



IMPLEMENTING MERRILL'S FIRST PRINCIPLES OF INSTRUCTION: PRACTICE AND IDENTIFICATION

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Abstract

First Principles of Instruction (FPI), a result of David Merrill's systematic review of existing instructional models in search for universal principles that can be applied to all teaching, have been reported to positively correlate with instruction quality. This study aims to develop an instrument to identify the application of FPI in use, which may assist instructors in applying the Principles in their teaching, or researchers and instructional designers in assessing the quality of existing courses. To achieve this aim, a coding scheme, consisting of indicators of each FPI in use, was therefore created and tested in a specific blended learning course. Findings confirmed the reliability of the instrument and revealed interesting relationships between how FPI are applied in course materials and in actual classes.

Keywords: First Principles of Instruction, blended learning, instructional design.