PhD Handbook of
Instructional Design & Technology

Fall 2019
ID&T PhD Handbook

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Introduction to the Ph.D. Program

In

Instructional Design & Technology

The Instructional Design & Technology (ID&T) Ph.D. program aims to develop competent scholars who will become practitioners and/or faculty in the field of instructional technology. We believe that all members of the profession should contribute to the knowledge base of the field. In the Ph.D. program, our goal is to develop both your instructional design and research competencies. Your program of study will help you learn to 1) formulate research questions to address issues in the field, 2) design and conduct quality research to address your questions, 3) present your findings in a scholarly manner, and 5) apply the instructional design process to a variety of performance problems and learning environments to improve performance through the application of empirical research.

Admissions Criteria

Admission decisions are based on several criteria including GPA (graduate and undergraduate), a writing sample, GRE scores (analytical writing, verbal, and quantitative), letters of recommendation, and an individual interview with program faculty. The minimum acceptable GRE scores vary each year depending on the number of students we are able to admit to the program. In general, it is expected that students will have a score of 153 on the verbal, 144 on the quantitative, and a 4 on the analytical writing test of the GRE.

All applicants must submit an entrance essay as their writing sample.

All applicants must submit 3 letters of recommendation, preferably from university faculty who are familiar with their academic work.

International Student Admission

If you have already obtained a degree in the United States, the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is not required for admission. Otherwise:

- A TOEFL score of 550 (213 on the computer-based score) is required for undergraduate and graduate degrees.
- Admitted students who have scored between 500 and 550 (213 on the computer-based score) on the TOEFL are eligible for the Graduate Bridge Program. Refer to International Admissions Requirements.

Details on International Student admissions can be found on the Old Dominion website at https://www.odu.edu/internationaladm
Getting Started

When you are admitted to the Ph.D. program in ID&T, you will be assigned an advisor. Once you start your program, you should schedule a meeting with your advisor to plan your course of study. The requirements for the program are listed on the ID&T website at [http://www.odu.edu/stemps/academics/idt/phd#.V8ckD032Y5k](http://www.odu.edu/stemps/academics/idt/phd#.V8ckD032Y5k). You should review this Handbook, the University Catalog, and the ID&T website to familiarize yourself with policies and requirements for the program.

Expectations

The faculty-student relationship is based on two assumptions. First, faculty are responsible for mentoring and developing the students’ research and ID&T skills. Second, students are enrolled in the program to develop their knowledge of the field.

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<th>Student Expectations of Faculty</th>
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<td><strong>Advising</strong></td>
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<td>Faculty are expected to consider each student’s background and help the student develop a plan that will help them achieve personal and professional goals.</td>
<td>Faculty expect students to have knowledge of the policies and requirements of the University, to make appointments for advising, and to keep their advisor informed of their progress. To successfully advise a student, the student needs to develop a clear set of professional goals and communicate their goals to their instructor.</td>
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<td><strong>Research Projects</strong></td>
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<td>Faculty are expected to encourage students to participate in various aspects of research projects and to pursue their own interests. Prior to a student’s involvement, the faculty member and student should discuss the student’s involvement from beginning to end so that both can make the right decision. Students who decide not to participate because of already being over-committed should not be penalized by the faculty. Students who work on a project can expect faculty to provide mentorship with various aspects of the project.</td>
<td>Students are expected to be involved in research projects and have 1-2 publications and/or presentations (either as sole or co-author) in national or international organizations by the time they start their dissertation. To accomplish this goal, students need to be involved in research projects from their first year. Given the low acceptance rate of many journals in the field, students should choose projects wisely and not over-commit. Once a student commits to a project, faculty expect the student to devote the needed time to complete the project.</td>
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<td><strong>Course Work</strong></td>
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<td>Faculty are expected to introduce students to new knowledge and to further develop their expertise in a variety of areas.</td>
<td>As part of their course work, students should seek to develop papers that develop their expertise in areas that have potential</td>
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A professor may offer topics for students to further develop in collaboration with the professor. When pursuing such topics, the professor and student should understand the working relationship (see research projects). For research and publication, when working with a professor to develop a topic, the student should understand if the project is expected to go beyond the time frame of the course.

ID&T Program Faculty

Dr. John Baaki, Assistant Professor. I have interests in both instructional design and human performance improvement. Specifically, I am interested in how reflecting-in-action and taking stock in external representations affect instructional and human performance improvement design. I am passionately interested in persona construction. In design, understanding and focusing on the end user during the entire design process is essential to the success of the final product. This is no different when designing instruction. Who is our audience? This goes beyond demographics - gender, age, work experience, and education. We need to gain empathy with our audience for whom we are designing and construct personas. Written in narrative, a persona describes a day in the life of a fictional individual who represents a key user group. In an engaging and practical way, personas communicate a key user group’s goals, behavior, and what they want to accomplish. Persona are memorable representations that are distinct in a designer’s mind throughout a design process. Through personas, we place ourselves in our learners’ shoes and we use an empathic link to make our design decisions in light of how it impacts our learners. I enjoy exploring the design of instructional design.

Dr. Tian Luo, Assistant Professor. Expertise in social media, Web 2.0, microblogging, computer-based/multimedia instruction, pre-service teachers’ technology use, collaborative learning, online learning environments, mixed-methods. Research interests include emerging technologies, social network analysis, computer-assisted language learning, technology integration in the K-12 classroom, K-12 online teaching, game-based learning, computational thinking, mobile learning, and learning analytics.

Dr. Rob Moore, Assistant Professor. I am a scholar-practitioner that has extensive experience as an instructional designer in higher education settings. In my time as an instructional designer, I have developed e-learning modules and webinars on various topics including compliance, procedures and ethics. I am proficient in authoring software, e.g. Articulate Storyline and Adobe Captivate, and I have expertise in social media, multimedia development, learning management systems, social collaboration tools, and big data analysis. My research interests include data and learning analytics, design and development of online learning environments for adult learners, instructional gaming, game-based learning, problem-based learning, and engaging adult learners.
Research Residency

Each student will complete a research residency prior to taking their written comprehensive examinations. This research residency is a research project mentored by their advisor. The student will develop a proposal collaboratively with their advisor for the research residency project. After conducting the study, the student will prepare a scholarly paper collaboratively with their advisor and submit it for publication or presentation at a regional or national journal or conference. Students should meet with their advisor to create a work schedule and obtain guidelines for preparing the proposal and paper. It is expected that the student will work closely with the faculty during all phases of the study. The letter/email indicating receipt of the paper for consideration of presentation or publication must be submitted to the advisor prior to applying to take the comprehensive exam. The research residency course (IDT 879) is offered during the Summer semesters. We strongly encourage students to select a topic that can be completed over the course of the summer and fall semester.

Continuation

Probation occurs when a student’s grade point average (GPA) falls below 3.00. Suspension occurs when a student is unable to raise his or her GPA above 3.00 within the next 12 credit hours taken and when he or she is prevented from registering for additional courses. Reinstatement occurs only if the student is permitted to return to the graduate program after submitting an approved plan of study. Separation occurs when a student withdraws voluntarily from a graduate program. Deactivation occurs when a student fails to register for three or more consecutive semesters without permission or an approved leave of absence. Dismissal may occur for a variety of academic reasons such as failure to maintain good academic standing based on specific program requirements or for infractions committed against the Code of Student Conduct.

Course and Ph.D. Course Requirements

The following links provide updated information on the courses in the program as well as the course requirements for the Ph.D. program.

Course Descriptions:

http://catalog.odu.edu/courses/idt/

Ph.D. Program Requirements:

http://www.odu.edu/stemps/academics/idt/phd#.V8ckD032Y5k
Professional Organizations and Journals

We strongly encourage our doctoral students to join and become active in one or more professional associations early in their careers. Membership in these organizations and attending regional and national meetings provide students with an opportunity to meet researchers and practitioners in the field and to develop a network that is valuable for career development. The following is a list of professional organizations.

Association of Educational Communications and Technology
http://www.aect.org

American Educational Research Association
http://www.aera.net

International Society for Performance Improvement
http://www.ispi.org

International Society for Technology in Education
http://www.iste.org

Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education
https://www.aace.org/

As a doctoral student, you are encouraged to develop a regular journal reading program that will support your research and dissertation. The following is a sample of journals that might be of interest. Many of these are available online through the library.

American Journal of Distance Education
British Journal of Educational Technology
Computers & Education
Computers in Human Behavior
Contemporary Educational Psychology
Distance Education
Educational Technology Research & Development (ETR&D)
Educational Psychologist
Instructional Science
International Journal of Designs for Learning
Journal of Applied Instructional Design
Journal of Computing in Higher Education
Journal of Interactive Learning Research
Journal of Learning Sciences
Journal of Educational Psychology
Performance Improvement Quarterly
Performance Improvement
TechTrends
Quarterly Review of Distance Education
Review of Educational Research