# Alignment of Technology with Pedagogical Purposes During Online Course Design



Bohdana Allman
Brigham Young University
bohdana.allman@byu.edu

**Questions • Comments** 



**Nearpod Collaborative Board** 







### Purpose of the Presentation







**Nearpod Collaborative Board** 



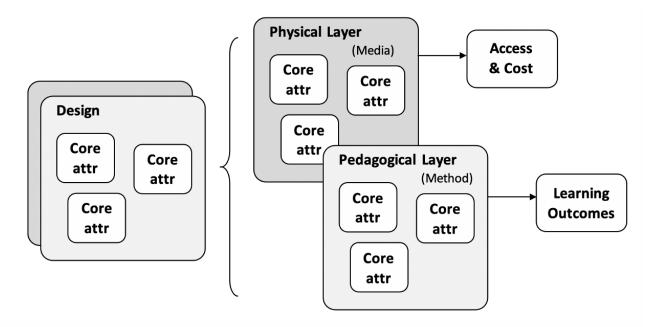
"My course lacks interactivity and it has no point. I assumed the software would take care of that!"







#### Simplified design layers model



#### **Key Propositions**

- (1) Core attributes in the physical affect the potential for attributes in the pedagogical layer
- (2) Physical attributes alone do not directly affect learning

(Graham et al., 2014)







### Context of the study

- Six courses leading to TELL Endorsement
- Need for quality TPD that provides access to resources and offers greater flexibility
- Current technology offers many innovative ways for interaction, collaboration, coaching (critical for TPD)













#### Context of the study – cont.

# Effective TPD & Sociocultural Approach

Learner-centered
Inquiry-based
Dialogic & Collaborative
Contextualized
Practice-oriented

# Online Modality & Collaborative Technology

Access
Flexibility
Affords reflective space
Potential for
personalization







## Purpose of the study

To explore the process of aligning technology with pedagogy during design of an online course to improve our own practice and to identify possible patterns and principles.







#### Methodology

#### **Participants:**

- Three professionals
- Combined ID & curriculum development experience and TPD and K-12 teaching expertise

#### Data:

- 20 hours of collaborative conversations recordings
- Related artifacts







#### **Methods:**

- Part of a larger DBR project (McKenney & Reeves, 2018)
- Self-study of Teaching and Teacher Education Practices (LaBoskey, 2004; Pinnegar & Hamilton, 2009)
- Data was analyzed using standard qualitative analysis steps
- Process tracing & constant comparative analysis techniques were used (Bennett & Checkel, 2015; Corbin & Strauss, 2008; Ryan & Bernard, 2003)
- Both similarity-based and contiguity-based relationships were explored (Maxwell & Miller, 2012)
- Trustworthiness: member checks, reflexivity, and negative case analysis (Lincoln & Guba, 1985)







## Findings I: Core Attributes

#### **Core Attributes of the Pedagogical Layer**

Grounded in principles of Sociocultural Theory
& Communities of Practice

Lernercentered

Dialogic

Inquirybased

- Active and collaborative participation
- Variety of interactions
- Modeling of participatory & ELL-effective practices
- Theory/practice connection
- Deep engagement through reflection







## Findings II: Main Themes

Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3	Theme 4	Theme 5	Theme 6
LEARNING EXPERIENCE	LAYERS	CORE COMPONENTS	CORE STRATEGIES	CORE METHODS	QUALITY OF THE DESIGN
Desired Results	Pedagogy	Learner's Response &	Interaction	Modeling	Instructor Support
	Technology	Needs	Inquiry	Scaffolding	
Evidence of					Course
Learning		Instructor's Response &	Dialogic Learning	Theory-to- Practice	Feedback
Instructional		Needs			Course
Activities		Task Content	Collaboration	Reflection	n Evaluation
		Task Context			





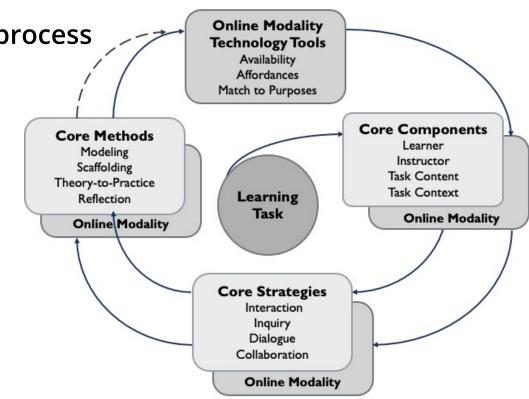


## Finding III: Integration of themes

Representation of the design process

## Contiguity-based relationships (Maxwell and Miller, 2012)

- Data's temporal and spatial proximity and sequences
- 'Actual' rather than 'virtual' connections of similarities and differences
- Require identification of relationships in its actual context

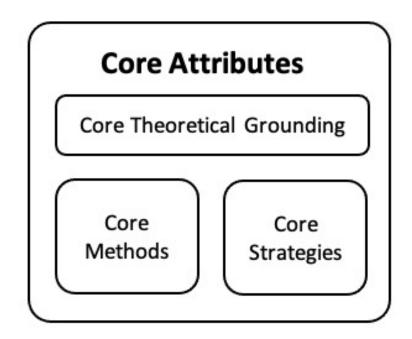








#### **Discussion: Core Attributes**



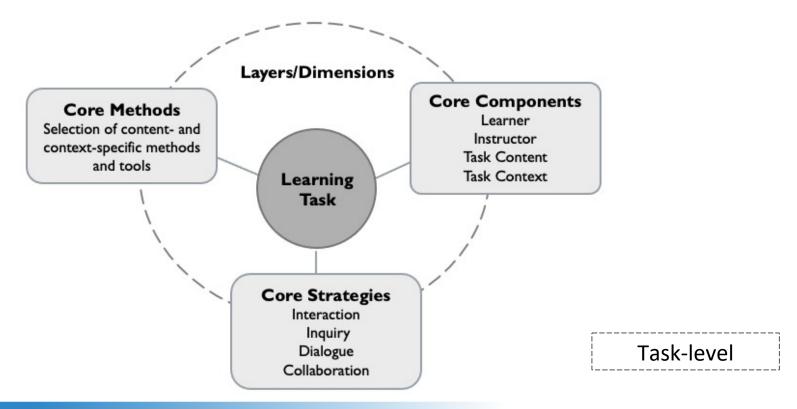
Design-level







## Discussion: Pedagogical Intent









#### **Discussion: Alignment Process**



#### **Attention to Pedagogy**

- 1. Identify core design attributes
- 2. Establish content, goals & acceptable evidence
- 3. Propose suitable learning experiences
- 4. Determine required affordances

#### **Attention to Technology**

- Identify available technology & tools
- 2. Determine existing affordances

#### **Alignment of Layers (Iterative)**

- 1. Design the tasks and learning experiences attending to pedagogical intent
- Adjust the tools to meet pedagogical needs and purposes
- 3. Evaluate against core attributes and available technology







## Implications for practice

- Alignment of technology with pedagogy is possible and feasible
- Attending to the underlying pedagogical principles, along with purposeful use of innovative technology, may improve effectiveness of instruction
- Core attributes, pedagogical intent, and the proposed alignment process are potentially valuable guiding principles for design and development of technology-mediated instruction







## Implications for research

- Self-study is an effective method to study collaborative design processes
- Highlights the importance of attending to contiguity-based and not just similarity-based relationships in qualitative analysis
- Suggests the value of reflective and collaborative design practices







#### **Study limitations**

- Study is exploratory and limited in scope
- Study is context-specific (TPD for EL teachers)
- Design processes differ across different groups







#### **Future directions**

- Explore the efficacy of pedagogical intent and proposed alignment process in designing other courses
- Investigate design practices and see how different designers use pedagogical intent and the alignment process in their work







### **Questions/Comments**







**Nearpod Collaborative Board** 







#### References

- Allman, B. & Pinnegar, S. E. (2020). A Self-Study of Aligning Pedagogy with Technology in Online Course Design. In C. Edge, A. Cameron-Standerford, & B. Bergh (Eds.), *Textiles and Tapestries: Self-Study for Envisioning New Ways of Knowing.* EdTech Books. https://edtechbooks.org/textiles\_tapestries\_self\_study/chapter\_2
- Antonenko, P. D., Dawson, K., & Sahay, S. (2017). A framework for aligning needs, abilities and affordances to inform design and practice of educational technologies. *British Journal of Educational Technology*, *48*(4), 916–927. https://doi.org/10.1111/bjet.12466
- Bennett, A., & Checkel, J. T. (2015). *Process tracing: From metaphor to analytic tool.* (A. Bennett & J. T. Checkel, Eds.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1017/CBO9781139858472
- Bower, M. (2008). Affordance analysis matching learning tasks with learning technologies. *Educational Media International, 45*(1), 3–15. https://doi.org/10.1080/09523980701847115
- Corbin, J., & Strauss, A. (2008). *Basics of qualitative research: Techniques and procedures for developing grounded theory* (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications.
- Graham, C. R., Henrie, C. R., & Gibbons, A. S. (2014). Developing models and theory for blended learning research. In A. G. Picciano, C. D. Dziuban, & C. R. Graham (Eds.), *Blended Learning: Research Perspectives* (Vol. 2, pp. 13–33). New York, NY: Routledge.
- Laboskey, V. K. (2004). The Methodology of Self-Study and Its Theoretical Underpinnings. In *International Handbook of Self-Study of Teaching and Teacher Education Practices*.
- Lincoln, Y. S., & Guba, E. G. (1985). Naturalistic Inquiry. Newbury Park, CA: SAGE Publications.
- Maxwell, J. A., & Miller, B. (2012). Real and Virtual Relationships in Qualitative Data Analysis. In *A Realist Approach for Qualitative Research* (pp. 109–125). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications.
- McKenney, S., & Reeves, T. (2018). Conducting educational design research (2nd ed.). Routledge.
- Pinnegar, S., & Hamilton, M. L. (2009). *Self-study of Practice as a Genre of Qualitative Research: Theory, Methodology, and Practice. Practice.* New York: Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4020-9512-2
- Ryan, G. W., & Bernard, H. R. (2003). Techniques to Identify Themes. Field Methods, 15(1), 85-109. https://doi.org/10.1177/1525822X02239569





