Excellence Meets Efficiency

HIDOC with an AI Boost

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QM CONNECT 2025

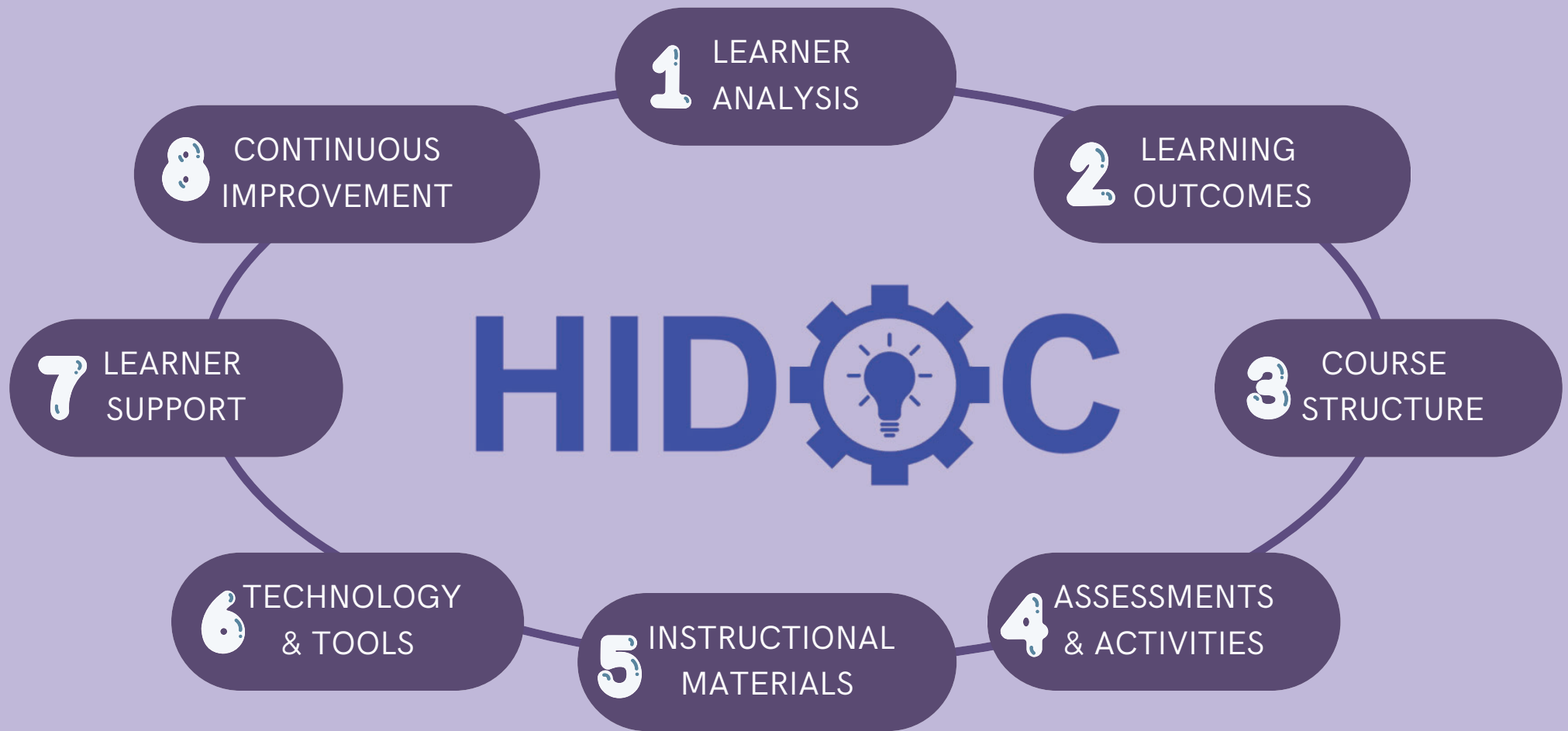# What is HIDOC?

Award-Winning Framework
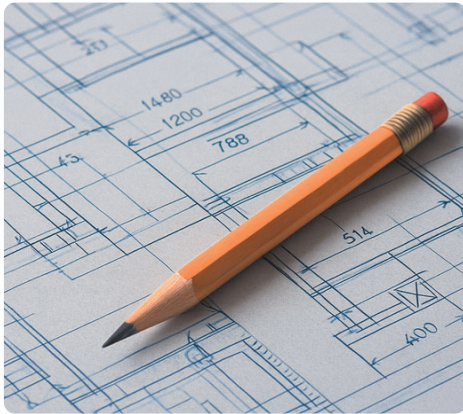
High-Quality Online Courses

Eight Essential Steps

UPCEA
Phillip E. Frandson
Award for Literature
2025

ALA
Choice Outstanding
Academic Titles
Award
2024

Bethany Simunich
Andrea Gregg
Penny Ralston-Berg

HIGH-IMPACT DESIGN FOR ONLINE COURSES

**Blueprinting
Quality Digital Learning
in Eight Practical Steps**

HIDOC

Use code 25EFLY4 Save 20%

HIDOC

1. LEARNER ANALYSIS
2. LEARNING OUTCOMES
3. COURSE STRUCTURE
4. ASSESSMENTS & ACTIVITIES
5. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS
6. TECHNOLOGY & TOOLS
7. LEARNER SUPPORT
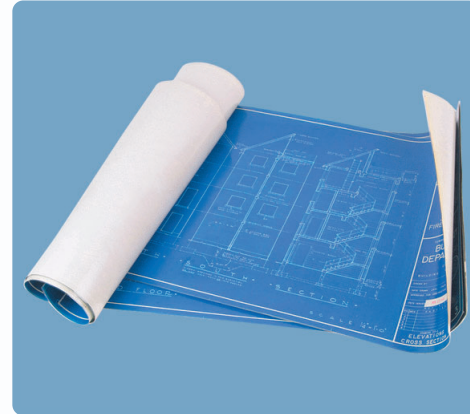8. CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

FREE COMPANION DOCUMENTS

HIDOCMODEL.COM

DESIGN DOCUMENTS

Thought docs with Prompts & Ideas

COURSE BLUEPRINT

An Alignment Map/Course Map
Next Step: LMS Development

Boosting
HIDOC with AI

HIDOC defines the intent.
AI accelerates the execution.

The HIDOC steps, not the AI, drive the
process. We don't ask AI to "write the
course" or "do the design." Instead, begin
with intention and context.

PLEASE DON'T PUT THE HIDOC
BOOK INTO AN AI TOOL!

The Five-Stage AI Workflow

Review HIDOC

Revisit the intent of each HIDOC step to clarify its purpose within the overall design. This focus ensures your AI prompts stay aligned with each step's context and your desired output.

Gather Reference

Gather materials, examples, and ideas to inform AI. Define key questions or challenges for AI to explore. A rich reference will lead to more focused and useful AI results.

Prompt AI

Craft precise and focused prompts that correspond to the purpose of each step, the references you have collected, and the output you aim to achieve.

Vet Results

AI-generated content should never be taken at face value. Verify its accuracy and ensure it aligns with your desired outputs by assessing essential factors such as purpose, evidence, tone, and feasibility.
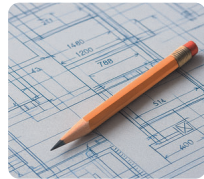
Decide How to Proceed

Pause to consider the quality and effectiveness of your AI outputs. Decide whether to retain, refine, or re-prompt, and take note of what was successful or fell short. This reflective practice fosters ongoing improvement and purposeful design.
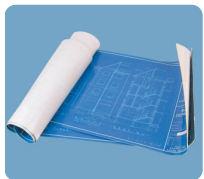
Excellence Meets Efficiency

HIDOC

Design Documents

Course Blueprint

REVIEW

GATHER

PROMPT

VET

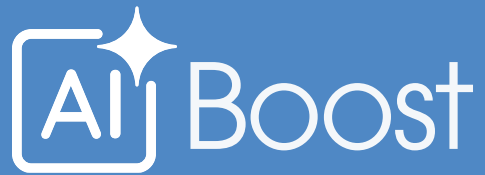DECIDE

AI

Step 1: Learner Analysis

Review

Consider your learners holistically, including the knowledge, competencies, and misconceptions they will (likely) bring to the course. This is an essential first step that focuses your design, from the start, on your anticipated learners.

Gather Reference

1. Who typically takes your course?
2. What knowledge and experience do learners typically bring into the course?
3. What misconceptions or preconceived notions do learners have or are likely to have about the course?

AI Boost

Prompt

Given these learner traits and barriers: (paste bulleted notes), list 5 missing considerations and draft 2 persona cards (goals, pain points, support needs). Keep each persona ≤100 words.

Vet Results

Can this claim be supported by research, data, or observation? If not, treat it as a brainstorm, not a fact.

Decide

- Retain
- Refine
- Re-prompt
- Confirm & document
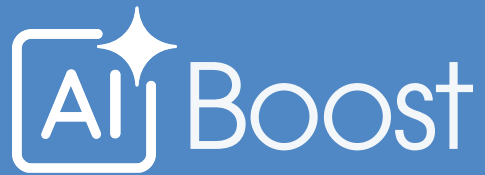
Step 2: Learning Outcomes

Review

Write clear and observable or measurable learning outcomes that represent the major skills and abilities learners should be able to demonstrate when they complete your course.

Gather Reference

1. What do you want your students to know or understand by the end of the course?
2. What should they be able to do, and/or what new skills should they have?
3. What actionable verbs or taxonomies will you use to convey those desired outcomes to learners?

AI Boost

Prompt

Rewrite these outcomes to be measurable at (Bloom's level), each ≤18 words, starting with action verbs. Ensure assessment alignment with (notes on context).

Vet Results

- Can you see or assess the behavior in a learner product or performance?
- Does the verb reflect the desired depth of learning?

Decide

- Retain
- Refine
- Re-prompt
- Confirm & document
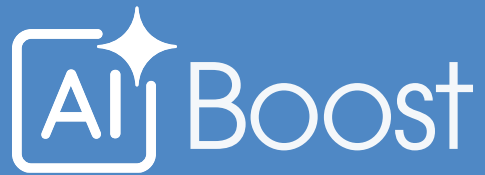
Step 3: Course Structure

Review

Determine the macro-level view of how your course will be organized and when different topics will be covered. Organize your course into discrete, aligned learning modules (a.k.a. units or lessons) to sequence learning.

Gather Reference

1. Brainstorm your learning path. Think through the learning path you will create.
2. What will students need to learn and do first?
3. What topics will then build on their new knowledge and skills?

AI Boost

Prompt

Cluster these outcomes into 6 modules, each with a clear throughline and 3 subtopics. Provide a one-sentence module rationale for each. Respect a 7-week term.

Vet Results

- Does each module build naturally on the one before it?
- Does every module connect clearly to course outcomes?

Decide

- Retain
- Refine
- Re-prompt
- Confirm & document