The Understanding by Design Guide to Creating High-Quality Units

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The Understanding by Design Guide to Creating High-Quality Units Grant P. Wiggins , Jay McTighe This guide is intended for K-16 educators either individuals or groups who may have received some training in Understanding by Design and want to continue their work independently; those who've read Understanding by Design and want to design curriculum units but have no access to formal training; graduate and undergraduate students in university curriculum courses; and school and district administrators, curriculum directors, and others who facilitate Understanding by Design work with staff. Users can go through the modules in sequence or skip around, depending on their previous experience with UbD and their preferred curriculum design style or approach. Unit creation, planning, and adaptation are easier than ever with the accompanying downloadable resources, including the Understanding by Design template set up as a fillable PDF form, additional worksheets, examples, and FAQs about the module topics that speak to Understanding by Design novices and veterans alike.

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From Reader Review The Understanding by Design Guide to Creating High-Quality Units for online ebook

Kari says

This seems to be an amazing way to plan meaningful learning experiences for students. It begins witha question and then starts at the end and works backwards. It actually makes lesson planning a piece of cake (if you can believe that) as your goals are already set out for a 3 week time frame, as well as what assessments you plan to use. It takes some getting used to but it is worth the time to try it out.

Carlene Walter says

A practical guide for those who have a strong understanding of UBD. The digital downloads from the guide are helpful templates for applying UBD.

Laurie says

I am so excited to be using this book to guide our TEAM lesson plan template. This has some excellent instructional modules on basic elements and concepts that are sequenced for constructivist teaching practices. I am so impressed with how easy this text is for usage with undergrads, graduate students and teaching practitioners. Highly recommended!

Leanna Aker says

The third book I've read on UbD. This is the Cliff Notes version, and probably a better starting place than the first two books I've read. Solid principles of instruction.

Paula says

This book was a little droll for me. It went on and on about designing lesson plans.

James Purkis Purkis says

This book contained well explained processes to understanding the different aspects of UBD. I found the new version of the template more user friendly and the worksheet online and in the book helped with my planning and clarifying key ideas. A useful companion to the Backwards by Design book with little

unnecessary repetition of ideas/content.

Marissa Lauren says

Great unit plan design and good examples. It felt a little repetitive, but very informative.
Key ideas:
3 types of learning: acquisition, meaning, and transfer
Backwards design in 3 steps: identify desired results, decide what the evidence will be to demonstrate the desired results (learning objectives), and plan learning experiences and instruction that help scaffold the information so students are able to complete the tasks that show the desired results.

Megan says

If you have a strong understanding of UBD, this is an outstanding guide for those working in curriculum design. For the average teacher, it might be a bit overwhelming. I particularly enjoyed having the access to digital downloads from the guide where I could take notes and apply the process to my own work.

Brittnee says

Very informative companion to the expanded UbD edition. I am looking forward to partnering this design with the information literacy threshold concepts. Wish me luck!

Jen says

It will be a useful guide but I am thinking I will need to read it about 10 more times before it sinks in. Mainly it feels like a lot of the sections and subsections are either redundant or so similar that it's extremely difficult to tease out the differences among them, when you use what, if there's a time you can omit a section, etc. It could definitely use more examples (in the book itself; I don't want to have to go online to get the additional material, if I wanted to do that I'd purchase the ebook version.)

Eco Imp says

Just a text for class

Brooke Nadzam says

I've read about UbD before--what educator hasn't? What this book does well is help people to write the lesson plans. It is broken up into modules, and each says something like, "If you're struggling with 'x', than

read this module. If not, skip it". I appreciated that.

Michael Palmer says

A fantastic guide to planning inquiry based units of study. I have been inspired to create a visual representation of the major steps in planning high quality units.

Pete Jurchen says

This book really will only appeal to those who have read one or more of the UbD theory books. If you haven't, go back and read the main book, Understanding by Design, and get the authors' gists. If you have read the background stuff, and are interested in using it, this is an INVALUABLE resource. It gives step-by-step actions to create a deep system of goals and objectives, followed up by great considerations for assessment rationale and also some guidance for how to structure motivation behind learning activities. It is really just a great system for creating an impressive skeleton for a unit that can be filled with meaningful and purposeful assessments and activities. The attached pdf, with spaces to fill in the blanks, makes this into a workbook for thorough and deep unit design. There's no fat to trim in this book or in the system, and it's exactly what previous UbD books have needed to succeed.