How will this course help me?

In response to the closing of PK-12 schools and universities across the country due to Covid-19, educators have been tasked with transitioning all instruction to online delivery. This immediate call to action has proven to be quite disruptive for those with little experience teaching in fully digital environments.

Designed for anyone who teaches online, EDUC 439/639: Designing Online Instruction will explore how educators can leverage digital tools to engage their students in instructional practices, such as think alouds, case-based instruction, and peer review. It will offer a simple framework to support lesson plan design, along with approaches to integrating evidence-based instructional practices with digital tools. Students can apply the course content to PK-16 classrooms across all subject areas.

How will I engage in this course?

- This online course gives students an opportunity to problem-solve, explore new technologies, and engage in self-initiated learning.
- Students participate using a reliable, high-speed Internet-connected computer and Canvas, a free, online course management tool.
- Course content will be delivered asynchronously without required meeting times. Students may work at their own pace throughout the week, but will submit work by designated due dates.
- The instructor will offer optional synchronous meetings using Zoom for students who would like to discuss content in real time.
- This 3-credit course will run from June 8–July 10, 2020 and costs $697 per credit.
- To register, visit the UD Professional and Continuing Studies website or email access-advise@udel.edu.

Who teaches this course?

Dr. Rachel Karchmer-Klein is an Associate Professor in the School of Education at the University of Delaware, where she teaches courses in literacy and educational technology at the undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral levels. She also coordinates the fully-online M.Ed. in Teacher Leadership and M.Ed in Literacy programs.

Dr. Karchmer-Klein’s research investigates relationships among literacy skills, digital tools, and teacher preparation, with particular emphasis on technology-rich instructional design. Her new book, Improving Online Teacher Education: Digital Tools and Evidence-Based Practices, guides educators in developing collaborative and interactive online experiences for teacher candidates.