



LEARNING SCIENCES
FOR **INNOVATORS**
Sustainable EdTech for Africa

Let's work together to improve EdTech using the learning sciences.

Learning Sciences for Innovators is a Carnegie Mellon University Africa initiative in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation.

What We Do

You have a product that you are really proud of, but how do you know it's effective? This is where the Learning Sciences for Innovators (LSFI) team comes in. We work with EdTech fellows to ensure their products are supported by principles of learning sciences.

As an EdTech fellow, you have access to the Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) network, where you can connect with world-renowned learning scientists and scholars. The LSFI program equips you with evidence-based methods to create more engaging and effective learning experiences.

Multi-faceted Approach

Our experts at CMU and CMU-Africa are experienced in integrating learning sciences to improve real-world educational products across the globe. We do this with a range of offerings so you can engage in ways that best suit your needs and stage of development.

Through hands-on learning, we consult on human-centered design, applying educational theory and the analyzing rich data to inform evidence-based product improvements. We support you in refining and scaling products so that you can contribute to a sustainable EdTech ecosystem across Africa.



Deep Dive Workshops

Join other companies in your hub for in-person workshops to master essential learning science concepts. These sessions target specific expertise areas and will deepen your team's understanding of the learning sciences.



Learning Sciences Webinars

Connect with other EdTech Fellows and the LSFI network of experts online to tackle real-world challenges with evidence-based approaches and collective wisdom. Join us for a range of offerings from expert dialogues on topics of interest to learning manager meetups.



Faculty Mentorship

Access personalized guidance through our one-on-one meetings for targeted planning and problem solving with experts in learning science, game design, education data mining, research, and more. Use these open office hours to discuss issues of interest your company is facing.



Free Certificate Courses

You (or your whole team) can sign up for free, flexible, self-paced online courses to build essential learning science skills needed to create engaging, effective, and impactful EdTech products. Earn a certificate that demonstrates your commitment and expertise.



Research Co-creation

Collaborate with world-class learning sciences researchers to study what works and why to improve your product and contribute to the growing knowledge base of educational research in Africa.



Wondering where to begin?

Contact us if your company would benefit from the following services, which are free to Mastercard Foundation EdTech Fellows.

Email LSFI@cmu.edu to get started.



Visit CMUlearn.org
for more information

Self-Paced Certificate Courses For Developing Expertise In Learning Sciences

Courses are free to Mastercard Foundation EdTech Fellows and Hubs

Intro to Learning Engineering

Learn an evidence-based approach pioneered by CMU that combines science and technology to optimize learning outcomes, effectiveness, and efficiency. You'll learn essential concepts and processes that build the foundation of learning engineering practice.

Multimedia for E-Learning

Learn the Multimedia Principles to optimize how your learners engage with instructional materials that enhance comprehension, retention, and transfer of knowledge. These foundational courses are especially relevant to Instructional Designers, UX Designers, and Developers who create e-learning experiences.

AI in Education: From Foundations to Innovations

These courses provide you with the knowledge and skills to navigate and shape the future of AI-powered education, from foundational concepts to practical applications and innovative design. You'll discover how to leverage Generative AI (GenAI) to create personalized and engaging educational content and systems.

Educational Game Design

Explore how games can be used to teach, engage, and inspire. You'll grow the skills to design and develop educational games that are both fun and effective, using proven strategies to make learning more engaging and impactful.

Cultivating Personal and Interpersonal Growth in EdTech

Learn ways to foster both personal and interpersonal growth in e-learning environments. These growth aspects ensure well-rounded learner development, helping individuals develop self-awareness, emotional skills, and teamwork abilities.

Motivation by Design: Helping Learners Stick with your EdTech Product

Design EdTech experiences that do more than capture attention, they support learner motivation, confidence, and growth. Grounded in learning science and product design, the series equips you with tools to move beyond surface-level engagement and build products learners return to.

Courses

- E-Learning Foundational Theories and Principles
- Designing Clear Learning Goals
- Designing Assessments for Learning

Courses

- Essential Learning: Focusing on Key Elements
- Efficient Learning: Minimizing Mental Strain
- Generative Learning: Promoting In-depth Understanding

Courses

- AI Overview from Machine Learning to GenAI
- Using GenAI to Improve Your EdTech Workflow
- Integrating Learner-Facing GenAI Into Your Product

Courses

- Foundations of Educational Game Design
- Learning Sciences and Educational Games
- Designing and Developing Educational Games

Courses

- Integrating Mindset and Social Emotional Learning in EdTech
- Integrating Collaborative Learning in EdTech

Courses

- Designing for Motivation in EdTech
- Designing Product Experiences that Motivate Learners
- Supporting and Sustaining Motivation Over Time