

GLOBALLY RECOGNIZED · ABICB ACCREDITED · ANSI MEMBER

Certified Instructional Designer (CISD)

Become a Globally Recognized Instructional Designer

Earn the CISD credential — gain the skills to design effective learning experiences, instructional strategies, and modern, AI-powered e-learning solutions that drive real workplace performance.



4.8/5 Reviews.io (96%) · **4.4/5** Trustpilot · 250,000+ certified

Enroll at gsdcouncil.org/certified-instructional-designer

Global Skill Development Council · US · Singapore · Switzerland

Why This Certification, Why Now

Organizations are investing heavily in digital learning — and reward instructional designers who can turn business needs into measurable learning outcomes.



Digital learning is exploding

E-learning, blended, and self-paced programs need skilled designers who understand how people learn.



AI is reshaping instructional design

AI-powered content creation, assessment, and personalization are changing how courses are built.



Design must drive performance

Leaders expect learning tied to real workplace performance — not just completed courses.



Tools & standards keep evolving

Articulate 360, iSpring, accessibility, and modern authoring are now baseline ID expectations.

FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE

What You'll Be Able to Do



Build a strong foundation in instructional design principles, learning theories, and models (ADDIE, SAM, Bloom's)



Analyze learner needs, identify performance gaps, and design effective learning solutions



Develop expertise in curriculum design, eLearning development, assessments, and learner engagement



Gain hands-on experience with industry-leading tools like Articulate 360, iSpring Suite, and PowerPoint



Apply AI to content creation, assessments, personalized learning, and course development



Build practical skills through real-world projects with GSDC's Learn by Doing approach

Career-Ready

Prepare for roles as Instructional Designer, Learning Experience Designer, eLearning Developer, and L&D Specialist — plus a free Job Support program

Why GSDC

**Trustpilot**

Rated 4.4 / 5 · Excellent

**REVIEWS.io**

4.8 / 5 · 96% recommend GSDC

250,000+

professionals certified

500+

Fortune clients

190+

countries served

Since 2016

US · SG · Switzerland



Independent, vendor-neutral certification body established in 2016 — offices in the US, Singapore, and Switzerland.



Accredited by ABICB (Accreditation Board for International Certification Bodies) and a proud member of ANSI.



Alumni work at 500+ Fortune companies across 190+ countries; 100+ Authorized Training Partners worldwide.

RECOMMENDED BY

Forbes · Indeed · TechTarget · CareerSidekick · LeanIX · People Managing People · Authentic

**ABICB
Accredited****ANSI
Member****Vendor-
neutral**

Read verified reviews: trustpilot.com/review/gsdccouncil.org · reviews.io

Our Global Clients

Professionals across technology, manufacturing, automobile, healthcare, energy, and BFSI hold GSDC certifications.



REAL ALUMNI VOICES

What Certified Professionals Say

“

The ADDIE and SAM frameworks finally clicked — I now design courses with real learner outcomes in mind.

Learning Professional

Certified Instructional Designer

“

The AI-for-ID module and hands-on tool practice were the highlight — immediately useful at work.

eLearning Developer

Certified Instructional Designer

“

The live sessions and 1-on-1 SME connects made all the difference in building my portfolio.

L&D Specialist

Certified Instructional Designer

See our verified reviews on [Trustpilot](#) & [reviews.io](#) · Alumni at Microsoft · IBM · TCS · Infosys · Deloitte

Learn from Experts

Learn from experienced practitioners and industry leaders who bring real-world instructional design and L&D expertise and practical insights to the program.



Vaclav Koranda

T-SYSTEMS

VP, Human Resources



Naomi Glover

NEURO-INFORMED LTD

Director, Applied Neuroscience



Ecaterina-Irina Manole

LIFEEXPRESS

Chief Executive Officer



Charity McDonald

CRWN INSTITUTE

Leadership Consultant & Author



Cyril Gabriel

ACADEMY XI

Chief Executive Officer



Kacie Walls

COALITION, INC.

L&D Lead / Head



Hayley Brackley

GREAT MINDS DON'T

Neurodiversity Coach & Trainer



Leela VenkataSatish Kolla

LTIMINDTREE

Director, Program & Project Mgmt



Ezinne Eke Aso

HSB GLOBAL

Lead Consultant

Additional faculty: Marcela Lendvaiova (AT&T, Sr. Lead Training & Development Manager) · Deepak Sharma (HR, L&D & Career Consultant) · Gray Harriman (Pravy.ai, Chief Product Officer). GSDC Studio runs 100+ live expert sessions monthly.

What You'll Learn

24+ hours across the full instructional design lifecycle, with modern AI and authoring tools built into the content. Each module pairs videos and e-books with templates, tool-based activities, and Learn-By-Doing projects.

1

The Instructional Designer in Real-World Contexts

9

AI for Modern Instructional Design

2

How Adults Learn at Work

10

Assessment, Evidence, and Validation

3

Instructional Design Models Applied

11

Designing Accessible & Inclusive Instruction

4

Defining the Instructional Problem

12

Collaboration, Review & Project Management

5

Writing Objectives That Drive Design

13

Tools for Instructional Development

6

Structuring the Learning Experience

14

Instructional Design Trends

7

Designing Multimedia Instruction

15

Personalized 1-on-1 Trainer Session

8

Designing Practice & Scenarios for Performance**Capstone Project — Applied Instructional Design**

Module-by-Module

Module 1 — The Instructional Designer in Real-World Contexts

- The evolving role of the Instructional Designer in organizations
- Boundaries & collaboration between IDs, SMEs, trainers & stakeholders
- End-to-end instructional design lifecycle in live projects
- Instructional decision-making under time, budget & stakeholder constraints
- Quality benchmarks & professional standards in instructional design

Module 2 — How Adults Learn at Work

- Adult learning characteristics in organizational settings
- Cognitive load, attention & information processing
- Memory, retention & transfer of learning to performance
- Motivation and engagement from an instructional perspective
- Common learning-science myths & misapplications

Module 3 — Instructional Design Models Applied

- ADDIE as a practical instructional workflow
- Iterative, agile & rapid design approaches
- Backward design for outcome-driven instruction
- Aligning instructional intent with expected performance
- Selecting and adapting models based on project context

Module 4 — Defining the Instructional Problem

- Differentiating instructional problems from performance problems
- Task analysis and workflow analysis techniques
- Content analysis, prioritization & scope control
- Learner, environment & context analysis
- Writing clear instructional problem statements

Module 5 — Writing Objectives That Drive Design

- Characteristics of strong, measurable learning objectives
- Defining objectives based on observable workplace performance
- Aligning objectives with instruction and assessment
- Identifying weak, vague, or misaligned objectives
- Validating objectives with stakeholders & business goals

Module 6 — Structuring the Learning Experience

- Instructional sequencing & learning flow strategies
- Chunking, scaffolding & progressive complexity
- Designing self-paced digital learning
- Designing facilitated & blended learning experiences
- Creating instructional blueprints & storyboards

Module-by-Module

Module 7 — Designing Multimedia Instruction That Supports Learning

- Multimedia learning principles & evidence-based design
- Visual design for instructional clarity and focus
- Using audio and video purposefully in instruction
- Designing meaningful learner interactions
- Preventing cognitive overload in multimedia learning

Module 8 — Designing Practice & Scenarios for Workplace Performance

- Translating real workplace challenges into practice activities
- Designing decision-based scenarios with real consequences
- Adapting scenario frameworks across industry contexts
- Progressive practice from supported to independent performance
- Evaluating practice effectiveness based on job readiness

Module 9 — AI for Modern Instructional Design

- AI in instructional design & AI-powered learning needs analysis
- Generative AI for course creation & AI-assisted assessment design
- Personalized learning with AI & AI tools for eLearning development
- Responsible AI in Learning & Development
- The future of AI-driven instructional design

Module 10 — Assessment, Evidence, and Validation

- Knowledge checks versus performance-based assessments
- Writing effective assessment items
- Designing scenario-based & applied assessments
- Feedback strategies that support learning transfer
- Validating assessment quality & instructional alignment

Module 11 — Designing Accessible and Inclusive Instruction

- Accessibility principles in instructional design
- Universal Design for Learning (UDL)
- Designing accessible instructional content
- Accessible multimedia & interactive elements
- Addressing common accessibility challenges

Module-by-Module

Module 12 — Collaboration, Review, and Project Management

- Extracting instructional insight from subject matter experts
- Managing content overload and scope creep
- Handling conflicting stakeholder feedback
- Communicating instructional decisions with clarity & confidence
- Preserving instructional integrity during reviews

Module 13 — Tools for Instructional Development

- Translating instructional design into digital formats
- Authoring tools overview & selection criteria
- Developing interactive learning materials
- Designing assessments & interactions within tools
- Hands-on with Articulate 360, iSpring Suite & PowerPoint

Module 14 — Instructional Design Trends

- AI-assisted instructional design
- Adaptive and personalized learning experiences
- Microlearning from an instructional strategy lens
- Scenario-rich & performance-centered design approaches
- Future skills & career pathways for instructional designers

Module 15 — Personalized 1-on-1 Trainer Session

- Customized training session tailored to your goals
- Ongoing access to relevant topics & lifelong support
- Personal guidance from an experienced instructional design mentor

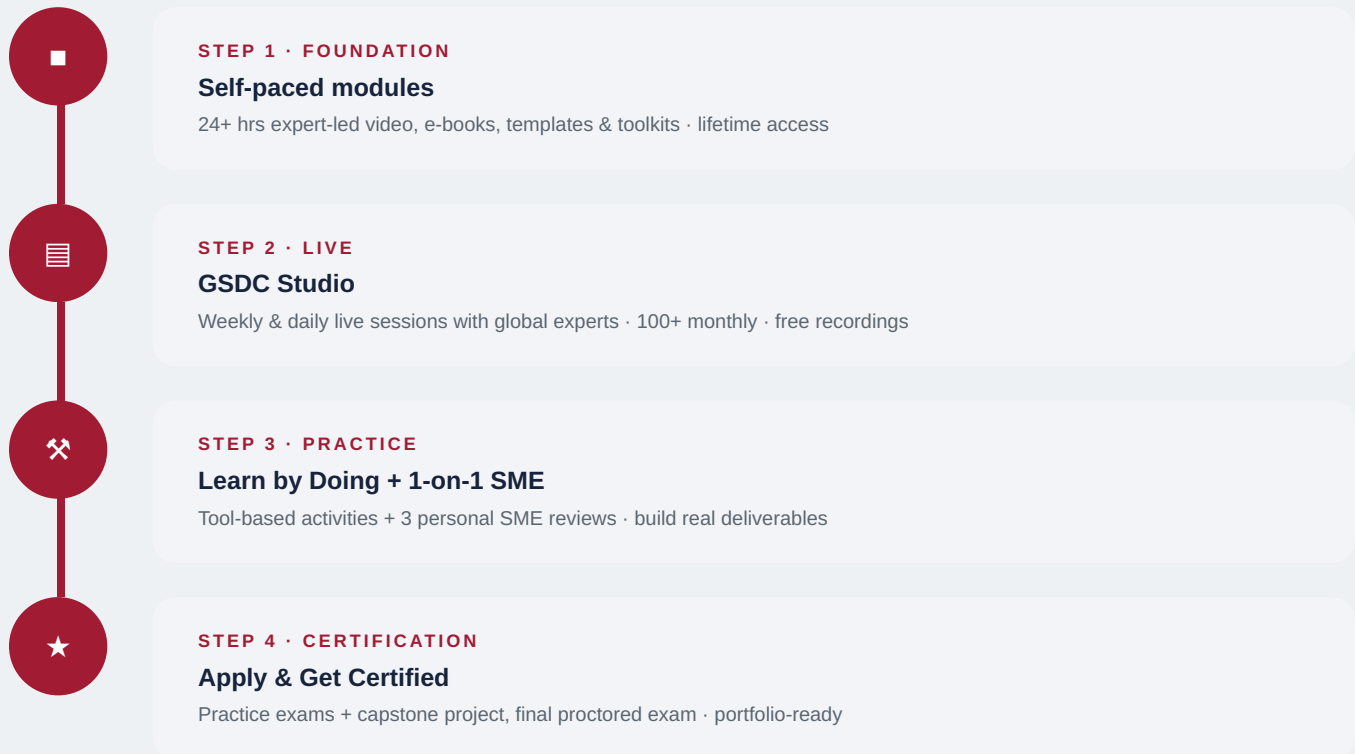


Capstone Project · Applied Instructional Design

Design and develop a complete learning solution — from needs analysis and objectives to storyboard, build, and assessment — applying AI tools and modern authoring. SME-reviewed, portfolio-ready. Plus 1-on-1 & daily expert sessions.

A Guided Path to Certification

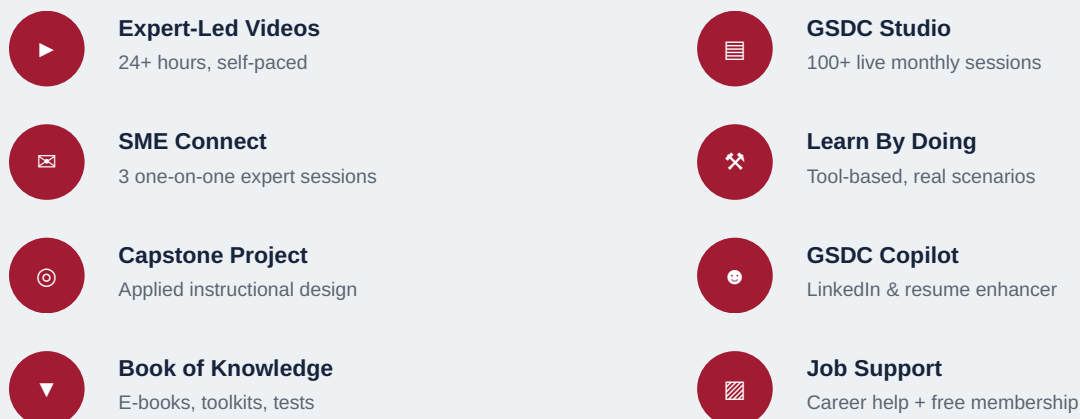
Self-paced study, daily live sessions, personal mentoring, and hands-on practice — finish at your own pace.



Move at your own pace. Study self-paced with lifetime access to all materials, live sessions, and recordings.

ALL IN ONE ENROLLMENT

Everything Included



Exam & What to Expect

This is a **certification**, not a **course**. Study self-paced with the materials provided (plus live support), then sit the exam. Lifetime access to materials.

40

Questions

MCQ

Format

65%

Pass score

90 min

Duration

English

Language

5 yrs

Validity

Yes

Free retake

2

Practice exams

IS THIS FOR YOU?

Who Is This Certification For?

Your Current Role	How CISD Helps You	Career Outcome →
Learning Professional	Build a structured foundation in instructional design models & practice.	Instructional Designer
Trainer / Facilitator	Move from delivery to designing effective, outcome-driven learning.	Learning Experience Designer
E-Learning Developer	Add instructional strategy, AI tools & assessment design.	Senior eLearning Developer
Curriculum Developer	Strengthen analysis, objectives, and validation skills.	Curriculum Specialist
HR / Talent Development	Design workplace learning that improves real performance.	Talent Development Specialist
Instructional Coordinator	Manage design projects, SMEs, reviews & tools end-to-end.	Instructional Design Lead

No prior experience required. There is no recommended experience needed to earn this certification.

Choose Your Plan

Single Access

1

CERTIFICATION

One globally recognized credential

- Self-paced expert-led videos + Book of Knowledge
- 3 SME Connect (1-on-1) sessions
- Capstone + Job Support + membership (\$109 free)
- Exam + 1 free retake & practice

Bundle Access

MOST POPULAR

3

CERTIFICATIONS

Best value — pick any 3

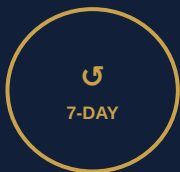
- Everything in Single, across 3 certs
- Unlimited SME Connect (1-on-1)
- Exam + 2 free retakes & practice
- Most-chosen by serious learners

Also available: GSDC for Business — customized team learning journeys, dedicated support, progress tracking, and scalable programs for teams of any size.



UPSKILL10

Use code for an **extra 10% OFF** — limited to 72 hours. Region-specific pricing shown at enrollment · Teams? Ask about GSDC for Business.



7-Day Money-Back Guarantee

Enroll with zero risk — if within 7 days you feel you haven't gained the skills you're looking for, we offer a full 100% money-back guarantee. Includes a complimentary exam retake and lifetime access.

 **Chat on WhatsApp**

 **Book a 10-min advisor call**

Enroll now → gsdcouncil.org/certified-instructional-designer