

Nathanial Hilliard

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Profile

I am an instructional design professional specializing in the field of agricultural extension education. I serve youth, adult, and professional audiences, delivering engaging online educational and training experiences. With a background in science, agriculture, engineering, and education, I bring an array of novel insights and experiences to my design work, drawing on a strong knowledgebase to support a variety of programs and topic areas. I also enjoy leveraging the advanced capabilities of eLearning tools, such as Articulate Storyline, combined with other relevant technologies to provide custom solutions to innovative instructional needs.

Work Experience

Purdue University

📅 10/2005 – Current 📍 WEST LAFAYETTE, IN, UNITED STATES

Instructional Designer

Purdue University Cooperative Extension Services, College of Agriculture

📅 09/2022 – Current 📍 WEST LAFAYETTE, IN, UNITED STATES

- Collaborate with Extension faculty and staff to develop instructional assets and modules to support digital learning for youth and adult audiences.
- Responsible for all aspects of design and development including curriculum assessment, storyboarding, content development, media and graphic design, narrative scripting, coding support for interactive elements, and learning module production.
- Develop and conduct professional development presentations for extension staff.

Instructional Design Internship

Purdue University Center for Intercultural Learning, Mentorship, Assessment and Research

📅 06/2021 – 01/2022 📍 WEST LAFAYETTE, IN, UNITED STATES

- Researched, designed, and implemented an eLearning module to improve intercultural understanding, learner perceptions about multicultural views of science, and alternative ways of knowing about the natural world.
- Worked closely with intercultural subject matter experts to ensure coordination and satisfaction of program requirements.
- Storyboarded design concepts and key content.
- Implemented design in Articulate Storyline.

Staff Teaching Assistant

Purdue University Department of Forestry & Natural Resources

📅 06/2011 – 05/2021 📍 WEST LAFAYETTE, IN, UNITED STATES

- Designed and implemented laboratory component of field-based forestry course.
- Worked with faculty to identify and update course objectives based upon prior iterations.
- Aligned experiential learning activities with course objectives.
- Identified and established field sites based upon available resources.
- Delivered in-person instruction for a mixture of field and classroom components.
- Developed laboratory exercises, handouts, learner aids, and supplemental eLearning modules to support course topics.
- Managed and provided feedback for grading of field labs, homework, and quizzes, etc.

Research Laboratory Manager

Purdue University Department of Forestry & Natural Resources

📅 10/2005 – 06/2022 📍 WEST LAFAYETTE, IN, UNITED STATES

- Managed individual and multi-faculty research laboratory facilities.
- Ensured maintenance and operation of research equipment.
- Developed and delivered training and technical protocols for experimental analysis, equipment operation, and safety compliance.
- Created and maintained job aids for students and staff.
- Consulted with students, staff, and faculty regarding research needs and problem solving or troubleshooting issues.
- Developed software and hardware solutions to support research activities.
- Chaired departmental safety and greenhouse management committees.
- Collaborated with management peers to share knowledge and solve emergent problems.

Coordinator of Departmental Mail Operations

Purdue University Department of Forestry & Natural Resources

📅 01/2008 – 01/2013 📍 WEST LAFAYETTE, IN, UNITED STATES

- Managed the mail operations for my home and surrounding departments, interfacing with the larger campus mail services.
- Hired and supervised undergraduate staff to receive and distribute incoming and outgoing mail and packages.
- Worked with faculty and staff across university departments to determine user needs and operational best-practices.
- Developed and implemented training, job-aides, and technical tools to support and guide operations.
- Achieved efficient services with high customer satisfaction and very low incidence of loss or delay.

Education

Learning Design & Technology | Master of Education

Purdue University

📅 08/2020 – 05/2023 📍 WEST LAFAYETTE, IN, UNITED STATES

Environmental Engineering | Master of Science

Purdue University

📅 08/2014 – 05/2016 📍 WEST LAFAYETTE, IN, UNITED STATES

Biology/Ecology | Bachelor of Science

Purdue University

📅 08/1989 – 05/1993 📍 WEST LAFAYETTE, IN, UNITED STATES

Publications

Fiock, H., Meech, S., Yang, M., Long, Y., Farmer, T., Hilliard, N., Koehler, A., & Cheng, Z. (2022). Instructional design learners make sense of theory: A collaborative autoethnography. *Educational Technology Research and Development*, 1-27. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11423-021-10075-8>

Invited Presentations

Hilliard, N. (2025, June). *JavaScript for the rest of us: The basics of JavaScript in Storyline 360* [Webinar]. Articulate E-learning Heroes. <https://community.articulate.com/>

Hilliard, N. (2025, July). *JavaScript for the rest of us: Stepping up to intermediate JavaScript in Storyline 360* [Webinar]. Articulate E-learning Heroes. <https://community.articulate.com/>

Hilliard, N. (2025, August). *JavaScript for the rest of us: Getting creative with advanced JavaScript in Storyline 360* [Webinar]. Articulate E-learning Heroes. <https://community.articulate.com/>

Skills

INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN TOOLS

Articulate Storyline



Articulate Rise



Adobe Illustrator



Adobe Acrobat



Cartoon Animator



Topaz Labs Studio



Adobe Premiere



Microsoft Office



Krita



Davinci Resolve



Blender



Captioning Tools



Three.js



JavaScript



HTML/CSS



Storyboarding



LMS PLATFORMS

Blackboard Learn



Brightspace D2L



Moodle



SOFT SKILLS

Time Management



Communication



Writing



Research



Awards

10/2023

Independent Applying the QM Rubric (APPQMR) Quality Matters

<https://dev-marketing.qualitymatters.org/professional-development/workshops/higher-ed-appqmr>

Skills to recognize the foundational concepts of Quality Matters, identify the critical elements of the QM quality assurance program, apply the QM Rubric to review online courses, make decisions on whether a course meets selected QM Rubric Standards, apply the concept of alignment, and draft helpful recommendations for course improvement by citing annotations from the QM Rubric and evidence from the course.

10/2021

Certificate in Foundations of College Teaching Purdue University

<https://paedagogus.org/nch/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/cert.png>

An exploration of evidence-based teaching practices and strategies including making learning accessible, assessing student learning, supporting a learner-centered environment, and applying the science of teaching and learning.

12/2014

Project Wet & Wild Educator Workshop Certificate Indiana Department of Natural Resources

<https://paedagogus.org/nch/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/ProjectWet.png>

A water education professional development program for teachers providing exposure to water resource management practices, related scientific information, and teaching techniques for problem solving.