Senior Learning Engineer Northwestern University Evanston, IL

The Senior Learning Engineer provides curriculum design and course development services to faculty-driven initiatives from across the University, with an emphasis on the Integrated Marketing Communications (IMC) program in the Medill School of Journalism. This person reports to the Manager of Faculty Support Services in NUIT Academic and Research Technologies (A&RT), with a dotted line reporting relationship to the Senior Director of the Medill Distance Learning Initiative. The Learning Engineer works in close coordination with instructors who are teaching in Medill IMC's Online Program.

The Senior Learning Engineer will also work on projects outside of the IMC program. The jobholder may serve as the principal project manager for engagements by Northwestern IT with NU schools and departments for development of new online courses and blended learning engagements. The Learning Engineer uses instructional design expertise to help A&RT's Faculty Support Services team to assess, design, and co-develop blended digital learning experiences with instructors using Northwestern's Canvas educational platform and other educational technology applications, such as Yellowdig (social media), BlueJeans (videoconferencing) and Zaption (video quiz framework).

Please note: Must be able to climb on a ladder to a height of 20 feet. Must be able to carry heavy hardware such as CPUs, Printers, paper cartons (30-50 lbs). Individual will be required to be on feet for extended lengths of time. Must be open to working the occasional evening and or Saturday.

Specific Responsibilities:

PEDAGOGY AND INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN FOR ONLINE DELIVERY

- In partnership with Medill Integrated Marketing Communication online faculty, draw out
 the faculty member's instructional goals and objectives and offer analysis, design, and
 development options for achieving the best outcomes for the student communities and
 subject matter. Work with the faculty to revise existing online courses and to develop
 new courses.
- Collaborate with faculty on the adoption of appropriate instructional technologies that can help advance their educational goals. Regularly inform faculty of new developments in pedagogical research, new delivery strategies, and analysis of available tools.
- Discuss assessment practices and testing strategies that can provide the best benefit to the student and can provide credible evidence of achieving learning outcomes.
- Perform a quality assurance check on each new and revised online course and work with faculty to revise issues identified during the check.
- On a limited basis, employ the skills listed above for faculty from across the university teaching face-to-face or blended curriculum courses.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

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- Manage multiple complex projects, ensuring that timelines, deliverables, and expectations are met.
- Exercise superior project management and workflow coordination services to lead the development and revision of new online courses with the IMC faculty. This will entail working with support teams in Medill and NUIT.
- Exercise project management skills in working with faculty from across the university to develop MOOCs, hybrid courses, or blended learning experiences for varied student communities.

COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

- Exercise successful communication and listening practices with Northwestern instructors, to encourage creative and trusting partnerships for educational innovation.
- Partner with staff in A&RT Faculty Support Services (and the Searle Center for Advancing Learning and Teaching) to provide information in campus workshops and in communication pieces about evidence-based instructional design principles, current research, and experimental results with different types of learning communities.
- Mentor junior staff in instructional design and optimal teamwork strategies. Provide work direction to junior staff.
- Write articles and feature stories for the Northwestern Digital Learning website, which is meant to showcase the University's innovation in teaching and learning.

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

• Direct a program of occasional meetings of the local instructional design community, with the goal of sharing perceptions of best practices for instructional design at play at Northwestern and of increasing knowledge within the instructional design community about current research and innovations.

MAINTAIN KNOWLEDGE OF LEARNING SCIENCES RESEARCH

 Maintain currency in current learning sciences and instructional design principles for effective support of online and blended education, peer learning and active learning practices.

Miscellaneous

• Performs other duties as assigned.

Minimum Qualifications:

• Successful completion of a full 4-year course of study in an accredited college or university leading to a bachelor's or higher degree in instructional design, learning sciences or a related field; or a Bachelor's degree in an unrelated field with certification in instructional design; or related, higher-Ed experience and training that is equivalent to the skills and knowledge of these degree credentials.

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- OR appropriate combination of education and experience.
- Two years of experience working on faculty-driven educational initiatives, bringing instructional design and analysis to the cooperative development work of instructors, educational technology support staff, and teaching assistants.
- The ability to work collaboratively with colleagues in a team environment;
- Superior skills in oral communication, interviewing, listening and building relationships with instructors, as well as across work groups and departments;
- Proven skills in writing for the web, as well as for reports, proposals and traditional publishing platforms;
- Strong proficiency in the primary Microsoft Office programs and in collaborative use of networked file storage systems (Box or Google docs);
- Familiarity with the culture and mission of a major research university;
- Ability to perform multiple tasks simultaneously and flawlessly;
- A confident, professional and positive attitude.

Preferred Qualifications:

- A Ph.D. in Instructional Design, Learning Sciences, Education Technology or a similar field.
- Three or more years of professional experience as an Instructional Designer in higher education or in a similar organization serving adult learners.
- Expertise in developing instructional design strategies, policies, and deployment procedures with school or department stakeholders.
- Expertise in Canvas educational platforms.
- Expertise in web conferencing software (e.g., Adobe Connect, Blue Jeans).
- Expertise with one or more digital education (content) authoring tools (e.g., Camtasia, Captivate, Lectora, Softchalk, Articulate).
- Understanding of and application of social networking and mobile applications in environments for teaching and learning.
- Teaching or training experience in higher ed.
- Knowledge of current learning technologies, a broad perspective of online higher education efforts, active learning practices and blended learning;
- Experience leading work groups to productive outcomes and to critical deadlines;
- Ability to adapt to and communicate successfully with different people and situations; and incorporate honesty, respect, humor and fairness in daily actions.
- or the equivalent combination of education and experience from which comparable knowledge and abilities can be acquired.