Patricia Vanderbilt

https://www.linkedin.com/in/patricia-vanderbilt/ | patriciavanderbilt.com

Creative and impact-driven educator with 15+ years of experience designing inclusive, engaging, and data-informed learning experiences. Skilled in instructional design, adult learning theory, and performance-based curriculum development. Proven ability to lead learning product design from concept to launch. Deep experience collaborating with technical SMEs and cross-functional teams.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Lead Educational Product Designer, Western Governors University | Seattle, WA | AUGUST 2022 - PRESENT

- Designed learning products using cognitive science and adult learning principles; products serve thousands nationwide.
- Engaged with SMEs to design programs and courses in diverse fields including nursing, accounting, management, and education. Designed curricula to develop competence in industry-specific applications of AI.
- Served as interim team manager; developed and implemented training initiatives to double team capacity.
- Applied generative AI to scale learning program design and reduce development time.
- Managed portfolio of 50+ K-12 educator preparatory programs aligned with career progression frameworks. Post launch data shows 10-50% increases in course completion across the portfolio.
- Managed cross-functional project teams to develop engaging learning content, including interactive simulation-based training.
- Applied UX and learning science principles to ensure memorable, accessible experiences for learners across platforms.
- Conducted learning needs analyses to align content to real-world performance requirements.

Senior Program Producer, Western Governors University | Seattle, WA | DECEMBER 2020 - AUGUST 2022

- Developed modular, stackable learning experiences in emerging healthcare areas to meet evolving workforce demands.
- Managed instructional designers, media developers, and third-party vendors to produce engaging, high-quality content.
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams to identify learning gaps and lead instructional design initiatives from concept to launch.

Curriculum and Assessment Specialist, Harvard Graduate School of Education|Cambridge, MA | JULY 2019 - NOVEMBER 2020

- Created storyboards, syllabi, video scripts, readings, and assessments for global educator professional development programs.
- Led program evaluations; analyzed learner feedback and engagement data to refine content and improve learning outcomes.
- Trained facilitators and facilitated stakeholder co-design sessions to create impactful learning experiences.

Learning Designer, Harvard Graduate School of Education|Cambridge, MA | MAY 2017 - JUNE 2019

- Created scalable digital learning experiences and leadership development pathways in collaboration with executive educators.
- Used LMS data and A/B testing to evaluate learning design choices and iterate for maximum impact.

Graduate Teaching Fellow, Harvard Graduate School of Education|Cambridge, MA | SEPTEMBER 2017 - DECEMBER 2019

- Taught graduate courses on digital learning, design thinking, and emerging technologies in education.

Teacher, English as a Foreign Language|New Delhi, India; Shandong, China; Jiangsu, China | JUNE 2012 - JUNE 2016

- Delivered differentiated instruction and designed adaptive learning programs for diverse international learners; k-12 and university.

EDUCATION

Harvard Graduate School of Education | Master's in Education (Technology, Innovation & Education) | 2017
Whitman College | Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature, Cum Laude | 2012

CERTIFICATIONS

- Prompt Engineering for ChatGPT (Vanderbilt University, Coursera)
- Generative AI in Learning and Development (LinkedIn Learning)

KEY QUALIFICATIONS

- 15+ years leading the design and delivery of learning programs; 8+ years designing online and hybrid programs
- Strong foundation in cognitive psychology, adult learning theory, and curriculum design
- Proven ability to lead project teams, coach facilitators, and collaborate with executives and technical SMEs
- Data-driven decision maker with experience identifying patterns in learner performance and engagement
- Skilled in creating job aids, manuals, video scripts, storyboards, and authentic assessment content
- Proficient in Google Suite, Canvas, Open EdX, Figma, Smartsheet, Tableau, and instructional design frameworks
- Passionate about access, equity, and upskilling through technology-driven learning

LANGUAGES

- English (native) Mandarin Chinese (basic), Spanish (basic), Hindi (beginner)

AWARDS

- Education Writing Award, ALEF Education, 2017
- Fulbright Fellowship, US Department of State, 2012
- Critical Language Scholarship (Hindi), US Department of State, 2011