

Spring 2026 ITLS-6245-IO1 XL Syllabus

Spring 2026

Course Syllabus

Instructor

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How to Contact Me

Please send me message through either Canvas or the email address listed above and I will respond within 24 - 48 hours. In addition to being the instructor this semester, I work full time as an Curriculum Designer. My work hours are generally between 7:00 am 4:00 pm Monday - Friday. I don't have a physical office location as I primarily work from home. We can chat via Google Hangouts, Zoom, or Slack. If you prefer talk on the phone we can do that as well. I'm here to help you. Let me know what is convenient for you and I can usually make it work.

How I Will Contact You

I will send messages to the entire class via Announcements in Canvas. You'll see those at the top of our course Home Page or in the Announcements link in the left navigation of the course. I strongly recommend setting your notification preference for Announcements and Conversation Messages to "right away." I will send individual messages via your preferred email.

- Canvas Guide: How Do I manage my notification settings?
(https://community.instructure.com/en/kb/articles/662894-how-do-i-manage-my-canvas-notification-settings?utm_source=community-search&utm_medium=organic-search&utm_term=notification+preferences)
- Canvas Guide: What are Discussions?
(<https://community.instructure.com/en/kb/articles/662749-what-are-discussions?>)

Course Description

- ITLS 4245/6245
- eLearning Authoring Tools (we're going to call it Creating eLearning Content in Articulate Storyline)

Fees

No fees are required for this course.

Course Details

Course Layout

This class is presented in an **online format** with students engaging in content and activities during the entire course. This course is divided into 14 weeks of online content (with one week for Spring Break) with each module representing the equivalent workload of a traditional face-to-face class with readings, content, and activities. The modules for each week start on Monday and ends the following Sunday (the week will start on Tuesday if there are holidays during that given week). Each module will have a class interaction activity, and some modules will require readings and assessment. Students will also engage in an Instructional Development Project over the course of the semester.

Discussions

I plan on keeping the discussions simple. There won't be a discussion every week. Most weeks it will be about a topic related to eLearning course design. My expectation is that your initial post for the discussion be completed by Friday of the week in which it is assigned. After making an initial post, respond to at least two of your class peers no later than the discussion due date, which will be by 11:59pm Mountain Time on Sunday.

Please note that your grade for discussions depends on the quality of **both** your posts and responses. **Be thoughtful. This is how I can tell whether you've been engaging with the materials.**

Assignments

Assignments will be due by 11:59 pm on the following Sunday during the week in which they are assigned (unless otherwise noted).

Late Submissions

You may submit your required assignments up to 1 week late with a 50% penalty on your total possible grade. For example, for an assignment worth 20 points, 10 points will be subtracted off of your total grade if it is submitted within 1 week after the deadline. You may not submit any assignment more than 1 week late.

Technology Statement

This course utilizes integrated technology throughout the coursework to the extent that mastery of their use is required for successful completion of the course. However, as problems arise you can always contact me and I will help as much as possible. Your greater ally for technology support are the friendly folks at the USU IT Service Desk

(<https://it.usu.edu/htm/teams/service-desk>). Please let me know if technology is getting in the way of learning, and I'll do all that I can to provide the support you need.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will understand how their ideas along with technology can lead to advancement in learning. Specifically, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate how to leverage technology for instructional purposes.
2. Produce multimedia instructional materials using technology to promote learning for an audience.
3. Manage their resources (e.g., time, abilities) to create instruction within a deadline.

IDEA Objectives

1. Gaining factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends)
2. Learning to Apply Course Material (to improve thinking, problem-solving, and decisions)
3. Learning how to find and use resources for answering questions or solving problems
4. Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view
5. Acquiring an interest in learning more by asking questions and seeking answers

Course Resources

Articulate Storyline 360

The Instructional Technology and Learning Sciences Department has an Articulate 360 Teams subscription to Storyline 360. Make sure you provide an @usu.edu email to robert.smith@usu.edu (mailto:robert.smith@usu.edu) to gain access.

Course Requirements



E-Learning Uncovered: Articulate Storyline 360 (2025 Edition)



Articulate Storyline 360

Grade Scheme

The following grading standards will be used in this class:

Grading Scale

Grade	Range
A	100 % to 93.0%

Grade	Range
A-	< 93.0 % to 90.0%
B+	< 90.0 % to 87.0%
B	< 87.0 % to 83.0%
B-	< 83.0 % to 80.0%
C+	< 80.0 % to 77.0%
C	< 77.0 % to 73.0%
C-	< 73.0 % to 70.0%
D+	< 70.0 % to 67.0%
D	< 67.0 % to 60.0%
F	< 59.0 % to 0.0%

Course Schedule/Outline

Course Schedule

Week	Topic
1	Introduction What to Expect
2	eLearning Basics
3	Writing Learning Objectives
4	Writing for eLearning and Visualization
5	Fundamental Multimedia Principles

Week	Topic
6	Managing Slide Layouts
7	Object States, Layers, and Screen Recordings
8	Working with Triggers
9	Advanced Triggers and Variables
10	Spring Break
11	Questions & Quizzes
12	Accessibility
13	What Else Can Storyline Do?
14	Future Learning Trends
15	Wrapping it Up

Assumption of Risk

All classes, programs, and extracurricular activities within the University involve some risk, and certain ones involve travel. The University provides opportunities to participate in these programs on a voluntary basis. Therefore, students should not participate in them if they do not care to assume the risks. Students can ask the respective program leaders/sponsors about the possible risks a program may generate, and if students are not willing to assume the risks, they should not select that program. By voluntarily participating in classes, programs, and extracurricular activities, a student does so at his or her own risk. General information about University Risk Management policies, insurance coverage, vehicle use policies, and risk management forms can be found at: <http://www.usu.edu/riskmgmt/> (<http://www.usu.edu/riskmgmt/>)

Library Services

All USU students attending classes in Logan, at our Regional Campuses, or online can access all databases, e-journals, and e-books regardless of location. Additionally, the library will mail printed books to students, at no charge to them. Students can also borrow books from any Utah academic library. Take advantage of all library services and learn more at libguides.usu.edu/statewide. (<http://libguides.usu.edu/statewide>)

University Policies & Procedures

Appropriate Use of Canvas and Other IT Resources

Canvas and all other course technologies are information technology services provided as tools to further the mission of the university. By using these services, users agree to comply with USU Policy 550: Appropriate Use of Computing, Networking, and Information Resources (<https://www.usu.edu/policies/550/>) and the accompanying Terms of use for USU IT (https://usu.service-now.com/aggies?id=kb_article_view&sysparm_article=KB0015388) resources, as well as Article V-3.B.25.c (<https://www.usu.edu/student-conduct/student-code/article5>) of the USU Student Code. Using course technologies in ways that are inconsistent with the university's mission or are disruptive will not be tolerated. Disruptive behavior includes any activity that interferes with either the faculty member's ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program.

Classroom Behavior

Utah State University supports the principle of freedom of expression for both faculty and students. The University respects the rights of faculty to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires classroom conditions that do not impede the learning process. Disruptive classroom behavior will not be tolerated. An individual engaging in such behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. Read Student Code Article V Section V-3 (<https://www.usu.edu/student-conduct/student-code/article5>) for more information.

Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibilities

Academic freedom is the right to teach, study, discuss, investigate, discover, create, and publish freely. Academic freedom protects the rights of faculty members in teaching and of students in learning. Freedom in research is fundamental to the advancement of truth. Faculty members are entitled to full freedom in teaching, research, and creative activities, subject to the

limitations imposed by professional responsibility. Policy 4002: Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility (<https://www.usu.edu/policies/4002/>) further defines academic freedom and professional responsibilities.

Academic Integrity – "The Honor System"

Each student has the right and duty to pursue his or her academic experience free of dishonesty. To enhance the learning environment at Utah State University and to develop student academic integrity, each student agrees to the following Honor Pledge:

"I pledge, on my honor, to conduct myself with the foremost level of academic integrity."

A student who lives by the Honor Pledge is a student who does more than not cheat, falsify, or plagiarize. A student who lives by the Honor Pledge:

- Espouses academic integrity as an underlying and essential principle of the Utah State University community;
- Understands that each act of academic dishonesty devalues every degree that is awarded by this institution; and
- Is a welcomed and valued member of Utah State University.

Academic Dishonesty

The instructor of this course will take appropriate actions in response to Academic Dishonesty, as defined the University's Student Code. Acts of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to:

- **Cheating:** using, attempting to use, or providing others with any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, examinations, or in any other academic exercise or activity.
Unauthorized assistance includes:
 - Working in a group when the instructor has designated that the quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity be done "individually;"
 - Depending on the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments;
 - Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, in taking an examination or preparing academic work;
 - Acquiring tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty member, staff member, or another student without express permission;
 - Continuing to write after time has been called on a quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity;
 - Submitting substantially the same work for credit in more than one class, except with prior approval of the instructor; or engaging in any form of research fraud.
- **Falsification:** altering or fabricating any information or citation in an academic exercise or activity.
- **Plagiarism:** representing, by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person as one's own in any academic exercise or activity without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes using materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in the sale of term papers or other academic materials.

For additional information go to: ARTICLE VI. University Regulations Regarding Academic Integrity (<https://www.usu.edu/student-conduct/student-code/article6>)

Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct

General Overview

USU strives to provide an environment for students and employees that is free from discrimination (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/non-discrimination>) and sexual misconduct (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/sexual-misconduct/Sexual-Misconduct-Terms>). If you experience sexual misconduct or discrimination at any point during the semester inside or outside of class, you are encouraged to contact the USU Title IX Coordinator via Distance Education room 400 in Logan, 435-797-1266, titleix@usu.edu (<mailto:titleix@usu.edu>), or at [equity.usu.edu/report](https://www.usu.edu/equity/report) (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/report>). You can learn more about the USU resources available for individuals who have experienced sexual misconduct at [sexualrespect.usu.edu](https://www.usu.edu/sexual-respect/) (<https://www.usu.edu/sexual-respect/>). Resources for individuals who have experienced discrimination are listed at [equity.usu.edu/resources](https://www.usu.edu/equity/resources) (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/resources>).

Required Reporting of Sexual Misconduct and Threats of Harm

USU cares about our students and provides a number of resources and supportive measures to students who may be experiencing thoughts of self-harm or who have experienced sexual misconduct. To ensure students are informed about resources and services available to them, including available grievance or criminal processes for incidents of sexual misconduct, USU has implemented reporting policies and practices (<https://www.usu.edu/policies/340/>) that require designated employees to report any information they receive about incidents of sexual misconduct. This reporting policy also assists USU with its efforts to prevent sexual misconduct and keep our campus community safe.

Under USU's sexual misconduct reporting policy, I am designated as a "reporting employee (<https://www.usu.edu/civilrights-titleix/reporting/reporting-employees>)." This means that if you share information with me about incidents of sexual misconduct (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/sexual-misconduct/Sexual-Misconduct-Terms.php>) (sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence, or sex-based stalking), including within a course assignment, , I *will report* that information to the USU Title IX Coordinator (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/sexual-misconduct/Title-IX-Coordinator.php>). I will also share with you information about designated confidential resources (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/sexual-misconduct/confidential-resources>), supportive measures (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/Supportive-Measures.php>), and how you can file a report (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/report.php>) with the USU Title IX Coordinator.

Self-disclosures about sexual misconduct that you experienced are not required for your course work.

Similarly, if you disclose thoughts of harm to self or a threat to others to me, including within a course assignment, I will report the information to the appropriate campus administrators. I will also share with you information about the mental health and wellness resources (<https://www.usu.edu/aggiwellness/caps/>) available to you.

Withdrawal Policy and "I" Grade Policy

Students are required to complete all courses for which they are registered by the end of the semester. In some cases, a student may be unable to complete all of the coursework because of extenuating circumstances, but not due to poor performance or to retain financial aid. The term 'extenuating' circumstances includes: (1) incapacitating illness which prevents a student from attending classes for a minimum period of two weeks, (2) a death in the immediate family, (3) financial responsibilities requiring a student to alter a work schedule to secure employment, (4) change in work schedule as required by an employer, or (5) other emergencies deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Students with Disabilities

USU welcomes students with disabilities. If you have, or suspect you may have, a physical, mental health, or learning disability that may require accommodations in this course, please contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) (<http://www.usu.edu/drc/>) as early in the semester as possible (University Inn # 101, (435) 797-2444, drc@usu.edu (<mailto:drc@usu.edu>)). All disability related accommodations must be approved by the DRC. Once approved, the DRC will coordinate with faculty to provide accommodations.

Students Who are Pregnant or Have a Pregnancy-Related Condition

If you need academic accommodations related to pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, recovery, or other pregnancy related conditions, please contact the Office of Equity as early as possible. All accommodations related to pregnancy must be approved by the Office of Equity. The Office of Equity will then coordinate with instructors to provide accommodations. The University will not exclude a student from participating in any part of an educational program based on the student's pregnancy or pregnancy related conditions.

Office of Equity: Distance Education, Room 400, Logan Campus, 435-797-1266, Office of Equity: Pregnancy and Pregnancy Related Conditions (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/pregnancy-accommodations>).

Inclusive Excellence

USU provides resources to help all students feel included as part of the campus and broader USU community. To learn more about the resources available and how to access them, visit the Student Affairs Office (<https://www.usu.edu/student-affairs/>).

Grievance Process

Students who feel they have been unfairly treated may file a grievance through the channels and procedures described in the Academic Grievances section of the Course Catalog (<https://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=39&navoid=30452>).

Full details for USU Academic Policies and Procedures

- Acceptable Use of University Computing Resources (<https://www.usu.edu/policies/550/>)
- Academic Policies and Practices (USU Catalog) (<https://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=39&navoid=29998>)
- Student Conduct (<http://www.usu.edu/studentconduct>)
- Student Code (<https://www.usu.edu/student-conduct/student-code/>)
- Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility Policy (<https://www.usu.edu/policies/403/>)

Emergency Procedures

In the case of a drill or real emergency, classes will be notified to evacuate the building via USU official communication channels. Those channels will be: an audible alarm, such as a fire alarm; an Aggie Alert notification; or notification by a USU representative. In the event of a disaster that does not permit enough time for notifications, evacuate as the situation dictates (i.e., when shaking ceases in an earthquake; immediately when a fire is discovered or in the event of other immediate life safety concerns). If it does not inhibit safety, turn off computers and take any personal items with you. Elevators should not be used; instead, use the closest stairs. See USU Emergency Management (<https://www.usu.edu/dps/emergency/>) for more information.

General Health Protocols

The cold, flu, COVID-19, and other illnesses can have an impact on the health of our university community. USU welcomes the wearing of masks in all university buildings and encourages taking measures to mitigate risk as recommended by federal and state public health officials: getting vaccinated, staying home if you are sick, and frequent hand washing.

Mental Health

Mental health is critically important for the success of USU students. As a student, you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. Utah State University provides free services for students to assist them with addressing these and other concerns. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus at Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) (<https://counseling.usu.edu>).

Students are also encouraged to download the “SafeUT App” (<https://safeut.org/>) to their smartphones. The SafeUT application is a 24/7 statewide crisis text and tip service that provides real-time crisis intervention to students through texting and a confidential tip program that can help anyone with emotional crises, bullying, relationship problems, mental health, or suicide related issues.