

Les Klassen

About Me

I am naturally skilled at abstracting ideas and analyzing processes. These natural skills are supported with strong technology and art skills in media production and web application design. I also possess a strong understanding of adult learning principles, curriculum development and how people learn.

Professional History

NEW MEDIA PRODUCER, CENTRE FOR EDUCATION AND WORK, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA 2008 - PRESENT

The Centre for Education and Work is a not-for-profit organization focused on developing innovative ideas that connect learning to the workplace. The CEW specializes in developing systems to recognize informal learning in the workplace, curriculum development, and developing learning organizations.

- Research & develop project concepts.
- Manage a two-person new media team.
- Implement new media solutions.
- Design, produce, and direct instructional content.
- Manage websites and blog.
- Educate work team on social media concepts.
- Present at conferences and external business functions.
- Mentor new media assistant.
- Manage budgets.
- Write and implement technology plan.

CO-FOUNDER, DOJOLEARNING.COM, MANITOBA, NOV. 2007 - JAN. 2010

Dojo Learning.com is an online Software as a Service, cloud-based Internet application geared towards independent trainers, and knowledge experts. It is a commercial learning platform used to monetize knowledge through an interactive lesson builder connected to a store front. Business Partner: John Luxford.

- Co-conceptualized idea.
- Co-designed User Interface.
- Wrote business plan.
- Connected with external professional organizations.
- Co-managed business.
- Consulted with lawyers.
- Presented to venture capitalists
- Developed a greater understanding of corporate structures and entrepreneurship.

FREELANCE PRODUCER, WRITER, DIRECTOR, ART DIRECTOR, DRIPCASTLE PRODUCTIONS, MANITOBA 2005 - 2008

Dripcastle productions was a one person freelance business focused on video production in the commercial sector. As the sole proprietor, I managed the business and provide video production services.

- Wrote, produced, and directed over 20 industrial films for high profile clients. (Royal Bank, Boeing Corporation, Bristol Aerospace, Frantic Films Commercial Division)
- Art directed short film for award winning director Sean Garity. (Programmed in the Toronto International Film Festival)
- Production design for an independent television pilot by Visionlight Productions pitched to YTV (Canadian cable channel).
- Set decorated for Frantic Films Commercial Division.
- Edited sports in-game highlights for Canadian Football League (CFL) and American Hockey League (AHL) sports teams.
- Television assistant for Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) during the 2006 Grey Cup Finals.

TRAINER AND TECHNICAL MANAGER, CENTRE FOR EDUCATION AND WORK, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA 2000 - 2004

The Centre for Education and Work is a not-for-profit organization focused on developing innovative ideas that connect learning to the workplace. As Technical Manager I was in charge of ensuring that projects that had technological concepts were implemented and that the day-to-day technical operations were functioning at capacity.

- Introduced to adult learning principles, curriculum and learning outcomes.
- Delivered portfolio development workshops to at risk youth.
- Presented at conferences.
- Managed Projects
- Designed and implemented website.
- Layout and designed for reports, presentations and paper publications.
- Managed peer-to-peer computer network.

PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG STUDENTS ASSOCIATION, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA 1999-2000

The University of Winnipeg Students Association is the student government at the University. In 1999-2000 the student population was 6400 people all of which were members of the UWSA.

- Represented 6400 students to city, provincial and federal levels of government.
- Allocated an annual budget of over 1 million dollars.
- Performed the duties of public relations to local and national media.
- Implemented a campus community radio fund for the National Campus Radio Association, becoming the first university in Canada to legislate fees to national campus radio.
- Represented the UWSA within Canada's largest student lobby organization, the Canadian Federation of Students.
- Published professor evaluations for students overcoming an 11 year ban on publishing evaluations.
- Developed a more complete understanding of the formal political system in Canada.
- Presented to large groups.

Education

UNIVERSITY

University of Winnipeg, 1999, Bachelor of Arts, Business Studies

POST-HIGH SCHOOL

Tech Voc High School, 2005, Post-High School Diploma in Television & Radio Broadcasting

Professional Qualifications

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Idea abstraction and conceptualization
Instructional design
Learning outcome script writing
Video and animation direction
Art direction
Videography
Video editing & compression
DVD Authoring
HTML & CSS
Ink drawing

Professional Memberships

CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS

Secretary, Winnipeg Film Group Board of Directors, 2009 - Present
Member, Manitoba New Media, 2008 - Present

PAST MEMBERSHIPS

Director, Winnipeg Gay and Lesbian Film Society Inc., 2007-2009
Regent, Board of Regents, University of Winnipeg, 2000
Senator, Senate, University of Winnipeg, 2000
Senator, Senate Executive, University of Winnipeg, 2000

Conferences and Presentations

Presenter, 11th International Literacy and Education Research Network Conference on Learning, 2004, CUBA
"Video as a tool to teach literacy"

Presenter, The International Conference on E-learning in the Workplace, 2009, USA
"Cloud Computing and Adult Learning: Crisis or a Dangerous Opportunity?"

Presenter, World Association for Cooperative Education, 2009, CANADA
"How to Assess your Learner from Almost Anywhere"

Presenter, American Society for Training and Development, 2010, USA
"Cloud Computing, It's Almost as Good as Being There"

Interests and Personal Projects

My personal interests include filmmaking, video compositing, new media, light, and idea abstraction. Here is my filmography:

FILMOGRAPHY

Not My Toronto - Light Performance (2007)

Graffiti Gallery

Ugly Feelings (2008)

Geez Magazine Salon Series

Cryule Log (2008)

Short Film

My trip to Malawi (2009)

48 Hour Film Festival, Winnipeg Film Group

17 at 30 Video Series (2009)

Cre8ery Gallery, two week exhibition