 2.0 tool.

**Activities and Assignments:** This course will require considerable amount of time discovering and evaluating internet resources. In addition, I will provide readings that focus on each track. Some assignments can be completed at your own pace, while others will require the whole class to work together. See the details below.

- **Discussions -** There will be 5 graded discussions and 2 non-graded discussions for the semester. The graded discussions will pertain to the particular module and assignments that we are working on. These are truly “discussions” and not “make a post” assignments. I strongly recommend reviewing the Rubrics for each Discussion. Each discussion is worth 10 points, for a total of 50 points. This is 17% of the grade for the course, and your participation should reflect that.
- **Assignments:** There will be a total of 5 assignments that you will complete individually during Modules 1-3. These assignments are as follows:
  - **Assignment 1 - Online Search Engines:** You will explore advanced search features of selected search engines and determine what search features are available and how they are used. This assignment is worth 20 points.
  - **Assignment 2 - Online Research Databases:** You will conduct a search in a research database and compare your search methods with a typical web search engine. This assignment is worth 20 points.
  - **Assignment 3 - Web Site Evaluations:** You will identify web sites that may be useful to you in the track you have chosen. Then you will use a rubric to evaluate these web sites. This assignment is worth 20 points.
  - **Assignment 4 - Copyright:** You will explore the various aspects of copyright as it pertains to resources on the internet. This assignment is worth 20 points.
  - **Assignment 5 - Social Media:** You will explore how various social media sites can be used to support learning, specifically as they pertain to the track you have chosen. This assignment is worth 40 points.

- **Group Project:** Each of you will participate in a group project that will consist of researching a particular issue relevant to this course. Each group will be based on the particular track you have chosen for this class. The Group Project is worth a total of 50 points.
- **Final Project:** For the Final Project, you will have multiple options, depending on the track you are in or your area of interest. For the Final Project, you will demonstrate how to incorporate Web 2.0 technologies in educational or training settings. The Final Project is worth 80 points.

**Late assignments:** Assignments have clear due dates. You have a 2 day grace period to submit assignments without penalty. For example, an assignment due on a Friday can be turned in on Sunday without a late penalty.

Since you have this grace period, technical issues such as computer crashes or internet connections, will not be an acceptable excuse for late assignments. After the grace period, assignments will lose 20% of their value for each day they are late. I will use the WesternOnline time stamps to determine when assignments were submitted.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Topics (5 total):</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>Assignments (5 total with various points each):</td>
<td>120</td>
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<td>Group Project:</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>Final Project:</td>
<td>80</td>
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**Grades:** Grades for the class are based on the following assignment:

A. A - 270-300  
B. B - 240-269  
C. C - 210-239  
D. D - 180-209

**Incompletes:** The IDT Program does not give grades of Incomplete without a note from a doctor or lawyer. The department recommends you drop the course and re-enroll in it the following semester, instead of taking an incomplete grade. Review the Graduate catalog for additional details.

**Students with Disabilities:** In accordance with University policy and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor’s attention, as he/she is not legally permitted to inquire about such particular needs of students. Students who may require special assistance in emergency evacuations (i.e., fire, tornado, etc.) should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow in such an emergency. Contact Disability Support Services at 309-298-2512 for additional services.

**Students Rights and Responsibilities:** Please refer to the WIU Students Rights and Responsibilities website at [http://www.wiu.edu/policies/stucode.php](http://www.wiu.edu/policies/stucode.php) for information on WIU policies on academic dishonesty, grade appeal, etc.

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**Course Schedule:** (See Specific Due Dates in the Overview for Each Module)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Date</th>
<th>Topics(s)</th>
<th>Projects Due</th>
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| Week 1      | **Introduction to the course** | • Technology Survey  
              • Discussion: Introduce Yourselfs             |
|             | Syllabus  
              Class Introductions                           |                                                   |
| Weeks 2-3   | **Module 1: Finding Internet Resources** | • Read Track Materials  
              • Discussion 1  
              • Assignment 1  
              • Assignment 2                                |
|             | Comparing Search Engines  
              Using Advanced Search Engine Features  
              Research Database Searching  
              Comparing Search Engines and Research Databases |                                                   |
| Weeks 4-5   | **Module 2: Evaluating Internet Resources** | • Read Track Materials  
              • Discussion 2  
              • Assignment 3  
              • Assignment 4                                |
|             | Evaluating Internet Resources  
              Evaluation Rubric                             |                                                   |

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks</th>
<th>Module Description</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6-8</td>
<td><strong>Module 3: Sharing Internet Resources</strong></td>
<td>• Copyright and the Internet</td>
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<td>• Social Media for Educators and Trainers</td>
<td>• Read Track Materials</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Mobile Learning</td>
<td>• Discussion 3</td>
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<td>• Discussion 4</td>
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<td>• Assignment 5</td>
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<td>9-11</td>
<td><strong>Module 4: Collaborating with Internet Resources</strong></td>
<td>• Read Track Materials</td>
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<td>• The Value of Online Collaboration</td>
<td>• Group Project</td>
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<td>• Wikis</td>
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<td>• Group Project Dynamics</td>
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<td>12-15</td>
<td><strong>Module 5: Using Internet Resources</strong></td>
<td>• Read Track Materials</td>
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<td>• Final Project Process</td>
<td>• Discussion 5</td>
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<td>• Complete Final Project</td>
<td>• Final Project</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td><strong>Course Wrap Up</strong></td>
<td>• Discussion: Key Learnings</td>
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<td>• Final Words</td>
<td>• Course Evaluation</td>
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