Welcome Message FLO MicroCourse: Intro to B.C. Post Secondary Digital Literacy Framework

Hello and welcome to this FLO micro course on Introducing the BC Post Secondary Digital Literacy Framework.

My name is Taruna Goel.

I want to start by acknowledging that I live and work on the ancestral and unceded homelands of the hənq̓əmin̓əm̓ and Sḵwx̱wú7mesh speaking peoples also known as Burnaby.

I am thrilled to facilitate this FLO Course with 3 other facilitators: Helena, Gwen, and Britt and I am happy to join you on this journey as we explore the Digital Literacy Framework and find opportunities to integrate it into our practice of teaching and learning.

So, what comes to your mind when you think of digital literacy? You are perhaps thinking about the basic ability to use computers and the internet but increasingly it also includes a wide range of skills that are essential for success in education, employment, and our everyday life. We are not just consumers of digital content, we are also creators, curators, and contributors along the way. And whether we like it or not, we are all leaving our digital footprints behind. So, digital literacy today involves a more deeper understanding of how to use tools and technologies in various contexts. It also refers to our ability to adapt to these new digital environments and critically evaluate digital information.

I believe as educators, teachers, trainers and learning design professionals, we are always looking for a roadmap for developing these digital skills. But we also recognize that the path toward developing digital literacy is not always straightforward.

One of the challenges that people always talk about is in the language and terminology used within digital literacy frameworks. While these frameworks are designed to provide guidance and to provide structure for developing digital skills, sometimes the terminology can be intimidating and confusing. Despite this challenge, it's important to recognize that digital literacy is a journey, it's not a destination.

To build digital skills and to build our confidence, we have to begin by breaking down complex terminology into accessible language. We need a supportive learning environment where we can share and discuss and collaborate with others. We need some opportunities to think, imagine, and practice. So, as a first step of that journey, we have designed this introductory, foundational course for you.

Through this course, you will be able to gain awareness about the B.C. Post Secondary Digital Literacy Framework. But you will start doing so by discovering your own "digital superpower" through a fun quiz. YOu might realize that you might be more ready than you think you are! The quiz is not a formal assessment; it's completely anonymous and there are no scores. But once you have fun with it and once you have your quiz results, you will get a chance to think about where and how to further develop your digital skills. You will also review a case scenario as an example of the framework applied in practice. Finally, you will explore ways to integrate the framework into your own educational practices and hopefully leave with a personalized action plan.

I believe that the teacher and the learner reside within each of us and it is this ebb and flow of giving and receiving which feeds my passion for learning. So, as I welcome you to this course, I must also share that I am excited to be here and am looking forward to learning alongside you. I hope you enjoy this process.

So, welcome, and thank you for joining us.

Taruna Goel