

# Trends in the Instructional Design and Delivery in the Online Environment: A Case Study

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**Abstract:** Four graduate-level online courses delivered by the same instructor over a 14-semester time period were analyzed to determine how available resources in the course management system were used to support instructional events and strategies and how the instructor modified the courses over time. The instructor, an expert user, has significant experience in the field of instructional technology and in the design and delivery of online courses. Several course elements were analyzed including course statistics, content structure, levels of use of resources, course requirements, and participant interaction. In addition, student course evaluations were analyzed to ascertain levels of student satisfaction with the courses and instructor. A semi-structured interview was conducted with the instructor to determine his rationale for implementing modifications. Results reveal that minor changes were implemented from one semester to the next; however, several important trends emerged in the examination over time.