

# Iowa State University's Course Design Institute (CDI)

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The Power of  
**Collaborative Conversations**  
on Course Design Quality

# Course Design Institute

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

## Why CDI?

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- Walk in students' shoes



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- Engage in powerful conversations



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- Engage in powerful conversations
- Receive feedback and assistance
- Realign and enhance course design



# The Power of Conversation

## Learn

- Engage with CDI course, peers, and facilitators to gain insights

## Model

- Observe course design and engagement practices in CDI course and asynchronous meetings

## Implement

- Collaborate with IDs and facilitators, applying feedback
- Revisit CDI and make continuous improvements



# CDI Objectives

**Upon successful completion CDI participants will:**

CLO  
1

Implement backward course design to enhance instructional decisions

CLO  
2

Apply the concepts of alignment to course and module-level learning objectives, assessments, and learning activities

CLO  
3

Create accessible content in a Canvas course using the ISU Course Template

CLO  
4

Execute course improvements based on continuous assessment and feedback

# Aligned CDI Components

## **CDI participants will:**

- Engage in an online asynchronous course
- Participate in four synchronous online meetings led by faculty members familiar with QM
- Redesign at least two modules of their course with instructional designer support
- Complete a QM course map for at least two modules
- Recommended: Complete QM Self-Review
- Optional: Attend teaching technology and QM workshops



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# CDI Incentivization



**A professional  
development  
award**



**Course design  
support**



**Follow-up  
Quality Matters  
grants and  
professional  
development  
opportunities**



**Recognition for  
teaching  
excellence**

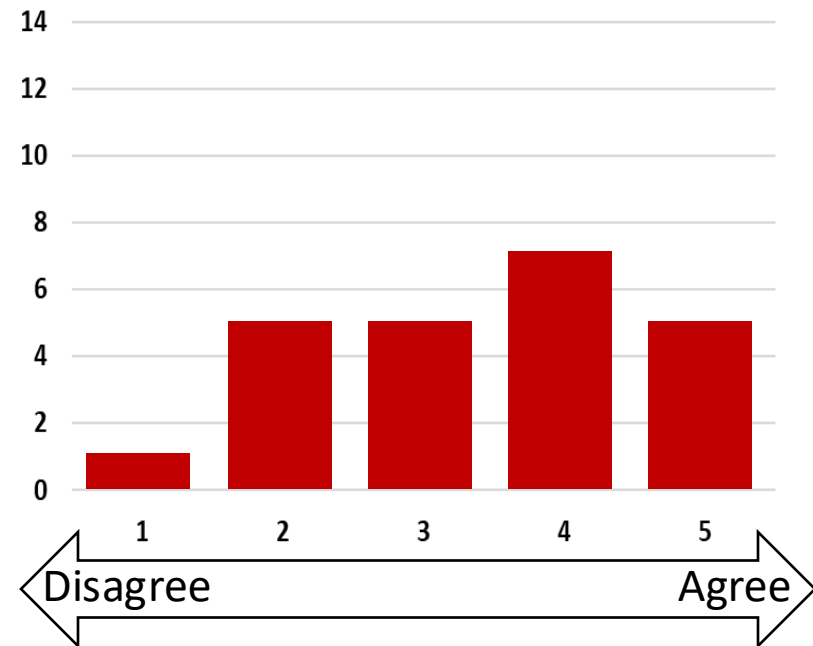
CDI Completion  
Certificate

Letters to  
leadership  
celebrating  
accomplishment

# Before CDI

I am able to use backward course design to plan my course:

3.36  
Average Rating



**I am able to use backward course design to plan my course:**

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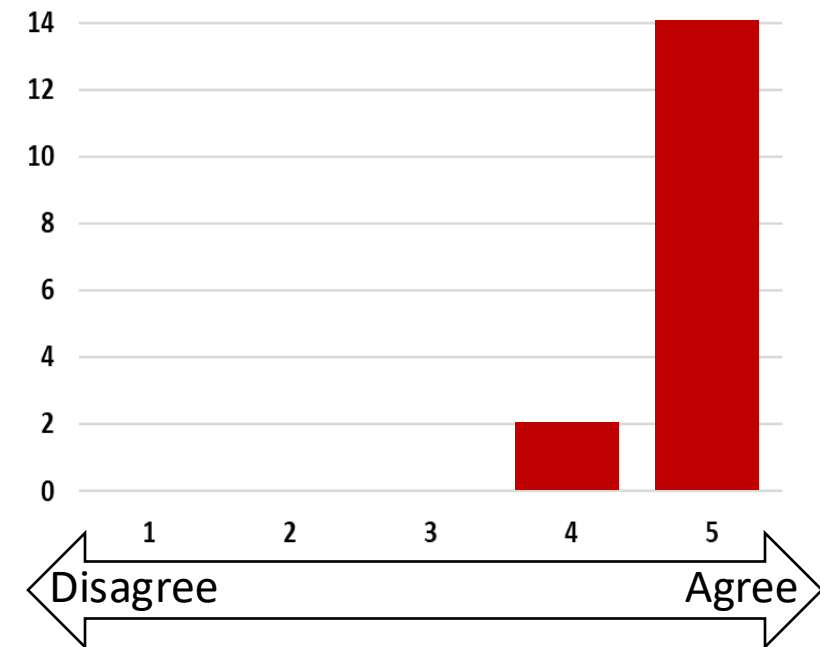
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**After CDI**

3.36  
Average Rating

↓

4.88  
Average Rating

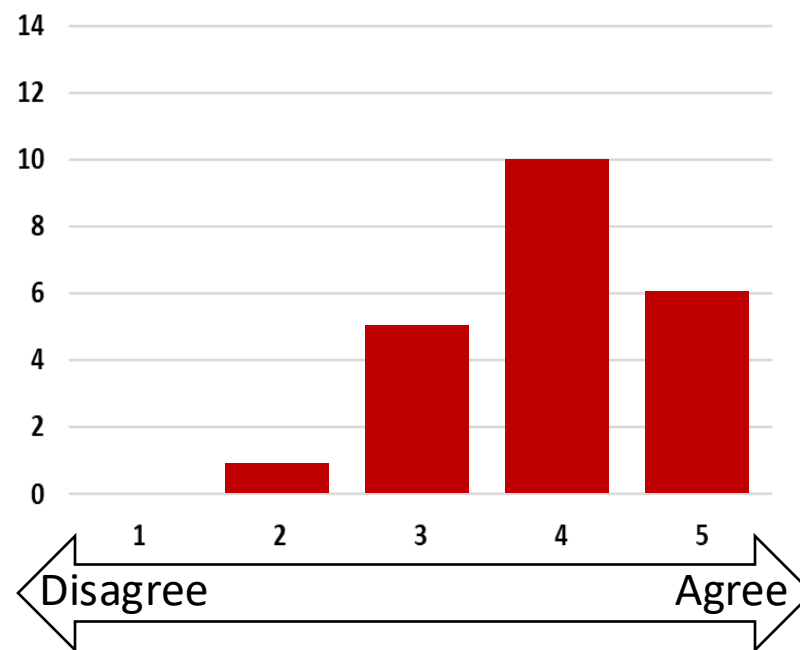




# Before CDI

I can define what quality means for my course:

3.95  
Average Rating



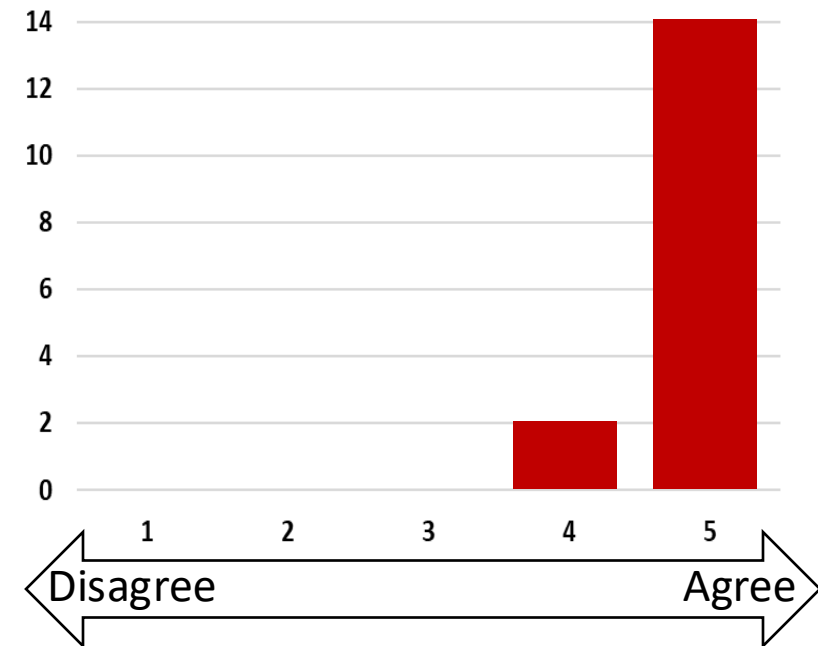
I can define what quality means for my course:

After CDI

3.95  
Average Rating

↓

4.88  
Average Rating





“

**I truly believe this CDI course should be taken by every instructor at ISU within the first year of teaching as a requirement. There are so many important concepts within CDI, and I think every instructor could benefit from this course. Thank you so much for a fantastic experience!**

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# Let's Converse!

<https://go.iastate.edu/OHZXDB>



## QM Course Design Institute Preview



Start Here

CDI Schedule

### Welcome!

Course Design Institute (CDI) is a professional development event for ISU's instructors at any stage of their careers to prepare their Canvas course for teaching in any modality.

**When:** May 1 - July 31st

**How:** Synchronous or asynchronous online events and optional training opportunities

**All coursework due:** July 31st

**Time investment:** ~ 10-15 hrs/week

### Getting Started

Start Here

Module 1

Module 2

Module 3

Module 4

Finishing Up CDI

#### Start Here

 [CDI Overview](#)  
View

 [Meet Your Facilitators and Designers](#)  
View

# CDI Exploration

## Process

- Break into four groups
- Each group explore a module
- Discuss focus questions within group
- Debrief





# CDI Exploration

## Focus Questions

- What do you **like best** about your module?
- What in your module would you **change**?
- How does your module **convey** QM concepts to learners?
- How does your module **model** QM concepts?



# THE COURSE DESIGN INSTITUTE (CDI) FIT RUBRIC

CRITERIA	SIGNIFICANCE	NOTES
Solid Learning Objectives (LOs) and Their Support of Your Institutional Mission	Essential	<p>Your LOs must state the observable knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors instructor participants will achieve, or be able to do, after participating in your CDI.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do instructors at your institution need the stated skills?</li><li>• Do instructors at your institution lack training to effectively teach DFW, large enrollment, STEM, etc. courses?</li><li>• How do such learning outcomes align with our institutional mission?</li></ul>
CDI Alignment	Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How do your LOs support the CDI components?</li><li>• How do the CDI components work together and model backward course design?</li><li>• Does CDI model exposure to Quality Matters through engagement, practice and assessment opportunities?</li></ul>
CDI Partnerships	Very Important	<p>What partnerships should support CDI?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Instructors as CDI facilitators</li><li>• Participants as feedback givers</li><li>• Instructional designers as QM experts and collaborators</li></ul>
Incentivization	Important	<p>How can CDI support instructors?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Professional development awards</li><li>• 1-year worth of course design support</li><li>• Follow-up Quality Matters grants and professional development opportunities</li><li>• Be creative in recognizing the role of CDI for teaching excellence (e.g., badges)</li></ul>
Publicity	Very important	<p>How can CDI celebrate instructors?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Letters to the leadership celebrating CDI completion</li><li>• Certificates of CDI completion</li><li>• Poster presentations at the teaching celebrations</li><li>• Speaker invitations</li><li>• Research and publications</li></ul>
Leadership Support	Essential	<p>What is the buy-in from your leadership?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Share data about CDI completion</li><li>• Bring up CDI in college cabinets, dean and faculty meetings</li><li>• Strategize budgets, even if on a small scale</li><li>• Department-specific CDIs</li><li>• Target large enrollment courses, courses with failing DFW, core courses and courses from the same program</li></ul>

Let's  
Discuss  
the Fit!



# Thank You!

**celt@iastate.edu**