

InterNavigate is a course designed to guide students through the essential steps for preparing their Instructional Design and Technology (IDT) *graduate internship applications*. The IDT program attracts students from diverse backgrounds and offers a variety of professional trajectories, including careers in corporate, government, and non-profit sectors, as well as opportunities in education after graduation.

The goal of this course is to assist students in identifying internship opportunities, accessing professional resources, and creating materials like resumes and portfolios by providing strategies and information relevant to their chosen fields.

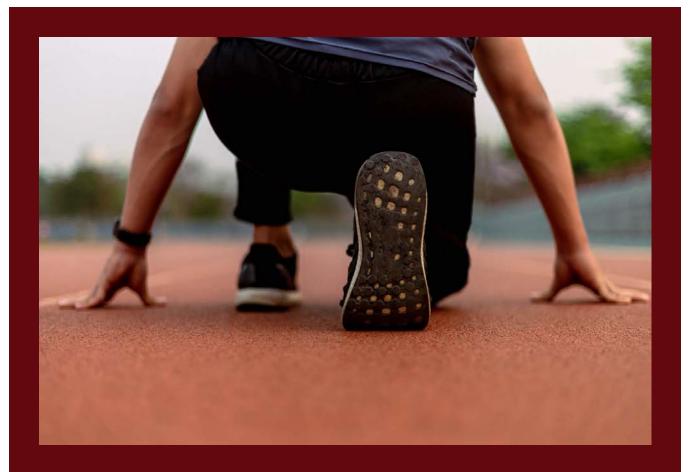
The objectives of this course are as follows:

- 1. Evaluate the unique opportunities and challenges within different sectors, and confidently select the career path that aligns best with their professional goals and strengths.
- 2. Create a customized internship search plan that includes the use of various resources.
- 3. Grow professional networks effectively to identify internship opportunities and receive career guidance.
- 4. Identify and apply for at least three (3) internship opportunities that align with their instructional design strengths using tailored application materials.

Click on the first lesson below—or the "**Start Course**" button above—when you're ready to begin.

MODU	MODULE 1: EXPLORING CAREER PATHS		
=	Identify Difficulty in Finding IDT Internship		
=	Career Path Exploration		
_	Quick Decision-Making		
MODU	LE 2: PLANNING FOR AN INTERNSHIP SEARCH		
=	Arranging Internship Planning Steps		
=	Personalizing Your Internship Search Plan		
MODU	LE 3: NETWORKING AND PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION		
=	Al-Generated Email Draft		
=	Quick Email Writing		
=	Reaching Out for Advice		
MODU	LE 4: DESIGNING INTERNSHIP MATERIAL		
=	Resume, Cover Letter, and Portfolio Development		
=	Submitting Applications		

Identify Difficulty in Finding IDT Internship



Identifying Difficulties

To begin the course, consider the following scenario that you might find relatable. Share your insights on the provided Padlet link and see what others think!



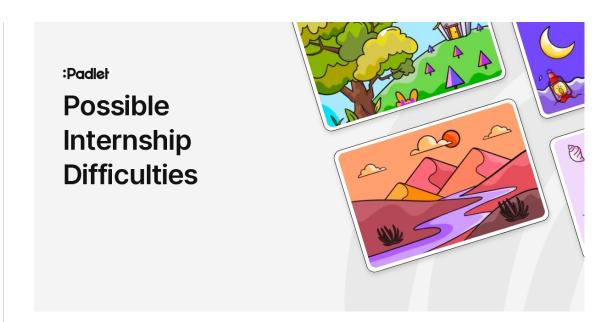
Scene 1 Slide 1

Choosing a career path

Finding internship opportunities
Making a resume
Writing a cover letter
Designing a portfolio
Networking
Finding references
Doing interviews



Scene 1 Slide 1



Possible Internship Difficulties

List down personal struggles you think you would have in your internship search. What kind of help would you need?

READ MORE PADLET >

CONTINUE

Career Path Exploration



Choosing can be difficult when you don't have the full picture!

Exploring ID Career Paths

You may be unsure which industry to apply for or why you should consider any or all of them. In this lesson, you'll learn about four

sectors where you could work as an instructional designer: corporate, government, education, and non-profit.



Click on each puzzle piece to read a brief description of each industry. Find additional optional readings below that may be useful in your search.





Corporate

A corporate instructional designer is crucial for learning, training, and staff development, creating and enhancing courses, curricula, and training materials. Your main goal is to develop efficient learning programs that produce a highly competent and productive workforce.

It will be your responsibility to develop instructional designs and digital training programs that include:

- Instructor-led training materials
- Onboarding and orientation programs
- $\bullet \ \ Compliance\ training\ modules$
- Leadership and soft skills training
- Technical training
- Performance support tools

In this work setting, you will analyze training needs, work with stakeholders and subject matter experts, and evaluate training programs to make the necessary adjustments.



Government

Government instructional designers frequently concentrate on developing training programs that comply with specific regulations and policies, guaranteeing that workers in the public sector understand legal and procedural requirements. You might also provide content for public services, such as public health instruction and emergency response training.

Like corporate ID, you will design leadership training, job aids, and compliance training such as cybersecurity, sexual harassment, etc. Aside from training materials, you may also work to provide educational materials that aim to prepare individuals for future opportunities and challenges.



Education

In formal education, instructional designers have different roles on multiple levels.

Higher Education: You collaborate with instructors to design or convert courses for blended or online learning settings, which differ from corporate training formats. You are responsible for creating course content, informing teachers on effective teaching strategies, and providing technical support for online education. You may also manage projects and participate in research.

K-12 Education: With positions in primary and secondary education, you can work as a teacher, instructional designer, technology facilitator, or school- or district-based leader. Following academic standards, you can create lesson plans, teaching materials, and assessment and evaluation tools that satisfy a range of learning requirements.

Although the audience could be different, the competencies required in corporate and educational roles are somewhat comparable. Assisting learners in meeting their learning objectives and becoming subject matter experts is your primary objective.



Non-Profit

Non-profit organizations need instructional designers to design and develop programs that cater to employees and volunteers. Even if your work may resemble those of other organizations, you develop community-based educational programs to inform the public about pertinent topics and increase awareness of the organization's cause. With numerous stakeholders, instructional design for non-profits can be challenging but rewarding.

Optional Readings:

CORPORATE	GOVERNMENT	EDUCATION	NON-PROFIT

- The Essential Role of a Corporate Instructional Designer
- What Does an Instructional Designer Do in Corporate Training?

CORPORATE	GOVERNMENT	EDUCATION	NON-PROFIT
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- <u>Leaving the Classroom Episode 16: A Day in the Life of a Government Instructional Designer</u>
- Careers in Government and Military

CORPORATE GOVERNMENT	EDUCATION	NON-PROFIT
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- <u>Instructional Designers in Higher Education: Roles, Challenges, and Supports</u>
- <u>Careers in K-12 Design and Instructional Technology</u>
- Careers in Higher Education for Non-Faculty

CORPORATE	GOVERNMENT	EDUCATION	NON-PROFIT

• Where Do Instructional Designers Work?

• The Power of Instructional Design: What is Instructional Design? How Can Instructional Design Transform Professional Development for Staff Training and Onboarding?

Check for Understanding

Take the quiz for one or two industries that interest you to see how much you can remember.

Corporate ID KNOWLEDGE CHECK **Government ID** KNOWLEDGE CHECK **Education ID** KNOWLEDGE CHECK Non-Profit ID KNOWLEDGE CHECK

These are not the only fields in which instructional designers can work. The objective of this lesson is to provide you with an overview of what you can do as an instructional designer. Some roles and responsibilities overlap between industries. You may be able to discover other ways and areas where an ID is required through your own research.

CONTINUE

Quick Decision-Making



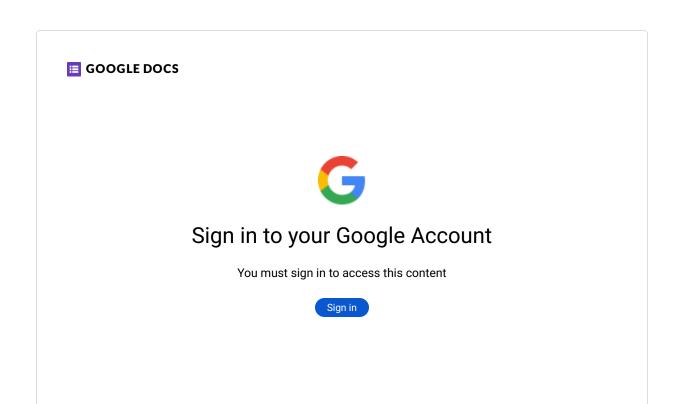


Choose Your Path

Based on what you learned in the last class, it's time to choose a field to focus on before developing a strategy for navigating the internship application process and producing the necessary materials to show your relevant work.

Remember:

Although you are not required to choose just one industry, please focus on one that you think would be a good fit for you during this course. This will allow you to prioritize which roles to apply for and what information to put in your application.



Choose Your Path

Choose the industry that interests you the most. Consider why you wish to pursue this career path.

VIEW ON GOOGLE DOCS >

CONTINUE

Arranging Internship Planning Steps



IDT Graduate Students are excited to begin their internships, ready to apply their knowledge and skills in real-world settings!

Welcome to Planning for an Internship

In this lesson, you will learn the essential steps to successfully plan your internship search. You'll explore how to research organizations, prepare documents, and network, all while building a personalized plan that fits your goals.

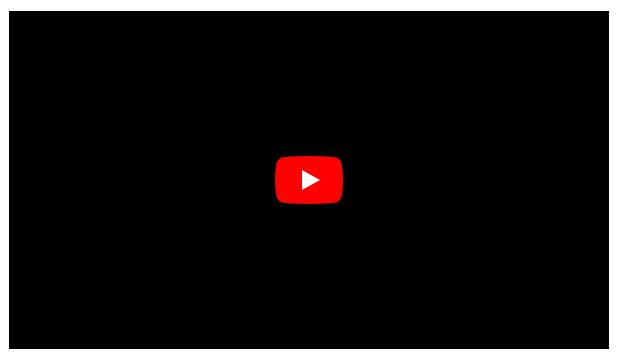
Introduction to Internship Search Planning

Embarking on an internship search can be a pivotal step in your career journey. This guide outlines the essential steps for UTampa IDT graduate students to successfully navigate the internship search process.

Step 1

Research Organizations

Career Opportunities Abound in Instructional Design | UWF IDT (https://youtu.be/cD_KMK1QkUc?si=B72_FWCBXwZYOPo-)

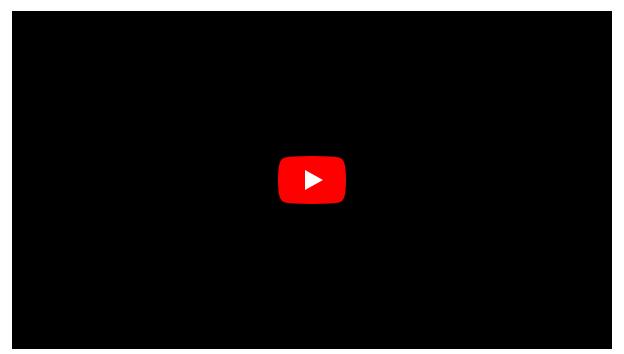


Researching organizations across various sectors such as corporate, non-profit, government, and formal education. Understanding the landscape will help you identify potential internship opportunities that align with your interests and career goals.

Step 2

Prepare Documents

How to Write a Great Resume and Cover Letter (https://youtu.be/PAthQKLhBTs?si=7v1dsFs0X8GCluF3)



Ensure your resume, cover letter, and other necessary documents are up-to-date and tailored to the specific internships you are applying for. Highlight your skills, experiences, and how they align with the internship requirements.

Building Networks and Applying



Build connections within your desired industry through networking events, social media, and professional organizations. For IDT graduate students, consider joining the Association for Educational Communications and Technology (AECT), the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), attending industry conferences such as the eLearning Guild's DevLearn, and participating in UTampa's career fairs. Apply to internships through job portals like LinkedIn, Indeed, and Handshake, as well as company websites and referrals from your network.

Conclusion

By following these steps, UTampa IDT graduate students can effectively find and secure valuable internship opportunities that align with their career goals.

Begin your **journey** by thoroughly **exploring** organizations that **align** with your career objectives. **Investigate** their missions, values, and recent projects to ensure they are a **perfect** match for your internship **goals**.

Kickstart your career by strategically planning your internship steps.

IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS

EVALUATING COMPANY CULTURE

UNDERSTANDING JOB
ROLES

NETWORKING WITH
ALUMNI

Create a list of organizations that align with your career goals in IDT. Use UTampa Internships, LinkedIn, Glassdoor, and job boards.

IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS

EVALUATING COMPANY CULTURE

UNDERSTANDING JOB ROLES NETWORKING WITH
ALUMNI

Research company values, work environment, and employee satisfaction. Read reviews on Glassdoor and Indeed.

IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS

EVALUATING COMPANY CULTURE

UNDERSTANDING JOB ROLES NETWORKING WITH
ALUMNI

Look for detailed job descriptions and required qualifications. Understand responsibilities to tailor your application and prepare for interviews.

IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS

EVALUATING COMPANY CULTURE

UNDERSTANDING JOB ROLES NETWORKING WITH
ALUMNI

Connect with alumni who interned at your target organizations. Use LinkedIn to reach out for insights and referrals.

Check for Understanding

Get ready to ignite your learning journey by sorting the corresponding cards in the correct steps!

- Review each card carefully.
- 2 Drag and drop the cards into the correct order.
- Reflect on any mistakes and try again if necessary.

Step 1: Researching

Identify industries of interest

Research company cultures

Create a list of potential employers

Follow companies on LinkedIn

Step 2: Preparing Documents

Update your resume

Write a cover letter

Step 3: Networking and Applying

Networking emails

Attend career fairs

Reach out to alumni	Reaching out to current and previous UTampa IDT professors

CONTINUE

How to Build New Connections

Building a network as an IDT graduate student requires intentionally reaching out to others, seizing opportunities, and proving that you're a valuable contact.

Watch the video below to learn what actions you can take to build connections and highlight your worth in the field of Instructional Design and Technology.



Check for Understanding

Check your understanding of how to develop professional networking by completing the following activity.

Imagine you're building a professional network from scratch. Based on what you've learned, what should you do to form new connections?

Select all correct statements.

I should prioritize quality connections over qu	uantity.

I should avoid using my existing contacts to meet new people.

I should only build connections in person, never online.
I should attend both career-oriented and social events.
SUBMIT

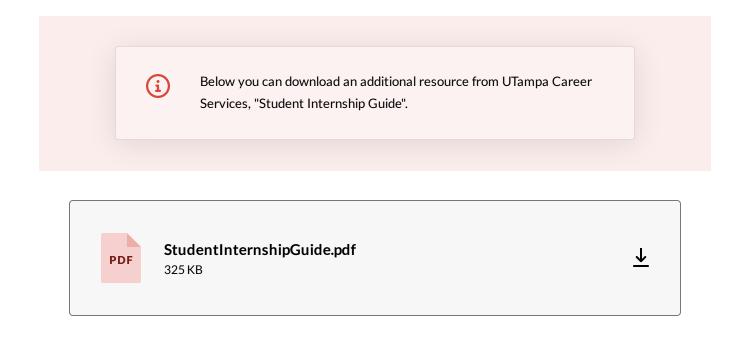
CONTINUE

Summary

This lesson provides UTampa IDT graduate students with essential steps for successfully planning their internship search. It covers researching organizations, preparing documents, and networking. Here are some key takeaways:

- 1. **Dive deep into organizations**. Ensure they align with your career goals for a perfect internship fit.
- 2. **Update your resume**. Tailor it along with your cover letter and other documents to specific internships.
- 3. **Build connections within your industry**. Use networking events, social media, and professional organizations to find and secure internships.

By following these steps, you'll be well-prepared to find and secure a valuable internship opportunity.



CONTINUE

Personalizing Your Internship Search Plan

Create Your Personalized Internship Plan

In the previous lesson, you learned about the key steps for internship planning. In this activity, you will develop a customized plan to begin your internship search. Use the template to outline 3-4 key steps that are specific to your goals and timeline. This plan will help you strategize and take actionable steps toward finding the right internship for you.



IDT Graduate Students are excited to begin their internships, ready to apply their knowledge and skills in real-world settings!

Building Your Personalized Internship S	Search Plan: Key Steps

Step 1: Identify Your Goals

In this step, think about the kind of internship that best aligns with your long-term career goals. Reflect on the specific industry or sector where you want to work (e.g., corporate, non-profit, education, government) and the type of position you're seeking (e.g., instructional designer, curriculum developer, eLearning specialist). Consider what skills or experiences you want to gain from your internship, such as working with certain eLearning tools or collaborating on instructional projects. These decisions will help you tailor your search and find an internship that truly aligns with your career aspirations.

Step 2: Research Internship Opportunities

Once you have a clear idea of your goals, the next step is to research where to find internships. Explore different job boards, including LinkedIn, professional associations (like ATD or AECT), and university resources such as UTampa Internship Fairs. Identify at least 3-4 companies or organizations that interest you and align with your career path. Keep track of the application deadlines and requirements for each internship you find to ensure you're prepared.

Step 3: Network with Industry Professionals

Networking is essential to any internship search. Identify 3–4 key individuals who can provide guidance, whether they're industry professionals, alumni, professors, or peers. Reach out to them for advice or referrals, and use platforms like LinkedIn to expand your network. Attending industry events or career fairs, such as those organized by UTampa, can help you meet professionals in the field. The connections you build can lead to mentorships and even potential internship opportunities.

Step 4: Prepare Application Materials

Now it's time to prepare your application materials. Focus on crafting a strong resume and cover letter that highlight your relevant skills and experiences. If applicable, ensure your portfolio showcases instructional design projects that align with the types of internships you're applying for. Use resources like UTampa Career Services to get feedback on your materials, and make sure each document is tailored to the specific internships you're pursuing.

Summary: Bringing It All Together

You've now created a strong foundation for your internship search by setting goals, researching opportunities, building a network, and preparing your materials.

Remember to update your plan as new opportunities arise and seek feedback from resources like UTampa Career Services. Stay proactive and adaptable as you continue your search. With persistence and a clear plan, you'll be well-prepared to find an internship that aligns with your career goals.

Good luck!

Instructions for Completing the IDT Graduate Student Internship Search Plan Template

The goal of this template is to help you create a personalized internship search plan that aligns with your career goals in the field of Instructional Design and Technology (IDT). Follow these steps to fill out each section:

Download the Template to Begin

What to Do: Download the IDT Graduate Student Internship Search Plan
 Template below. Save it to your computer or device so you can fill it out digitally or print a copy if you prefer writing by hand.



IDT Graduate Student Internship Search Plan Template.pdf 258.6 KB



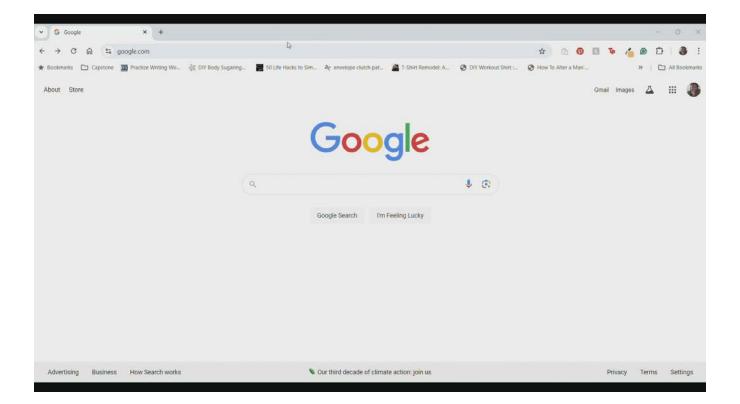
CONTINUE

AI-Generated Email Draft

Email Creation Made Easy

During this lesson, you will learn how to harness the power of AI generators to develop confidence in crafting a professional email to use during your IDT internship search. The purpose of this email is to begin building your professional network with other specialists in the IDT field in hopes that they will keep you in mind when they (or someone they know) are hiring.

Programs such as ChatGPT, Grammarly, and Mailmeteor, among many others, can be used to create a template and provide guidance when writing your email. AI will draft an email full of keywords that will allow you to stand out in the applicant pool. You will then personalize the email by plugging and chugging your credentials into the template.



Sample IDT Email Prompts

- Instructional design and technology email to begin networking
- Instructional design and technology professional email
- Instructional design and technology internship email

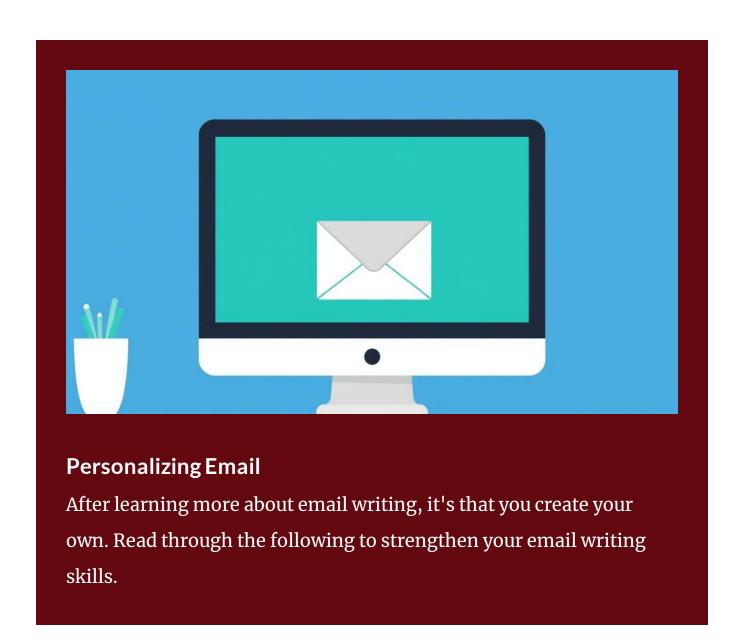
What is an AI tool that can be used for drafting an email?

ChatGPT, Grammarly, Mailmeteor

Sample email prompts

- Instructional design and technology email to begin networking
- Instructional design and technology professional email
- Instructional design and technology internship

Quick Email Writing



When it comes to using AI to craft written materials, the content will read like it was written by a robot. It is important to read over the document(s) and replace words with synonymous words that will sound more natural in conversation.

When reaching out to IDT professionals to add to your network, make sure to remain professional throughout the email, from the greeting to the closing. The email should be no longer than 5-6 sentences and needs to highlight the strengths that you built during your IDT education.

Close your email with your preferred contact methods, i.e., email address, phone number, professional social media handles.

7 Words That Suggest a Text Was Written With AI

Showcasing

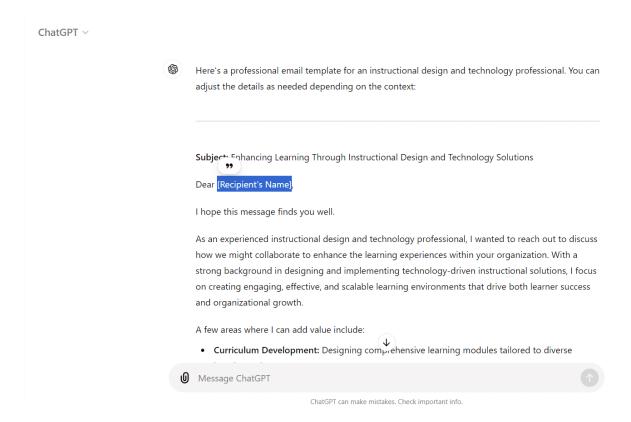
Crucial	Intricate

Pivotal

Make Sure to Fill in the Blanks!

AI can make crafting a professional email very simple, but that doesn't mean that it's error-proof. AI generators leave blank spaces for you to add your credentials and personal information. Scan the document to make sure that you don't leave anything blank and delete content that isn't applicable to you.

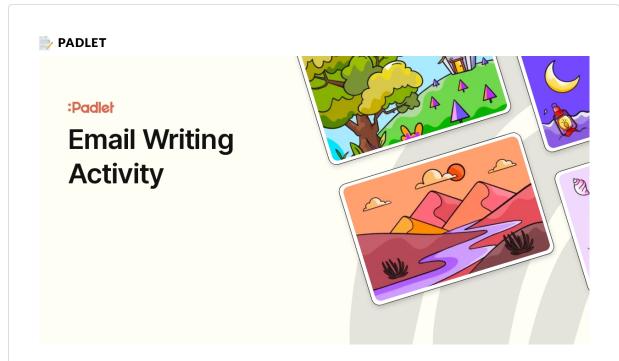
As always, make sure to reread your email to ensure clarity, etiquette, and proper grammar.



Highlighted template field that needs to be fixed

Check for Understanding

Create an sample email based on what you learned so far. Use an anonymous receiver or an unreal person, and consider them a prospective connection. Consider what others may recommend to help you improve.



Email Writing Activity

Create an sample email based on what you learned so far. Use an anonymous receiver or an unreal person, and consider them a prospective connection. Consider what others may recommend to help you improve.

READ MORE PADLET >

Reaching Out for Advice

Research Faculty

UTampa has many faculty members that are ready to help you throughout your IDT journey, you just have to reach out to them. The M.S. IDT webpage is a great place to start. One this page there is a list of faculty members that you can contact. Once you have done your research, select one faculty member that you would like to reach out to and create a question that you would ask them.

Use the email writing tools that you learned in the previous lesson to connect with them. Remember to start your email with a kind greeting and close it with a thanks and your contact information.

Take a moment to reflect on how you plan to connect with faculty and other IDT professionals.

Connect on LinkedIn

Once you have reached out to UTampa's IDT faculty, make sure to connect with them on LinkedIn.

LinkedIn has many groups that you can join to stay up-to-date on what is going on in the IDT community. These groups also allow you to connect with other IDT professionals. Below are some groups to join.

- The Official UTampa IDT Community
- <u>Instructional Design & Technology Professional Network</u>

CONTINUE

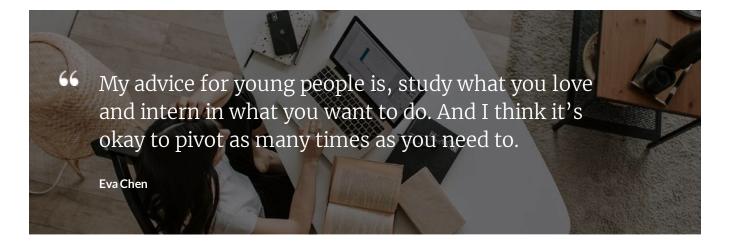
Resume, Cover Letter, and Portfolio Development



Empowering My Future: A dedicated IDT graduate student crafting a resume that showcases their skills and experiences.

Welcome to Crafting Your Standout Resume, Cover Letter, and Portfolio!

In this lesson, you'll learn how to customize your resume, cover letter, and portfolio to match the internships you're pursuing. Using provided templates, you can personalize your materials with your work and educational experiences, helping you create polished, professional documents quickly and easily.



Step-by-Step Guide to Building Your Resume, Cover Letter, and Portfolio

In this activity, you will use pre-structured templates to create your resume, cover letter, and portfolio. Each section will guide you through the process step by step. Click on the accordions below to reveal detailed instructions for each part. Make sure to review the directions carefully before filling out the templates.

Resume Sections

- **Personal Information**: Name, contact details, LinkedIn profile, and portfolio link.
- **Objective**: A brief statement about career goals tailored to the internship.
- **Education**: Details about degrees, majors, and institutions.
- **Skills**: A list of relevant technical and soft skills (e.g., e-learning tools, project management).
- **Experience**: Work or internship experiences, formatted with strong action verbs and achievements.
- **Projects**: Key projects highlighting instructional design tools, challenges solved, and outcomes.



Cover Letter Sections

- **Introduction**: Personalized greeting and a brief introduction, mentioning the internship and organization.
- **Body**: Connect their skills and experiences to the specific needs of the internship. Use relevant examples from past roles or coursework.
- **Closing**: A strong call to action, expressing enthusiasm for the opportunity and encouraging follow-up.

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I am writing to express my interest in the instructional Design Internship at Company XYZ, as advertised on your website. With a strong foundation in e-learning development, curriculum design, and instructional technologies, I am confident that my background makes me an ideal candidate for this role.

During my studies in the Instructional Design and Technology program at the University of Tampa, I have honed my skills in Articulate 360, Adobe Captivate, and multimedia content creation. My most recent project involved designing an interactive -elearning modulor on workplace conflict resolution, which required collaboration with SMEs and applying best practices in adult learning theory, labo created a video-based adaptive assessment, ensuring a personalized learning experience for users.

Company XYZ's reputation for innovative instructional solutions aligns perfectly with my passion for creating impactful learning experiences. I am eager to contribute my knowledge and gain further experience in a hands-on internship environment.

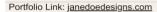
Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss how my skills can benefit your team. Please feel free to contact me at (555) 555-1234 or olivia.wilson@example.com.

Ju-Olivia Wilson

Portfolio Sections

- **Project Showcase**: An introduction to the portfolio, explaining its purpose.
- **Work Samples**: Include specific work examples such as e-learning modules, instructional videos, or assessments, with descriptions and links.
- **Reflections**: Encourage learners to briefly reflect on each project, explaining the design process, tools used, and the impact of their work.

Sample Portfolio (Instructional Design)





Introduction:

Welcome to my instructional design portfolio! Here, you will find samples of my work, including e-learning modules, instructional videos, and assessments designed to enhance learner engagement and knowledge retention.

1, E-learning Module: "Conflict Resolution in the Workplace"

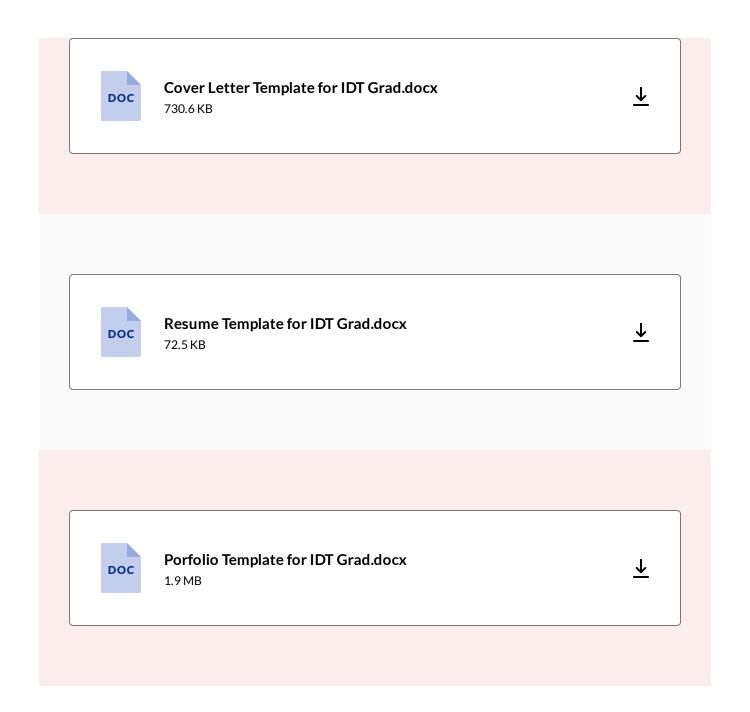
- Tool: Articulate Rise 360
- Description: This module was designed to teach employees how to effectively manage conflicts in a corporate environment. It includes interactive scenarios, video segments, and knowledge checks to ensure understanding.
- Link: View Module

2. Interactive Video-Based Assessment

- Tool: Adobe Captivate
- Description: This assessment adapts to the learner's performance, providing personalized feedback based on their responses. It was created for a professional development course to enhance learner engagement.
- Link: View Assessment

Instructions for Downloading and Completing Internship Templates

To complete your internship materials, start by clicking on the "Download Resume Template", "Download Cover Letter Template", or "Download Portfolio Template" buttons. Save the file to a location on your computer where you can easily find it, like your Documents or Desktop. Open the file using Microsoft Word or Google Docs. Once the template is open, fill in your details, including your instructional design skills and relevant experiences. When you're finished, be sure to save your completed version for your internship applications.



End of Lesson

Congratulations! You've now completed the module on **Designing Internship Materials**. By using the resume, cover letter, and portfolio templates, you've crafted tailored application materials that highlight your instructional design strengths.

These documents will serve as powerful tools as you apply for internships in the field.

Make sure to review your work, ensure all sections are complete, and save your final versions. When you're ready, begin applying to at least three internships that align with your career goals. Good luck with your applications, and don't hesitate to reach out if you need further support!

Next Steps:

- Review your templates for any final adjustments.
- Apply for at least three internships using your newly created materials.
- Keep refining your portfolio as you gain more experience!

CONTINUE

Submitting Applications

Submission Process

During this phase of the lesson, you are going to practice submitting applications. You will be walked through the steps of how to properly organize your cover letter and resume for potential internships.

Preparing Your Materials for Submission

Submitting your application can be the most nerve-wrecking part of the internship search, but it doesn't have to be. Follow these steps to successfully complete the application process.

Find an Internship That Suits Your Interests



IDT internships can be found in corporate, government, non-profit sectors, and education fields. Do your research to find out which field interests you the most. Don't be afraid to venture outside your comfort zone during this time.

Create Your Resume, Cover Letter, and Portfolio



Using the resume, cover letter, and portfolio templates, it is now time to create your own materials. Fill in key information, including your skills, experience, and career goals.

Submit Application



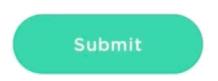
Now that you have created all of your materials, it is time to start submitting applications. Review your applications before submitting them to ensure that you completed your applications correctly.

Summary

Congrats! You have submitted your first IDT internship application. Keep an eye on your email to ensure you don't miss any important correspondences.

You have been given the tools that you need, now it's time to put them to the test. Go ahead and submit applications to at least three positions that you are interested in.

You've got this!



Submit button being clicked. Credit: Medium

You've submitted your application. Now what?

Make sure to keep an eye on your email to see if you get any responses from members of your network or potential employees. Just because you've submitted an application for your dream internship, that doesn't mean that you should stop applying to other places.

Remain optimistic throughout the process. Remember, this takes patience.

Follow the above takeaways, and you'll set the foundation for applying for internships and growing a diverse professional network that you can use to grow your career. Thank you for completing this course!