"Connecting the Dots"

# My Applied Digital Learning Journey

Lamar University 8/2022-12/2023

In the Beginning… August 2022

I began the ADL program with excitement at taking on the challenge of completing a master's degree and having found an exciting program fit for my skill set and professional interests. However, I also had some fear of the unknown and stress about being back in school after many years. One idea that resonated early on with me was the concept that deep learning in this program is all about making connections, or as Harapnuik (2015) puts it, connecting rather than just collecting dots.

- ❏ Excitement
- ❏ Accomplishing a long-time goal
- ❏ Trepidation
- ❏ Unknown
- ❏ Different approach to learning
- ❏ Connecting v. Collecting dots
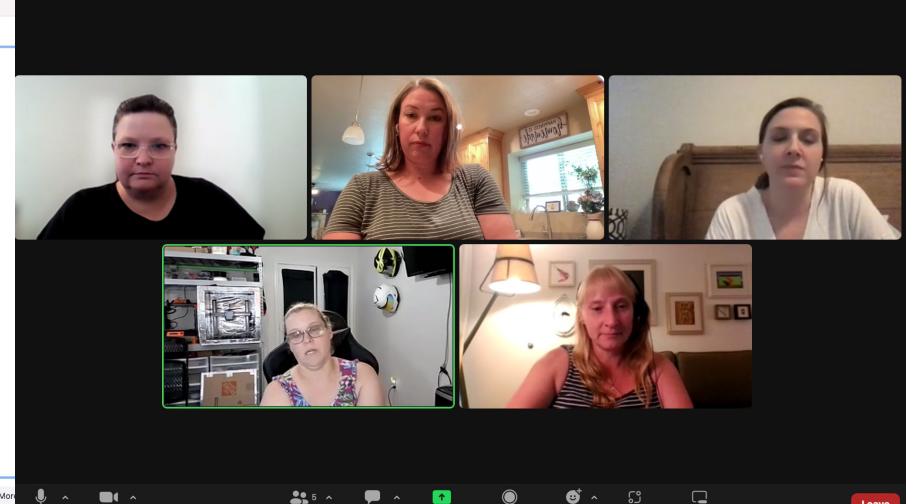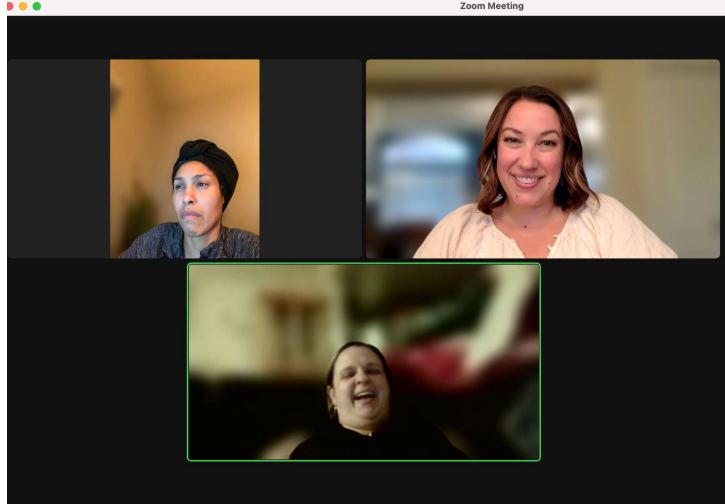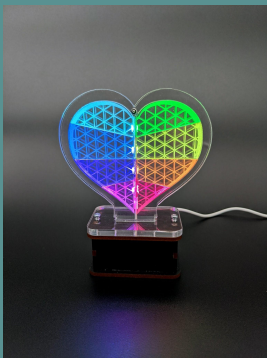
Collaboration Crew(s)
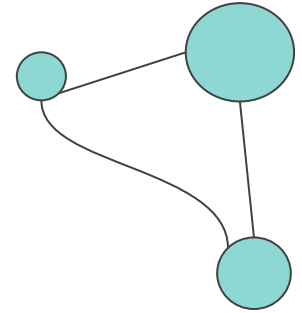
Collaboration Crew Part 1

- [Rebecca Rodgers](#)
- [Chantilly Sweet](#)
- [Shay McDonald](#)*

Collaboration Crew Part 2

- [Dawn Short](#)
- [Kelly Skillingberg](#)

*Note the overlap of Shay between Collaboration Crews.

GLOWS & GROWS

- ★ Learning *how* to learn
- ★ Leadership Skills
- ★ Feedforward / Failing Forward
- ★ Instructional Design

- ● Obstacles to Implementation
- ● Fixed Mindset Thinking
- ● Difficulty Asking for Help

Feelings Through the Process

My learning process has been a journey that evoked curiosity and led to a sense of accomplishment. As my understanding deepened I experienced 'ah-ha' moments of forging new connections to my experiences and perspectives. This has been a dynamic path involving challenges that required me to dig deep and sparked my determination, interspersed with clarity about how to apply concepts in the real world. Ultimately, the joy of learning through the ADL program came through not only the acquisition of knowledge but in the empowerment it brings.

Connecting the Dots
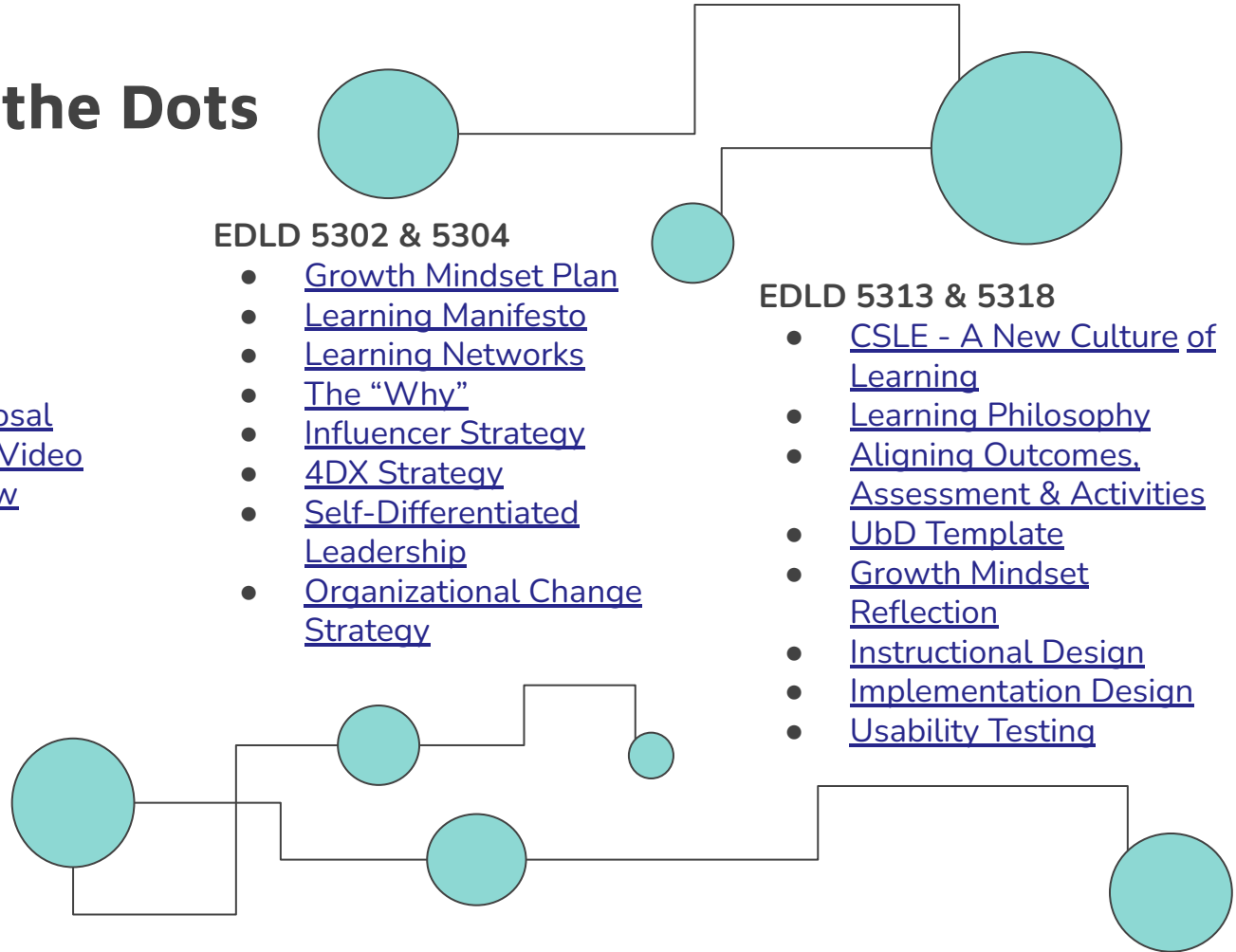## My ADL Creations

EDLD 5303 & 5305
- ePortfolio
- Blog
- Innovation Proposal
- Innovation Plan Video
- Literature Review
- Implementation Outline
- Innovation Plan
- Annotated Bibliography

EDLD 5302 & 5304
- Growth Mindset Plan
- Learning Manifesto
- Learning Networks
- The "Why"
- Influencer Strategy
- 4DX Strategy
- Self-Differentiated Leadership
- Organizational Change Strategy

EDLD 5313 & 5318
- CSLE - A New Culture of Learning
- Learning Philosophy
- Aligning Outcomes, Assessment & Activities
- UbD Template
- Growth Mindset Reflection
- Instructional Design
- Implementation Design
- Usability Testing

Connecting the Dots
My ADL Creations Continued

EDLD 5389 & 5315
- [Full PL Strategy](#)
- [Alternative PL - Call to Action](#)
- [Alternative PL Outline](#)
- [Action Research Measurement Strategy](#)
- [Action Research Outline](#)
- [Literature Review - Blended Learning](#)
- [Action Research Plan](#)

EDLD 5317 & 5320
- [Resources for Digital Environments](#)
- [Publication Outline](#)
- [Publication Rough Draft](#)
- [Publication Final Draft](#)
- [Publication Media Project](#)
- [COVA Reflection & Application](#)
- [Innovation Plan Update](#)
- [Applied Digital Learning Journey Synthesis](#)
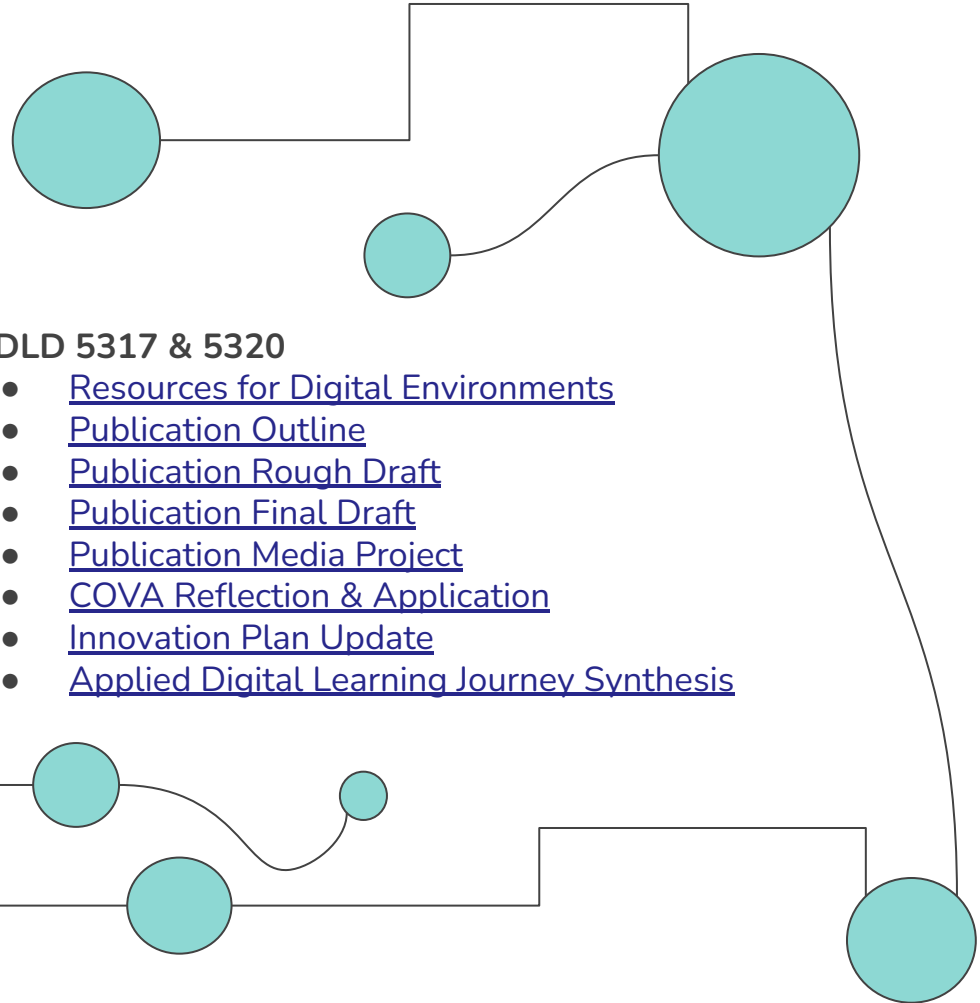
Self-Reflection - 'What' Model

What Worked?
➔ Growth Mindset
➔ Putting the Learning First
➔ Intentional Leadership
➔ Effective PL
➔ Learning Theories

What Could be Better?
➔ Confidence to share ideas
➔ Research methods and data analysis
➔ Mindfulness in all aspects of the learning environment
➔ Learning Networks

Lessons Learned

*Communication - How to manage Crucial Conversations
*Goal setting and how to plan to achieve goals
*Ongoing self-reflection and improvement
*CSLE + COVA and how to incorporate these ideas into adult learning

I have learned many lessons throughout the ADL program. The principal thing I'm taking away from this experience is the vision of how I want to show up as a learner and leader in all aspects of my life. Being a passionate, creative, self-aware leader who is a learner first will allow me to influence change in any organization. I also understand from experience the importance of creating significant learning environments for myself and others that provide choice, ownership and voice through authentic learning experiences.
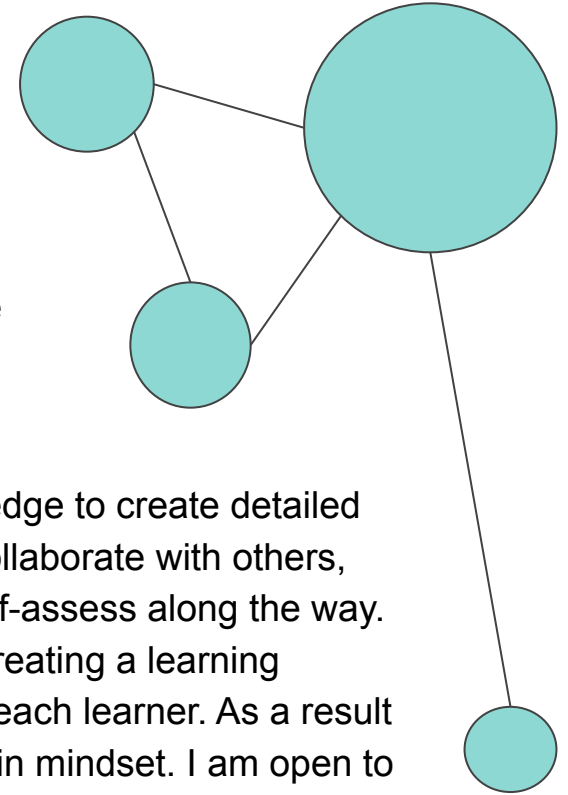
Where Am I Now?
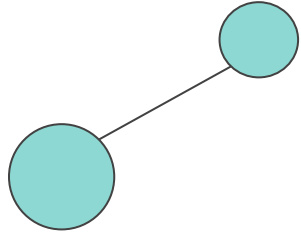
My innovation plan is fully developed and I am now looking at ways to adjust it or iterate further on the way it was implemented. I have confidence in my ability to influence thoughtful change in any organization to help meet big goals.

I have the tools and knowledge to create detailed plans and the wisdom to collaborate with others, accept feedforward and self-assess along the way. This will ensure that I am creating a learning environment that supports each learner. As a result of introspection and a shift in mindset. I am open to embarking on a lifetime of learning!

Where Am I Going?

Plans for the Future

Christopher Bennett Photography

Learn

I'm on a path of lifelong learning. In fact, I am already enrolled in additional certification courses. I will continue to reflect on my work and make adjustments as needed. I will share what I learn and my learning process through my ePortfolio and other publishing opportunities.

Innovate

As my organization is restructuring, I have an opportunity to expand my role. During this time of flux I will be looking for areas for innovation within my organization and beyond.

Collaborate

I understand the tremendous value of working closely with others. I will collaborate to ensure that ideas are fully formed, refined and the best they can be. Collaboration pushes me to do my best work.

Created by Shannon Bowles

References

Harapnuik, D. (2015, May 15). *Making meaningful connections in an eportfolio.* Harapnuik.org. Retrieved December 6, 2023 from https://www.harapnuik.org/?p=5790