Assignment 1: Project Proposal

by

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EDD 8001, CRN XXXXX

Instructional Design

Nova Southeastern University

September 18, 2015

Please pick a procedural topic that is different than the one shown here

ASSIGNMENT 1: PROJECT PROPOSAL

Purpose

This short paper describes a set of instructional materials under development at Nova Southeastern University (NSU). These materials describe the procedures necessary for an NSU student, to find an article using the library's electronic journal database -- "Journal Finder." After completing this instruction learners should have located and saved a journal article locally.

Format [use similar APA styled subheadings]

These instructional materials will be print-based and self-contained (requiring no additional facilitation or other media). As these materials are print-based, it is expected that they will include graphics (screen shots) of the Journal Finder software interface. This document may be converted and posted as a PDF on the library website to be available for learners on campus or at a distance. This instruction and the procedures described should take no more than 30 minutes to accomplish.

Learner Analysis

All NSU students are expected to be adult learners. These learners are undergraduate and graduate students seeking journal articles. Their ages range from the late teens to those in their 60s (There is a roughly equal mix of men and women). About 20-30% of the intended audience speaks English as a second language, but they are likely to be extremely fluent and be able to follow detailed instructions in English.

Students have some understanding of online journals and often need articles for papers or other assignments. To be scholars they need to be able to do research, which means they need to be able to go online to locate and download journal articles. Many learners are still learning how to use different publication styles, so they may be somewhat unsure of different styles.

Learners should be familiar with the journal search processes available within Nova Southeastern's library web site. Unfortunately many undergraduate and even graduate students have expressed the need to be able to find articles online, but are unsure of how to use our system. Learners will be expected to already know several entry skills in order to use Journal Finder. Typically learners are able to login and use a personal computer in order to navigate the web, but they may be unfamiliar with APA style, or the search processes associated with the library journal database.

Learning & Performance Context Analysis

While many learners come to the library to seek help in person, many take online courses, so they need support at a distance. Students generally work everywhere, from their dorm rooms to coffee shops, so they are often on the go. Given this is the case, the learning and performance context may be in any location with an internet connection (coffee shops, home office, etc.). Therefore this instructional lesson will be developed as a means of providing support for all students (including those at a distance).

Goal statement [Note the style of this goal: See page 26]

Given an APA style citation, an NSU student will download a full-text journal article using NSU's Journal Finder. [Notice it is phrased so there are no conjunctions (and, or, but…) or *if-then* clauses]

Learning domain: Intellectual Skill [pick one of Gagné's five "Domains of Learning"]

The Instructional Goal [explanation cites literature]

The above goal statement was developed to describe what all learners should know and be able to do.. Dick, Carey, and Carey (2009) described several approaches toward completing a goal analysis. In particular, they discussed Gagné's "Domains of Learning". Gagné (1985) developed a "taxonomy of learning," in which he discusses several types of learning. According to this "Domains of Learning" taxonomy, the above instructional goal may be categorized as an "intellectual skill." Intellectual skills

require the discrimination of concepts, but also the application of those discriminations in a step wise procedure (Gagné, 1984; Gagne, Wager, Golas, & Keller, 2004).

These instructional materials will guide them through the steps to determine the journal name within a citation, and then show them how to use Journal finder and the NSU database to find the journal in question. In addition, learners will need to be able to locate the volume and issue number, in the reference to use that data to find the journal article. Finally, they will then be shown how to download a PDF file from within the Adobe Reader plugin interface. Each of these steps in the procedure will be outlined and described in detail. It may be necessary to develop a series of screen shots to show learners where to click on the screen. In addition the procedural steps will numbered and described in order. Finally, key concepts like volume and issue numbers will also be explained.

References [APA style (6th edition) - including doi (Digital Object Identifier) numbers]

Dick, W., Carey, L., & Carey, J. O. (2009). *The systematic design of instruction* (7th ed.). New York, NY: Allyn & Bacon.

Gagne, R. (1984). Learning Outcomes and their effects: Useful categories of human performance. *American Psychologist, 39*(4) 377-385. doi: 10.1037/0003-066X.39.4.377

Gagne, R. M., (1985). *The conditions of learning and theory of instruction.* (4th Ed) New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, Inc.

Gagne, R.M., Wager, W.W., Golas, K., & Keller, J.M. (2004). Principles of Instructional Design. (5th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing.