

Quick Tips: Working with Design Teams

1. Share your passion. Tell stories about why the subject matter is important to you.
2. Keep in touch on a regular basis; raise a flag when you don't get a fair share of time.
3. Help the team learn more about your subject matter; emphasize key points and common trouble spots.
4. Solicit ideas for new technological elements or design strategies.
5. Ask for alternate perspectives from team members.
6. Talk over the objectives for the course and for each sub-lesson or module.
7. Seek out opinions and ideas that specifically relate to the learning objectives.
8. Demonstrate your experience through discussions and examples.
9. Ask how you can help move the process forward.
10. Recognize the expertise of the design team and the value they add in creating a powerful learning experience.

From: Aleckson, J. and Ralston-Berg, P. (2011). *MindMeld: Micro-Collaboration between eLearning Designers and Instructor Experts*, Madison, WI: Atwood Publishing. <http://www.atwoodpublishing.com/books/345.htm>

Quick Tips: Working with Experts

1. Emphasize you have a common goal: to create a powerful learning experience.
2. Frame your ideas as suggestions to which the expert has final approval.
3. Be conversant with current academic studies of how well-designed instruction can solve pedagogical problems.
4. Explain the strategy behind the technology.
5. Recognize the knowledge and experience of experts and their importance in the design and development process.
6. Use case studies of successful past projects (or cases from the literature) to illustrate your ideas.
7. Use a visible, agreed upon process for design and development.
8. Demonstrate the tools of your profession: what you do and how you do it.
9. Engage in traditional scholarship: co-present or co-author with experts.
10. Remember that not everything needs to happen at once. Products can be evaluated and revised.

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