ISTE Seal Review Findings Report

Teaching Channel's ELEVATE Continuing Education Courses

2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT

ABOUT ISTE

The International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) is home to a community of global educators and solution providers who are passionate about using technology to revolutionize learning. Our vision is to create a bold community where education innovators are supported in reimagining and redesigning learning with a focus on using technology to create transformational and equitable experiences for learners. We're making this vision a reality by delivering practical guidance, evidence-based professional learning, virtual networks, thought-provoking events and the ISTE Standards.

ISTE SEAL

The ISTE Seal serves as a mark of high-quality product design for solutions that enable and guide high-quality learning. By choosing to demonstrate their commitment to supporting best practices for teaching and learning, these products show a purposeful and meaningful dedication to practical usability, digital pedagogical implementation, and the ISTE Standards. With a focus on user experience, product usability, and the most essential elements of instructional technology today, the ISTE Seal provides a set of criteria and simple indicators to guide educators, students, and technology directors toward the very best products on the market.

ISTE awards a seal only after an extensive analysis conducted by trained ISTE reviewers that ensures a product meets all critical elements under specific review criteria.

By earning an ISTE Seal, ISTE verifies that this product:
- Promotes critical technology skills.
- Supports the use of technology in appropriate ways.
- Incorporates digital pedagogy and the learning sciences.
- Addresses key elements of tech usability, user experience and user interface.
- Aligns to ISTE Standards in specific ways.

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION

WHAT ARE *Teaching Channel's ELEVATE Continuing Education Courses*?

Teaching Channel partners with colleges and universities in an effort to provide the most relevant and applicable graduate-level continuing education courses for teachers. The online courses are self-paced and designed with classroom teachers in mind, offering modules with multimedia resources anchored in the latest research. Assignments are practical for busy teachers and flexible enough to apply to various grade levels and educational roles. Experienced course instructors provide personalized written feedback for each module submission. The course catalog offers a wide variety of topics like behavior supports, educator wellness, instructional strategies, ed tech integration, content area instruction (math/science/literacy), and many more.

HOW ARE *Teaching Channel's ELEVATE Continuing Education Courses* IMPLEMENTED?

The digital courses offer educators valuable insights into best practices, providing a platform for self-reflection and the exploration of new strategies and ideas through relevant assignments. These courses are designed to be self-paced and asynchronous, allowing participants to complete them at their convenience. Upon completion, participants can apply the earned graduate credits or hours towards license renewal and potential salary advancement.

ISTE SEAL REVIEW

Product: Teaching Channel's ELEVATE Continuing Education Courses
Product Type: Professional Development
Organization: Teaching Channel
Date of Award: April 2024

REVIEW METHODOLOGY

ISTE Seal reviews are conducted by a distinguished panel of experts in education, instruction, and technology. These experts utilize the most up-to-date data provided by the organization to conduct thorough evaluations of each solution. The evaluations focus on assessing the solution's performance in addressing specific elements outlined in the technical and pedagogical usability framework and the ISTE Standards.

To complete their rigorous evaluations, the reviewers utilize a comprehensive rating system, categorizing each solution as either "meets expectations" or "does not meet expectations." This assessment covers both the required and optional "Look Fors" outlined in the application. To ensure the validity and reliability of their results, the reviewers regularly engage in calibrations. Final review findings are then analyzed and combined, providing an overall score for alignment with each indicator.

At ISTE, we take great pride in our unwavering commitment to delivering results that schools and districts can have full confidence in. To be deemed education-ready learning solutions, products must meet the high standards in learning sciences, user experience and interface, accessibility, and content quality.

SCOPE OF REVIEW

Teaching Channel's ELEVATE Continuing Education Courses were reviewed against the technical, pedagogical usability framework and the ISTE Standards to determine whether **the solution is education-ready**. ISTE reviewers examined all evidence provided by the organization and interacted directly with the product.

REVIEW FINDINGS

ISTE STANDARDS: The ISTE Standards provide the competencies for learning, teaching, and leading in the digital age, providing a comprehensive roadmap for the effective use of technology in schools worldwide. Grounded in learning science research and based on practitioner experience, the ISTE Standards ensure that using technology for learning can create high-impact, sustainable, scalable, and equitable learning experiences for all learners.

Learner 2.1.b & 2.1.c
Pursue professional interests by creating and actively participating in local and global learning networks. Stay current with research that supports improved student learning outcomes, including findings from the learning sciences.

Designer 2.5.a, 2.5.b, & 2.5.c
Use technology to create, adapt and personalize learning experiences that foster independent learning and accommodate learner differences and needs. Design authentic learning activities that align with content area standards and use digital tools and resources to maximize active, deep learning. Explore and apply instructional design principles to create innovative digital learning environments that engage and support learning

Facilitator 2.6.d
Model and nurture creativity and creative expression to communicate ideas, knowledge or connections.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
- Participants can engage with others through discussion forums, virtual webinars, or synchronous virtual sessions. - In each course, educators read current literature in the field, reflect on it, and apply it in the classroom. - Educators develop personalized student assignments with collaborative tech tools, incorporating supports, scaffolds, and challenges to engage students with voice and choice. - Courses allow educators to explore student creation and collaboration tools, and how to align the lessons they create with content area standards in meaningful ways.	✓

- Courses include topics related to learning science, such as concepts related to cognitive load, neuroscience applied to education, multimedia learning theory, instructional design elements, and interactivity. - Educators learn to implement digital tools in the creative process embedded into assignments that foster exploration and creativity.	

DIMENSION 1: USER INTERFACE AND AGENCY

Definition: The design of the product interface and user experience helps the learner quickly and reliably achieve professional growth goals. This dimension includes features related to interface design, learnability, navigation, maximizing time on task, control over actions, and general usability.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
- A comprehensive educator user guide and detailed video aid platform and course onboarding. - The platform provides intuitive and consistent navigation. - Embedded filtering and search options allow educators to find course content quickly. - Through the Instructor Help menu, educators can fill out a form to request assistance, make phone calls, or chat via the website's live chat feature during business hours.	✔

DIMENSION 2: LEARNING DESIGN

Definition: The product has features that exhibit and promote the design and customization of learning episodes in ways that align with research-based best practices, including those rooted in the learning sciences.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME

• Participants reflect on prior experiences related to the course topic and establish professional learning goals. • Headings and subheadings provide organization within courses to chunk information, optimize retention, and minimize cognitive load. • Courses use concrete, real-life examples to demonstrate concepts and facilitate educators' learning and reflection. • The Professional Learning Model is grounded in self-reflection and self-assessment. Participants have multiple opportunities to reflect on the information presented before, during, and after learning.	✓

DIMENSION 3: DIGITAL ANDRAGOGY

Definition: The product is designed to support the development of professional digital learning capabilities, knowledge, and skills. This dimension focuses on how technology can help educators and coaches create the best possible learning experiences, including the social and learning affordances that digital professional development products uniquely offer.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
• Educators engage in activities where they create original solutions and plans to address real-world classroom challenges. They apply strategies learned in the courses to create lessons or modify existing plans that can be used in their classrooms right away. • The Resource Review assignment prompts participants to delve deeper into the course topic, curate relevant resources, evaluate the information provided, and describe how they will incorporate it into their future teaching practices.	✓

DIMENSION 4: INCLUSIVITY

Definition: The product helps coaches provide scenarios and real-world examples so that educators can provide relevant learning experiences for interactions with people from many cultures, backgrounds, and abilities. Also creates and supports learner motivation and agency in the learning process.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
- The course catalog includes topics that enable educators to reflect on various aspects of diversity, including gender, race, ethnicity, ability, orientation, and neurodiversity. - Activities encourage educators to reflect on their approaches and mindset, aiming to incorporate strategies that not only help students build empathy but also enable them to facilitate perspective-taking. - The program meets WCAG guidelines; closed captioning, audio, and speed control are available for video tutorials. - Select courses offer teachers opportunities to explore and enhance their awareness of equity, privilege, power, and oppression issues.	✓

DIMENSION 5: ASSESSMENT AND DATA

Definition: The product uses formative classroom observations, self-assessments, and/or educator data – informs learning experiences that help make visible what the educators know and don't yet know – to generate data that informs coaches and facilitators about teacher knowledge and skill gaps, and provide teacher assessment feedback that is specific, actionable, and constructive. As such, it guides coaches' instructional decisions and educators' learning journeys.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
Courses contain multiple choice progress checks in each module and open-ended assignments assessing learning goals.	✓

- Educators submit artifacts to demonstrate learning in various formats, such as text, video, audio, and presentation. - The platform provides automatic feedback on progress checks, and instructors offer personalized feedback through a private comment and/or directly on the rubric for assignments. - Customized reports for educators or facilitators can be generated from the Reports tab, providing assignment and course activity data.	

CONCLUSION

Teaching Channel's ELEVATE Continuing Education Courses offer a comprehensive course catalog for professional development designed to enhance educators' teaching practices. Each course is structured to facilitate reflective learning, encouraging participants to engage in self-assessment and goal-setting. The content is presented in various formats, including videos, text, infographics, and interactive presentations rooted in learning sciences, and created to enhance educator retention. Courses on the Teaching Channel emphasize practical application, with assignments like "Resource Review," requiring participants to curate resources, evaluate information, and describe how it will be integrated into their future teaching.

Educators navigating the platform are supported by a user guide that provides comprehensive assistance in efficiently managing courses. Educators can easily access modules and quickly find what they need through the intuitive learning management system.

Teaching Channel's ELEVATE Continuing Education Courses comply with WCAG accessibility guidelines, featuring closed captioning and audio controls for video tutorials. Educators are encouraged to widen their use of technology and integrate it into personalized assignments for their students. Educators explore innovative teaching approaches through digital platforms and interactive resources. Overall, ELEVATE Continuing Education Courses' interactive features, frequent feedback, and collaborative elements contribute to robust professional development comparable to graduate-level university courses.