



FGCU PREPARES STUDENTS FOR INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY CREDENTIAL

Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU), a regionally accredited, comprehensive state university, prepares students to excel and innovate in professional areas of strategic importance to Southwest Florida and beyond.

Through innovative partnerships with Charlotte County Public Schools (including Babcock Neighborhood School), Collier County Public Schools, Heartland Educational Consortium (serving DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, & Okeechobee counties), and the School District of Lee County, FGCU offers eligible graduate students a course that provides an overview of instructional technology for professionals in elementary and secondary schools; colleges, universities, and professional schools; local, state, and federal governments; educational support services; and libraries and museums. This course will familiarize students with the foundations of instructional technology and help them master the skills needed in this growing market. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, careers in instructional technology are expected to grow faster than the national average through the year 2029. The state of Florida is the fifth largest employer in the country for careers in this field.

This elective course is open to all ELIGIBLE graduate students and designed with industry competencies by FGCU faculty in collaboration with PK-12, higher education, and private industry professionals. The course's goal is to help students to demonstrate their mastery of foundational knowledge in instructional technology and earn a Digital Badge that confirms this level of skill.

EME 5053 - INTRO TO EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

This course provides an overview of media and technology integration in education.

Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of:

1. The history, ethical practice, and current trends of educational technology in professional fields.
2. Technology adoption and integration from various organizational perspectives.
3. Selection and evaluation of online resources.
4. Technologies to facilitate learning and/or enhance performance, including support for diverse learners.
5. Professional organizations, industry standards, and ongoing professional development opportunities in instructional technology.





HOW CAN YOU EARN A DIGITAL BADGE AT FGCU IN FOUNDATIONS OF INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY?

- 1. CONFIRM ELIGIBILITY.** You have already applied and been accepted to FGCU as either a graduate degree, graduate certificate, or graduate post-baccalaureate non-degree seeking student. Need assistance? Contact **Dr. Keiana Desmore**, kdesmore@fgcu.edu
- 2. REGISTER** for the fully online, 3-credit **EME 5053 Introduction to Educational Technology** course.
 - Master fundamental competencies in media and technology integration in education, applicable for careers in elementary and secondary schools; colleges, universities, and professional schools; local, state, and federal governments; educational support services; and libraries and museums.
- 3. (After completing the course) DEMONSTRATE** mastery of competencies through passing the required badge assessments (separate from the course grade) and **EARN** a digital badge in Foundations of Instructional Technology.

WHAT IS A DIGITAL BADGE?

- **Badge** is a term used to describe a wide range of digital credentials related to knowledge, skills, abilities, competencies, accomplishments, and experiences (*International Council for Open and Distance Education - ICDE, 2019*).
- **In today's job market**, employers are looking for direct and clear evidence of skills and competencies when selecting candidates to fill position vacancies. When candidates include digital credentials on their resume and application, this enables employers to quickly identify and examine verified skills and competencies to assist in more effectively hiring the right people into the right jobs.
- **According to LinkedIn**, individuals with digital credentials get viewed six times more often than those without during the job application. Digital badges are an innovative way for students to communicate with prospective employers separate from the traditional transcripts and resume.



DIGITAL BADGES HELP YOU:

- ▶ Stand out to employers
- ▶ Focus on workplace relevant competencies
- ▶ Showcase your achievements
- ▶ Build your personal brand
- ▶ Grow your professional network
- ▶ Target specific job opportunities
- ▶ Market yourself for potential jobs or advancements
- ▶ Build confidence in job interviews while talking about your digital badges

FOR MORE INFO :
Contact **Dr. Michele Stork** at mistork@fgcu.edu