

Duren Thompson

Program Coordinator, Professional Development – Technology Integration & Online Learning
Center for Literacy, Education and Employment, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Education

- Currently enrolled* University of Tennessee, Knoxville (*est. graduation date May, 2016*)
MS in Education, Major in Instructional Technology - *Online Learning focus*
- Aug. 1997 University of Tennessee, Knoxville
MS in Education, Major in Special Education – *K-12 Classroom focus*
- Aug, 1988 University of Tennessee, Knoxville
BS in Business Administration, Major in General Business

Current Principal Job Title - Program Coordinator, Professional Development

Nov. 2000 – Present *Center for Literacy, Education and Employment, University of Tennessee, Knoxville*

As this Center is wholly contract and grant-funded, work responsibilities have varied widely due to assignments across dozens of education-related projects for adult literacy and K-12 professionals both statewide and nationally. Professional focus over the past 15 years includes effective internet-based instructional methods for professional development, design and implementation of effective educational accountability and evaluation tools and effective support for adults with learning disabilities.

Originally focused solely on technology-associated projects for the Division of Adult Education with the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, my valued experience and expertise is now spread across multiple state and federally focused projects. Current responsibilities focus on leading collaborative projects in design, implementation, and evaluation of online, blended and face-to-face professional development via a variety of learning management and software tools. Asked to regularly serve as content expert and trainer at both state and national levels on a wide variety of topics, both face-to-face and via interactive webinars. Additional duties include assistance in grant writing, integration of social media tools into program management and instruction, graphic design/layout and basic web page design.

Relevant Previous Employment

Aug. 1999 – **Instructor – Adult Education**

Oct. 2000 *Knox County Adult Education, Knoxville, TN*

Responsible for design and implementation of instruction for adult learners functioning at assessed grade levels of 2nd – 6th grade reading, writing and/or math skills. Designed and implemented a program-wide computer orientation curriculum for adult learners.

Jan. 1995 – **Educational Consultant – LRE for LIFE Project**

Jul. 1999 *University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN*

TDOE funded project focused on fostering K-12 systems change/school restructuring for the benefit of students with disabilities through the use of curricular and instructional best practices. Responsibilities included delivery of face to face presentations and intensive 2-3 day workshops to numerous local, state, and national audience as well as quantitative and qualitative research. Due to a personal focus on integration of computer technologies into instruction and project service delivery, also provided web site and database design and maintenance services.

Software Experience/Skills (on both Windows and Mac OS platforms)

- Highly Proficient: Adobe Connect & Acrobat, MS Office Standard, Moodle, 508 compliance
- Proficient: Adobe Photoshop & InDesign, BlackBoard, DreamWeaver, WordPress, Zoom
- Basic: Audacity, Captivate, Camtasia, Design2Learn, iMovie, MS SharePoint & Publisher

Duren Thompson

Program Coordinator, Professional Development – Technology Integration & Online Learning
Center for Literacy, Education and Employment, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Projects and Accomplishments

- **Instructional Designer – State Staff Leadership Excellence Academies (2015-present)**
Lead design of national online course system for state-level adult education staff; designed 3 credit graduate-level online course, blending synchronous and asynchronous activities in Moodle and Adobe Connect; provided training and support to novice online trainers and technical support to participants.
- **Face-to-Face and Online Training Developer – Federal LINCS Project (2011 – present)**
 - Face-to-Face & Webinar Trainings – Content expert, designer and presenter for the following 1-3 hour synchronous or blended trainings: *Evaluating the Flipped Learning Approach: Can it work for my adult learners?*, *Avoid the Talking Head: Creating Engaging Online Instructional Video*, *Using Blogs to Enhance & Extend Writing (and Reading!) Practice*, *Teaching the 'Millennial Generation'* and *Learning Disabilities: Quick and Dirty Tips for Busy Adult Educators*.
 - Online Course Design – Collaborated with subject matter experts to design 5 facilitated online courses for delivery over 3-6 weeks via Blackboard and Moodle on the topics such as assessment, instruction for adults with learning disabilities, contextualized learning, integrating social media into instruction, and English as a second language (ESL) instruction.
 - Online Course Conversion - Worked with articulate programmers as designer and subject matter expert to convert face-to-face trainings to three-hour self-paced interactive online modules on these topics: *Definition of Learning Disabilities*; *Self-Determination*; *Legal Issues*, *Self-Disclosure and Confidentiality*; *Workforce Preparation Strategies for Adults with Disabilities*.
- **Project Coordinator – Online Professional Development for Equipped for the Future (2008-2015)**
 - Design & tech support – collaborated with a variety of content experts to design and deliver three 6-week online facilitated courses and over a dozen 2 week facilitated mini-courses in math, reading, writing, and ESL topics. Courses piloted, then offered multiple times during this period.
- **Project Coordinator – Online Professional Development for TN AE practitioners (2001-2012)**
 - Content Expert, Designer and Instructor for these 6 week online courses in BlackBoard: *Intro to Learning Disabilities in Adult Learners (2004)*, *Distance Education for Adult Learners (2005)*, *Adult Education - Teaching Tools (2002)* and *Adult Education – Teacher & Student (2001)*.
 - Designer and Technical Support for four 6-week online courses in BlackBoard on ESL and workplace readiness topics (2004-2010). Courses offered multiple times during this period.
- **Project Leader – Research of Instructional Technology in Education (2008-2009)**
Research topic: *Enhancing Student Discussion Board Participation in Online Professional Development Courses* (use of synchronous tools, participant photos, and discussion board prompts).
- **Instructional Designer – OVAE/Community Partnerships for Adult Learning (2006)**
Collaborated as content expert and designer with a web designer to produce as set of five integrated self-directed learning modules: *Basics of Adult Education*.
- **Project Leader – Distance Education for Adult Learners in Tennessee (2002-2008)**
Research, design, and implementation of statewide training for AE practitioners in TN.
Author: *Guidelines for Instruction and Accountability in Distance Education for TN Adult Learners*

Design Examples: <https://durenthompson.wordpress.com/>

Professional Certifications

- Online Teaching and Learning Graduate Certificate, University of Tennessee (Dec 2016)
- Tennessee Teacher License endorsements: Elementary 1-8; SpEd Modified & Comp K-12