

# COURSE DESIGN

Best Practices For Your Accelerated,  
Online Course

## 12 Things to Keep in Mind

Whether you are new to teaching online or a seasoned pro, keep the course development tips below in mind for a positive student (and faculty!) experience.



### 1. *Begin with the end in mind.*

5 years from now, what is the one thing you would like your students to remember from your course?

### 2. *Develop measurable course objectives.*



Learning objectives should be accompanied by measurable outcomes that describe ways in which students can demonstrate that they have achieved the learning objectives.



### 3. *Course map.*

Complete the course mapping process to ensure alignment of objectives, assessment, and material.

### 4. *Determine Common Program Elements.*

Discuss and identify common goals and connections across the program.



### 5. *Create real-world or practical assessments.*

Allow students to explore, discuss, and meaningfully construct concepts and relationships in contexts that involve real-world problems and projects that are relevant to the learner.

### 6. *Demonstrate and promote practice.*

Design, select, and model learning and practice opportunities to promote concept acquisition and application.



### 7. *Curate a variety of readings and resources.*

Variety is the spice of life! Quality Matters Standard 4.5 recommends that a "variety of instructional materials is used in the course."

### 8. *Enlist the support of IDs and a Quality Review team.*

Reach out to your instructional designer at AP or your own institution if you have any questions.



### 9. *Carefully select instructional technology.*

Select instructional technology that supports essential learning tasks and course objectives.

### 10. *Develop using course shells and templates*

Consult with your instructional designer about how to effectively integrate educational technology.



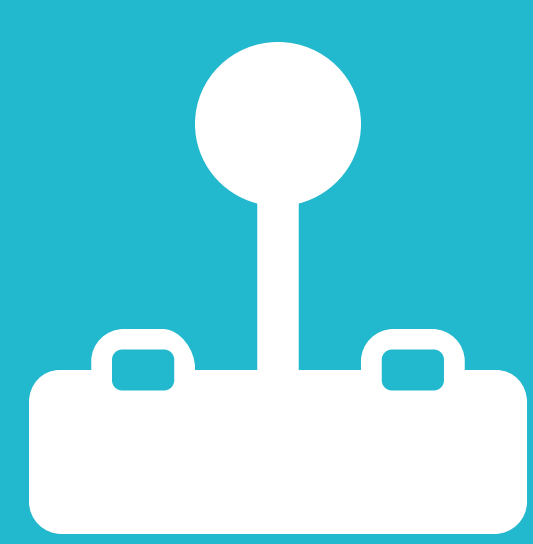
### 11. *Conduct final QA.*

Submit your course for Quality Review and integrate feedback. Suggestions made by the AP Quality Review team are based on Quality Matters, OLC, and other industry standards.

### 12. *Get ready to welcome and support students.*

Create a list of announcements that you prepare to send at different times during the semester.

Check your course in the LMS again before the course is live.



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