

MicroLearning Project and Reflection

Tool: Thinkific.com

I have utilized several microlearning tools during this course, including Canva, which I used to edit images and create infographics, and Padlet, which is one of my favorite platforms to present course material (vocabulary lists, readings, videos, instructions for projects and labs, etc.) to my own students.

To create text documents and presentations, I recently switched to Google Drive from Microsoft Word and PowerPoint, because, with Drive, I am able to access my files from anywhere. Also, it is easier to share documents with classmates, instructors and colleagues.

The microlearning tool I would like to highlight here is my own course platform, <u>Thinkific.com</u>, which is where I host both my own classes and my website, <u>stemskool.org</u>. I even host my portfolio for the UMGCx MicroMasters on this website.

For several years before hosting with Thinkific, I hosted my website on Wordpress. Wordpress is an easy-to-learn platform with numerous plug-ins and widgets that have allowed me to build robust websites and blogs. However, when I needed to switch to an online course delivery platform, I switched to Thinkific.

I employed andragogy learning theory, experiential learning and project based learning to navigate through Thinkific. Firstly, I needed a website that met my business goals: to host online courses, a website and a payment portal in one location. I was intrinsically motivated to learn the tool, because it served my personal and professional interests.

Thinkific offers a suite of how-to videos and articles that I turned to when getting started. I also found answers to some questions by posting in Thinkific's private Facebook group. Harkening back to andragogy, sharing my expertise and calling on the expertise of others also hosting on the platform was key to learning how to use the tool.