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### MEDIATING FACTORS FOR TAILORED

### INTERACTIVE MULTIMEDIA INSTRUCTION

By

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A Dissertation Submitted to the Faculty of Old Dominion University in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of

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#### ABSTRACT

### SELF-REGULATION AND COGNITIVE LOAD AS MEDIATING FACTORS FOR TAILORED INTERACTIVE MULTIMEDIA INSTRUCTION

Tammy Ann Bankus Old Dominion University, 2016 Director: Dr. Thomas W. Bean

The primary purpose of this dissertation was to explore whether self-regulation or cognitive load have mediating effects on both learning experiences and learning effectiveness in tailored versus non-tailored interactive multimedia instructional (IMI) training. Although, there is a plethora of literature looking at the impact of cognitive load in IMI (Clark, 2008; Mayer, 2005; Mayer, 2008; Mayer, Griffith, Jurkowitz, & Rothman, 2008; Sweller, 2011) or looking at self-regulation (Pintrich, 2000a, 2000b; Schunk, Meece, & Pintrich, 2012; Zimmerman et al., 2000) separately, there is limited literature that looks at self-regulation and cognitive load in tailored IMI instruction, and even less literature examining these variables within the military population. Participants were soldiers both junior and senior in their military career attending a leadership based course at two different Army installations. Several measures were used to collect data both prior to (MSLO, demographics, pretest) and after (learning experiences survey, NASA-TLX, posttest) soldiers engaged in the IMI training. Data analysis involved the use of quantitative statistical procedures to test levels of significance, along with the magnitude of relationships between the different variables. Results indicate that individuals who came into the training with self-regulation skills tended to score better on the pretest but by the time they reached the posttest these differences did not appear to have a significant impact on learning. Additionally, self-regulation and cognitive load appeared to have different effects on participants depending on their learning experiences and career experience.

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### Dedication

To my parents who taught me how to work hard and never give up; and to my husband who tirelessly supported me, encouraged me when times were hard, and provided a shoulder to lean on.

For my children, Erika, Melissa, Micayla, Haley and Nate, who continue to make this world an amazing place. You are all my inspiration to continue to learn, so that I can be a positive example, as you continue discover your place in life. I am always amazed to see the world through your eager eyes.

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#### CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY

### Introduction

The purpose of this chapter is to introduce the theoretical framework, literature review, and problem statement. This study investigated how the characteristics of individual learning experiences are impacted by elements of instructional design, specifically tailored versus nontailored instructional strategies. The study explored the potential mediating effects of (a) learners' disposition to self-regulate (self-regulation, intrinsic value, cognitive strategy use, selfefficacy) and (b) the level of cognitive load (mental demands, physical demands, time demands, performance/success, effort, frustration) elicited while engaging in the learning experience. A better understanding of this relationship may increase our ability to match students to appropriate instructional content and curricular designs.

#### Background

Army doctrine supports the notion of adaptation through effective learning experiences, placing an emphasis on the use of technology-mediated instruction that is both innovative and yet maintains a high level of instructional effectiveness (ALC, 2015). Army doctrine also mentions the use of technology to support learning, more specifically distance learning. Distance learning is one of the modes soldiers use to acquire needed knowledge and skills. This is frequently termed *interactive multimedia instruction* (IMI). Although the definition of IMI varies, this study will use the following operational definition: "Interactive multimedia instruction brings mediated instruction from more than one source to bear on an instructional problem which the learner experiences as an integrated (although sometimes complex) medium" (Schwier & Misanchuk, 1993, p.4). Another definition of IMI is "learning from words and

pictures that are intended to foster learning" (Mayer & Moreno, 2002, p. 4). Both of these definitions support the notion that the learners' experience with IMI involves both self-regulation and cognitive load capacity.

Often, instructional designers create Army distance learning without careful consideration of the soldiers' level of expertise and ability to self-regulate, which can lead to unnecessarily high cognitive load for the learner. By contrast, tailored IMI designs may both support self-regulation and manage the cognitive load placed on the soldier by assessing the soldiers' level of expertise and recommending appropriate instructional content. While the results from recent Army research suggest the importance of self-regulation and cognitive load to understanding the effects of tailored IMI designs, these factors have not been directly addressed (Blankenbeckler & Wampler, personal communication, December 2015; Graves, Blankenbeckler, & Wampler, 2014; Blackenbeckler, Graves, Dlubec, & Wampler, 2016; Graves, Blankenbeckler, Wampler, & Roberts, in press).

Self-regulation and cognitive load are important concepts in a tailored learning context. From an educational perspective, self-regulation speaks to metacognition or the ability to plan, monitor, and modify cognition to meet learning needs (Schunk & Zimmerman, 2012). Additionally, self-regulation involves student management and control of the amount of effort they expend, along with the cognitive strategies they use for learning content. Cognitive load refers to the ways in which memory resources impact learning, thereby, the selection and success of learning strategies (Sweller, 2011). In this context, self-regulation and cognitive load impact each other.

Learning involves making meaning (Bruner, 2009). Meaningful learning, as a subset of learning, is learning that achieves a "deep understanding of the material" (Mayer & Moreno,

2003, p. 43). According to Mayer and Moreno (2003), a deep understanding emerges from "attending to important aspects of the presented material, mentally organizing it into a coherent cognitive structure, and integrating it with relevant existing knowledge (p. 43)". It involves an active process of making meaning through interaction and experience, connecting or modifying new information into existing memory schemas.

Learning taxes learners' memory resources when learning content contains complex, interacting, and unfamiliar elements (Paas et al., 2003). Through self-regulation, learners can become more aware of the limits to their cognition. Skillful self-regulation can help manage cognitive load. Because self-regulation impacts metacognition along with cognitive strategy choices, the amount of self-regulation expended could have a direct impact on the amount and type of cognitive load the learner experiences in a tailored IMI environment. For instance, poor instructional design, too much irrelevant detail, or too much new information can confuse learners and exhaust their cognitive resources (Mayer & Moreno, 2003). It is therefore important to consider the design of instruction as well as learners' skills at self-regulation and memory capacities to achieve the best educational outcomes.

Too often, Army training is one-size-fits-all; it targets a generic audience and does not address the needs of individual learners. This one-size-fits-all approach often leads to poorly designed and ineffective training (NCO 2020 Analysis Whitepaper, 2013). To add to the complexity, junior soldiers tend to have limited experience in formal, college-level educational settings, so they may not have developed learning self-regulation and other metacognitive skills. A recent survey of 26,118 NCOs in the pay grade of E5 (sergeants), revealed that the largest portion of those soldiers (73%) had only some college experience, mostly below the Associate's degree level (NCO 2020 Analysis Whitepaper, 2013). With limited formal college experience,

NCOs are still often required to choose "what" and "how" to learn, requiring them to use selfregulation strategies in their learning process. Their lack of experience could lead them to select suboptimal learning strategies (Ericsson & Charness, 1994). Although IMI instruction can be used to reach a large portion of the population at any time through distributed technology, based on principles of both self-regulation and cognitive load, it is important to provide the right training that meets the needs of the individual at the right time. Variations in past experience, knowledge schemes, and level of expertise mean that different learners will have different learning needs (Ericsson & Charness, 1994).

Previous research on the expectancy-value model of motivation in education, which focuses on self-regulation and cognitive load theory, indicates that a tailored, self-paced learning environment, which could contain a large set of interacting elements, can prevent excessive cognitive load (Blankenbeckler, Graves, & Wampler, 2013, 2014; Wisecarver et al., 2012). Still, self-paced, tailored IMI requires individuals to self-regulate effectively, for example by understanding what needs to be learned, in order to be successful at learning (Graves, Rauchfuss, & Wisecarver, 2012). Although previous research indicates the need to consider both cognitive load and self-regulation, it has not shown what kind of impact the combination of these two variables has on tailored IMI training. This study will address this gap in the existing literature.

#### **Theoretical Framework**

In the absence of one overarching unifying theory to explain the role of both selfregulation and cognitive load, two complimentary theories were explored. This study is based on the research covering the theoretical framework within motivation and education, specifically general expectancy-value model of motivation constructs focusing on self-regulation, along with cognitive load theory. Much of the early foundational research that has been conducted

investigating self-regulation, has relied on the general expectancy-value model of motivation (Eccles, 1983; Pintrich, 2000a; Pintrich & De Groot, 1990; Wigfield & Eccles, 2000). When applied to self-regulation, a learner's expectancy for success, along with the value they place on this success will influence motivation, which in turn influences self-regulation. Pintrich and DeGroot (1990) identify three primary points within this framework that are applicable to the ability to self-regulate: expectancy component, value component and affective component. The expectancy component is used to describe how self-efficacy, competence and the attributions related to competency, along with the amount of control the individual thinks they have, will interact to influence one's ability to self-regulate. The emotional reaction (affective component), along with importance and interest a person places in a task (value component) account for the other components within the general expectancy-value model of motivation that comprise selfregulation. To add to this, recent research has explored self-regulation "... as proactive processes that students use to acquire academic skill, such as setting goals, selecting and deploying strategies, and self-monitoring one's effectiveness, rather than as a reactive event that happens to students due to impersonal forces" (Zimmerman, 2008, p. 166). Students undergo this process by understanding and defining the task, setting goals to achieve the task, learning and then through adaptation (Winne & Hadwin, 2008).

The learning process is complex and depends heavily on cognitive processes. Although, research attempts to breakdown these cognitive processes (Green & Azevedo, 2009), typically these studies focus on a micro aspect of a larger much more complex system. This complexity is hard to understand conceptually and in turn is not very well defined. When attempts are made to define it, holes and gaps still exist, such as detailed explanations of how different cognitive resources are depleted based on cognitive architecture, leaving more questions than answers.

Cognitive load theory provides the framework which helps to provide instructional design principles based on what is known about human cognitive architecture.

Individuals possess a certain amount of cognitive resources available to use when learning. These resources are expended at a particular rate depending on the type of load induced by the complexity of the learning material (Jones, 2015). Available resources are determined by individual experiences, level of expertise, instructional design, and task complexity. This portion of the framework seeks to explain the impacts of different factors of cognitive load as a mediating variable within this research design.

#### **Problem Statement**

It would be useful to know whether cognitive processes related to self-regulation or cognitive load have mediating effects on both learning experiences and learning effectiveness in tailored versus non-tailored IMI training. Although there is a plethora of literature looking at the impact of cognitive load in IMI (Clark, 2008; Mayer, 2005; Mayer, 2008; Mayer, Griffith, Jurkowitz, & Rothman, 2008; Sweller, 2011) or looking at self-regulation (Pintrich, 2000a, 2000b; Schunk, Meece, & Pintrich, 2012; Zimmerman et al., 2000) separately, there is limited literature that looks at these mediating variables in tailored IMI instruction and even less literature examining these variables within the military population. Previous research, indicates that a tailored self-paced environment which could potentially contain a large set of interacting elements can impact cognitive load (Blankenbeckler, et al., 2013, 2014; Wisecarver et al., 2012). In addition, the very nature of self-paced tailored IMI requires an individual to be able to use effective self-regulation strategies, such as an understanding of what needs to be learned, in order to successfully learn (Graves, Rauchfuss, & Wisecarver, 2012). Although previous research indicates the need to consider both cognitive load and self-regulation, it has not shown what kind

of impact the combination of these two mediating variables can have on tailored IMI training. This study will address the gap in the existing literature. The research problem was to investigate the extent to which the mediating variables of cognitive load and self-regulation impact both learning experiences and learning effectiveness for soldiers in a self-paced tailored IMI training environment.

Most of the research conducted in this area has used either children or college students in educational settings (Paas, Renkl, & Sweller, 2004a; Pintrich, 2000a; Pintrich & De Groot, 1990; Van Merrinboer & Sweller, 2005). To date, no research has been conducted looking at how self-regulation and cognitive load affect tailored training in an IMI environment for Army noncommissioned officers (NCOs). It can be argued that this population is considerably different from that of the traditionally used populations, based on experiences and the demands they are frequently exposed to. This research tested the mediating effects of cognitive load and self-regulation on learners' experience in either a tailored training or non-tailored training IMI context. Participating NCOs were assigned to either the treatment condition (tailored training IMI) or the control condition (non-tailored IMI). The treatment group, which had the tailored training, was expected to perform better on measures of self-regulation, cognitive load, and score higher on posttest than the control (non-tailored training design). The treatment group was also expected to self-report more positive learning experiences than those reported by the control group.

#### **Research Questions and Hypotheses**

This study was guided by the following research question: Does tailored training design support cognitive processes related to self-regulation? This research question generated the following alternative and null hypotheses:

- 1. If the tailored training design supports cognitive processes related to self-regulation (increases it), then cognitive load should be reduced compared to the control group.
  - a. If cognitive load is reduced, then both learners' test performance and reported quality of their learning experience should be increased compared to the control group.
- 2. If the tailored training design does not support cognitive processes related to selfregulation, then cognitive load should be increased compared to the control group.
  - a. If cognitive load is increased, then both learners' test performance and reported quality of their learning experience should be decreased compared to the control group.
- 3. If tailored training design does not support differences in cognitive processes related to self-regulation and cognitive load demands are not significantly impacted, then military experience differences (rank) could impact these variables.
  - a. If military experience by rank impacts both cognitive processes related to selfregulation and cognitive load demands there should be a significant difference in the relationships between the two groups.
  - 4. If learning experiences are related to cognitive processes and cognitive load demands, then there should be a significant relationship between learning experience ratings on cognitive processes scores and cognitive load demand scores.
  - There should be a positive relationship between participants rating their learning experiences higher and increase scores in cognitive processes and cognitive load demands.

### **Operational Definitions**

Cognitive load. Refers to information that must be held in working memory plus the information that must be processed while learning. It involves working memory capacity, along with storage and retrieval processes from long- term memory.

Cognitive load theory. "Cognitive load theory is concerned with techniques for managing working memory load in order to facilitate the changes in long-term memory associated with schema construction and automation" (Paas et al., 2003, p. 3).

Metacognition. Refers to the awareness of the processes involved in one's own thinking and the ability to control these thinking processes (self-reflection, self-monitoring, self-questioning . . . ).

Self-efficacy. One's beliefs about one's capability to learn, is one of the biggest influences on SR (Bouffard-Bouchard, Parent, & Larivee, 1991; Schunk, 2008).

Self-regulation.

Self-regulation is a complex process and includes such activities as attending to and concentrating on instruction, organizing, coding, and rehearsing information to be learned; establishing a productive work environment and using resources effectively; holding positive beliefs about one's capabilities, the value of learning, the factors influencing learning and the anticipated outcomes of one's actions; and experiencing pride and satisfaction with one's goal-directed efforts. (Schunk & Zimmerman, 2012, p. vii).

#### CHAPTER 2

#### **REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE**

#### **Literature Review**

This chapter contains a review of existing research literature related to the topic of this study. This review focuses on the concepts of self-regulation (SR) and motivation, as well as on cognitive load theory. The review is divided into three primary sections, as follows: first is a review of research and theory related to self-regulation and motivation; second is a review of literature related to cognitive load theory, particularly as it pertains to instruction; and third is a reflection on the connections between self-regulation and cognitive load as they relate to creating optimal learning environments. A summary concludes the chapter.

#### Self-Regulation and Motivation: Theory and Research

This section contains a comprehensive description and review of theory and research related to the concept of self-regulation. Motivation and self-efficacy, two closely related concepts, are included in the review. Expectancy-value theory serves as a theoretical framework for understanding the relationships among these ideas.

#### **Self-Regulation and Self-Efficacy**

Bandura's (1986, 1997) social cognitive theory is often used to explain SR. Bandura described human interactions as a series of reciprocal events happening between the individuals and other environmental influences. These events impact how one thinks, behaves, and feels in a given situation. Bandura proposed that individuals who strongly believe in their capabilities will display more effort and engagement in learning (Bandura, 1977). From this perspective, SR is viewed as deriving from interest and involves regulating processes involved in cognition, behavior, and affect, while engaging in learning-related goals (Corno, 2008; Lens, 2008; Winne

& Hadwin, 2008; Zimmerman, Boekarts, Pintrich, & Zeidner, 2000; Zimmerman & Schunk, 2008). The main assumptions of this theory are that SR is carried out by the individual, plays a large role in the learning process, is largely personal to the individual, and that SR strategies can be learned.

Effective and appropriate utilization of SR strategies will have a direct impact on successful achievement of learning outcomes (Boekaerts, 1999; Schunk & Zimmerman, 2012). As one gains SR skills, one becomes more autonomous in selecting and using effective SR strategies (Reeve, Ryan, Deci, & Jang, 2007). Becoming autonomous in using SR skills and strategies requires learning, while using complex and dynamic processes related to attention, selection, and monitoring learning engagement. Developing these skills takes time, practice, and knowledge of "what, how, and why" to use different methods in given situations (Deci & Ryan, 2000; Reeve, Deci, & Ryan, 2004; Reeve et al., 2007). The following commonly accepted definition illustrates this complexity:

Self-regulation is a complex process and includes such activities as attending to and concentrating on instruction, organizing, coding, and rehearsing information to be learned; establishing a productive work environment and using resources effectively; holding positive beliefs about one's capabilities, the value of learning, the factors influencing learning and the anticipated outcomes of one's actions; and experiencing pride and satisfaction with one's goal-directed efforts. (Schunk & Zimmerman, 2012, p. vii)

SR goes beyond understanding what a process is to knowing "how" and "when" to apply different methods, such as managing time spent studying or focusing attention to appropriate

sections of learning content (Lens, 2008). SR, therefore, describes how the individual acts upon the self to alter and monitor self-responses.

Self-efficacy, or one's beliefs about one's capability to learn, is one of the biggest influences on SR (Bouffard-Bouchard, Parent, & Larivee, 1991; Schunk, 2008). Self-efficacy, in turn, arises from ability, attributions, values, goals, expectancies, and volition (effort), among other factors. The learner uses attributions to explain the causes of behavior, thinking, or emotion. The cause to which the learner attributes success or failure has an effect on the learner's self-efficacy. For example, if the learner attributes a success to her or his own efforts, then selfefficacy about personal ability is strengthened. However, if the success is attributed to something outside the learner's control, then the individual's self-efficacy decreases, which can lead to decreased engagement, avoidance behaviors, and other maladaptive responses in similar learning situations (Schunk, 2008).

The value or importance one places on a task also affects SR process and, thereby, influences self-efficacy. The cost (personal sacrifice) that a person is willing to incur to accomplish the task or learning goal determines the task's value. Task value is a function of attainment value (how important it is to the individual), interest value (how much enjoyment the individual gets from doing the task), and utility value (how the task fits what is needed) for future goals (Eccles et al., 1983; Wigfield & Eccles, 2000). Schiefele (1999) suggested that interest and attainment values influence learning strategies, cognitive engagement, and the amount of effort an individual will use to achieve a given task (Schiefele, 1991, 1999; Shell & Husman, 2008; Shell, Murphy, & Bruning, 1989; Wigfield, 1994). The individual manages self-efficacy by not giving in to self-doubt when faced with challenges, along with taking breaks and using varying strategies to engage in complex learning situations. These self-efficacy strategies

effect SR processes, such as task choice, persistence, and level of effort the learner will engage in to accomplish the learning task (Schunk, 2008).

### **Expectancy-Value Theory**

Expectancy-value theory (EVT) compliments SR theories. Eccles (1983) began exploring SR by looking into why adversity impacts people differently. His research built onto the work of Atkinson et al. (1964), and led to the development of EVT (Eccles et al.,1983). Atkinson's model identified developmental and causal reasons for individuals' expectations of success or failure at a given task. This model postulates that individual perception and personal interpretation mediate behavior, in turn influencing both choice to engage in learning and learning outcomes (Atkinson, 1964). Eccles et al. (1983) expanded on these principles, and EVT derives from different motivation-related influences. For example, the researchers examined gender differences in math. They found that although females and males have similar math abilities, by the time females reach high school they are less likely to enroll in advanced math courses. This was due to the expectancies and value differences held by each gender. Females were found to express less competence and place less interest (value) on acquiring higher-level math knowledge (Eccles, Wigfield, & Schiefele, 1998; Roeser, Eccles, & Sameroff, 1998).

EVT focuses primarily on motivation, which consists of expectancies and values. These, in turn, influence SR behaviors. Expectancies are beliefs about how well one will do in the future. Factors that mediate expectancies include attributions, choice, control, task value, effort, and utility. Although values play a large role in EVT, they are only one piece of a more complex puzzle, where ability and other conceptual qualities dynamically impact overall outcomes. Success and failure do not impact expectancies directly; however, the attributions of task outcomes can influence future expectancies (Eccles et al., 1983; Eccles et al., 1998; Wigfield &

Eccles, 2000). Attributions directly affect self-efficacy, as described earlier, and play a role in the perception of task difficulty, along with determining the amount of effort an individual will expend to complete a given learning task (Pintrich & De Groot, 1990; Wigfield & Eccles, 2000). For instance, if one attributes success to one's ability to perform well, then future tasks will carry the same attributions, and the learner is likely to continue to engage in these tasks.

Learners must expend great effort to learn complex tasks. If one deems this effort to be worthwhile based on past learning experiences within the same learning domain, one will believe that success is within one's control, leading one to place a high value on learning the given task (Wigfield & Eccles, 2000; Wigfield, Eccles, & Rodriguez, 1998). Low expectancy and low value do not necessarily lead to task failure; rather, EVT theorists view high expectancy and high value as conditions for optimal learning. The assumption is that, in a situation where expectancies are high, the individual is more likely to engage in effective learning strategies, persist when the task is hard, and attribute success and failure to controllable personal factors, such as study time and ability (Wigfield & Eccles, 2000). Unless one believes in one's capabilities and expects success, one will have little reason to try, persist, and expend the necessary effort to succeed at learning the task (Pintrich & De Groot, 1990).

#### **Phases of the Self-Regulation Process**

To explain how SR occurs, Zimmerman (2000) conceptualized the SR process as consisting of before (forethought), during (performance control), and after (self-reflection) phases. Each phase involves special processes with results that can impact the current phase or the previous or succeeding phases of the process. SR motivations constantly influence all of the phases (Zimmerman, 2004).

Some SR processes, such as attribution feedback, occur fluidly throughout all of the phases, whereas others, such as goal development, occur in distinct phases. The processes that occur within all of the phases will impact the specific phase the learner is in at the time. Selfefficacy is one of the fluid processes that impacts all of the phases (Pajares, 2008). Similarly, attribution feedback directly influences the level of self-efficacy an individual experiences when engaged in pursuing complex learning goals. This manifests as feedback, received from peers, instructors, or other environmental sources, that links one's academic outcomes with one's attributions, influencing strategy selection (Ames & Archer, 1988; Schunk, 2008; Winne, 2006; Winne & Hadwin, 1998). Feedback introduces emotion into an individual's engagement with a learning task. For instance, high levels of emotional anxiety can result from receiving negative feedback from peers, which may have a negative impact on one's beliefs about one's ability to perform the learning task. Winne (2006) conducted a study that focused on regulating emotional responses. When students received management training that taught them how to learn from errors they made when studying computer programs, they experienced better performance than those whose training encouraged them to avoid errors. Participants who learned to manage and learn from errors had reduced anxiety and increased self-efficacy (Winne, 2006). The researcher found that emotional state regulation had a mediating effect on task performance. This process can occur at any of the three phases of SR.

According to Zimmerman (2004), in the first phase of SR (forethought), the individual begins to understand or perceive the task. One first identifies what one needs to accomplish. Affective behaviors arise and prior knowledge related to the task comes to the forefront of thought, leading to motivation (Zimmerman, 2004; Zimmerman et al., 2000; Zimmerman & Kitsantas, 1997). Learners' assessments of their prior knowledge will impact the perceived

complexity of the task, the value and personal costs associated with learning the task, and their later attributions in the face of success or failure. Once the individual has developed a sense of the task, the individual frames the task in terms of goals (Pintrich, 2000a, 2003; Pintrich & De Groot, 1990). In this context, a goal is not an overarching aim, but rather a discrete step developed to aid in breaking down the learning task into manageable segments.

Next, the individual enters the enactment phase, taking action toward the goals. People often have multiple goals at the same time, so, during this phase, learners can take several simultaneous actions toward their several goals (Zimmerman, 2004; Zimmerman et al., 2000; Zimmerman & Kitsantas, 1997). A student who is trying to learn a new math equation, for example, might use strategies such as reviewing information, highlighting important steps within the formula, organizing study times, and practicing formulas. All of these strategies require the learner to link prior knowledge to new knowledge, monitor understanding, and assess progress in learning the math equation. If the learner is unfamiliar with the material and has limited prior knowledge, the learning strategies could also include seeking help from peers, which could impact attribution feedback and self-efficacy. In this phase, SR is a constant process of monitoring progress and applying appropriate strategies.

The third phase is where final goal accomplishment occurs. The learner assimilates the various types of feedback received, while evaluating the effectiveness of the strategies used, for the purpose of identifying what the one has accomplished and still needs to accomplish. If the learner has more learning tasks to accomplish, then the SR process starts over with the identification of modified goals. In the last phase, learners evaluate their goal accomplishment and modify their strategies as needed to help accomplish future goals. This is a self-assessment

phase wherein the individual uses metacognitive processes (Zimmerman, 2004; Zimmerman et al., 2000; Zimmerman & Kitsantas, 1997).

Other research compliments and expands on Zimmerman's proposed stages. Winne & Hadwin (1998) propose four phases of self-regulation; defining the task, setting goals to achieve the task, learning, and adaptation. When students enter the forethought phase, this process can be thought of as the time when they engage in defining the task and set goals to achieve those tasks. During the enactment phase, students engage in strategies that aid learning. In the reflection phase, students reflect on their learning progress and adaptation. If more learning needs to occur, the process begins over again. For instance, a study investigating the use of the first two phases of Winne and Hadwin's (2008) proposed processes in college students, examined how self-regulated learning was related to posttest scores. In addition, "students who do not SR their learning while using hypermedia learning environments tend to acquire only factual knowledge and not integrated conceptual understanding" (Green, Hutchinson, Costa, & Crompton, 2012, p. 307). These findings further support the need to encourage self-regulation strategies for deeper learning.

This depiction of the phases of SR helps to illustrate the complexity involved in SR. SR strategy selection occurs during all phases, and forms of self-evaluation occur intermittently throughout the process. Self-evaluation helps with strategy selection. Faulty strategy selection leads to poor goal planning, and possibly failure to achieve the goal altogether or, from an educational perspective, to poor learning effectiveness (Pintrich, 2002; Schunk, 2008; Winne & Hadwin, 1998).

#### **Self-Regulation Strategies**

The previous sections focused on the description of SR and the motivations for engaging in SR. This section turns to concrete SR strategies. Effective SR strategies are student practices that bring a greater sense of self-regulated learning; these are the "how" of learning (Pintrich, 2003; Reeve et al., 2004). Both emotional and cognitive SR have been found to be equally important for adaptive transfer (Lens, 2008; Winne & Hadwin, 1998). Early research on how to improve SR focused primarily on individuals engaging in self-monitoring and organizing. In more recent years, research has started to include motivational processes such as expectancies, increasing a sense self-efficacy, values, and self-evaluation strategies (Zimmerman, 2004). McInerney (2008), based on the research of Zimmerman and other motivation theorists, suggested several strategies that aid in SR. These include:

self-evaluating, organizing and transforming (rearranging and restructuring materials), goal setting and planning, seeking information (from nonsocial sources such as a book), keeping records and monitoring, environmental restructuring (rearranging the physical setting to make learning easier), self-consequating (arranging for rewards or punishments for success or failure), rehearsing and memorizing, seeking assistance from peers, teachers, and adults, and reviewing tests, notes, and texts. (p. 375)

Other options include organizing (making ideas orderly), using memory skills like mnemonics, asking self-questions and answer the questions, paraphrasing, elaborating, using analogies, predicting, considering another person's perspective (McInerney, 2008; Zimmerman, 2004; Zimmerman et al., 2000), include recognizing when difficulties are arising, and asking questions about unknown or confusing materials (Knowles, 1975; Newman, 1994).

Just as students need to understand strategies for increasing cognitive engagement, they also need to learn how to regulate motivational behavior states (Winne & Hadwin, 1998). Winne and Hadwin (1998) devised a system to aid in behavioral SR adaptation by using an "if-thenelse" process. "If" represents the task conditions, and "then" represents the process of selecting appropriate operations to solve the task. If these operations are not successful, the "else" condition is activated, whereby the individual selects another set of operations that might be more successful. For instance, "if" the learner experiences anxiety when solving a challenging problem, "then" the individual can engage in positive self-talk strategies, such as reaffirming her or his own ability to solve the problem based on successful similar past experiences. However, if positive self-talk does not reduce the individual's level of anxiety, the individual engages in an "else" process by selecting another anxiety-reducing strategy, such as getting positive feedback from peers. In this process, metacognition and self-assessment are critical. Knowles (1975) identified the complementary process of self-directed competency, which involves constructing a mental model of the self as a self-directed learner. This occurs through visualizing a plan of action that includes feelings and thoughts about accomplishing the goal. The instructor needs to provide learners with means for assessing themselves as self-directed learners.

Additional cognitive strategies include simple memory tasks, such as recall of information through strategies like rehearsal, or complex tasks that require comprehension, such as elaboration (generative note taking and creating analogies) and organizational strategies (outlining content, highlighting important information) (Pintrich, 1999). Deeper processing strategies include explaining ideas presented in the learning and asking and answering questions (Weinstein & Mayer, 1986). SR strategies to enhance metacognition include planning (setting goals, generating questions), monitoring (setting a goal or criteria against which standards are

measured or comparisons are made; e.g., tracking attention, self-testing, monitoring comprehension), and regulating cognitive activities and behaviors (rereading for comprehension, reviewing material that the individual is weak in, skipping hard questions on a test and returning to them later) (Pintrich, 1999). Students use these strategies to monitor their cognition. Monitoring can alert the individual of breakdowns where modifications need to occur. Resource management strategies include environmental management strategies (time management, study environment, help-seeking).

Research suggests that individuals who are good at SR set better learning goals, implement more effective learning strategies, expend more effort when needed, and monitor their progress at achieving goals (Bouffard-Bouchard et al., 1991; Zimmerman & Kitsantas, 1997; Zimmerman & Schunk, 2008). Goal setting and motivational planning allow students to control the amount of time they spend engaging in learning strategies like studying (Pintrich, 2000b). However, just as there are effective strategies, there are ineffective strategies like procrastinating (Ferrari, 2001). EVT, with its emphasis on expectancies, explains why some students do not volunteer to ask questions; they want to avoid negative feedback (Eccles & Wigfield, 1985). These ineffective strategies usually develop out of a lack of knowledge about effective strategies, poor expectations, or a sense of low value for completing the learning task. Since learning SR takes time, it can be challenging to teach SR strategies.

The implications of this line of reasoning are that SR processes are critical to learning. Self-efficacy, expectancies, and values are personal to the individual and will impact SR in a self-directed learning environment. The development and appropriate utilization of SR strategies during each phase of SR can lead to the autonomous use and selection of appropriate learning methods.

#### **Measuring Self-Regulation**

Based on EVT, in 1990, Pintrich and DeGroot developed the Motivated Strategies for Learning Questionnaire (MSLQ), designed to look at the relationships of motivation, values, and SR. To test the efficacy of this instrument, they conducted a correlation study of over 3,000 middle school and college students. Individuals who scored higher on the scales used metacognitive strategies, such as increased persistence and effort, for tasks that they viewed as tedious. SR, as operationalized by the MSLQ, was able to predict effective strategy use and academic performance, with higher values reported by those who engaged in cognitive strategies and self-regulation. This measure was found to have strong validity and reliability for measuring motivation related to self-efficacy, intrinsic value, cognitive strategy use, and self-regulation. The next section contains a discussion of the importance of cognitive load and cognitive architecture in a self-directed learning situation.

### **Cognitive Load Theory and Instruction**

Cognitive load theory is used to apply what is known about human cognitive architecture to best practices in instructional design (Sweller, 2011). Research on cognitive architecture helps to explain the core processes of memory and how it impacts learning. Cognitive load builds upon existing knowledge about the memory subsystems of working memory (WM) and long-term memory (LTM). In order for learning to occur, learners must maintain information in WM. However, WM is finite, with limitations on both the number and duration of interacting elements. This can pose a challenge for learning. This section contains a discussion of cognitive architecture, especially memory subsystems, as a theoretical framework for cognitive load theory. This section also contains a discussion of the concept of cognitive load as it relates to the purpose of the proposed research.

#### Memory

The theory of cognitive load derives from existing knowledge about cognitive architecture, specifically memory and learning. Early memory research studies date from the 1950s, when researchers began to study amnesic patients to gain insight into memory processes. Miller (1956) conducted a seminal study in which he established the foundation for the discovery of limited working memory capacity. Memory consists of separate stages or processes. When encoding information into LTM, information initially passes through WM. WM is constrained by both the amount of information held and the duration required for processing. By contrast, LTM is not constrained by either duration or capacity. In order for new learning to occur, information must transfer from WM into the permanent stores of LTM (Miller, 1956).

In 1972, Baddeley conducted research to help identify the components of WM. In his work he identified a verbal memory system. This system involves phonemic coding, which is sensitive to semantic elements. This was an important discovery for learning because it established a clearly definable difference between LTM and WM resources, along with identifying WM processes. Baddeley identified durable memory traces that help connect information into LTM. This furthered learning theory by contributing an understanding of, first, the division and processes that occur in WM, and, second, the dual processing of new information. Researchers now understand that learners process information aurally, through the phonological loop, and visually, through the visuospatial processing centers (Baddeley, 2002). The availability of two processing systems means that the duration and capacity of the two systems work together and compliment the limitations of WM. WM still has both duration and capacity limitations, but, by taking advantage of the two different processing systems, learners can maximize the capacity of their WM.

Unlike WM, LTM has an unlimited storage capacity and does not need to be constantly refreshed. Humans categorize information in LTM based on specific features of that information. These thematic stores of information create schemas (Baddeley, 2002). Schemas are networks of knowledge and facts that provide a way to organize information in memory. Schemas can include patterns, behaviors, and concepts that are related or interrelated and make up a mental framework for memory (Baddeley, 2002). People categorize new information in WM according to existing schemas and transfer it into appropriate LTM for storage (Baddeley, 1972; Baddeley, 2002; Baddeley & Hitch, 1974). Once new information connects to an existing schema in LTM, learning has occurred. From a learning perspective, novices have fewer and shallower schemas into which they can organize new information. Over time and through attaining expertise within the given schema, individuals develop larger, deeper schemas with strong memory traces (Baddeley, 2002). This means that information becomes easier to retrieve and modify through learning, leading to deeper levels of learning.

Once information moves into LTM, it becomes part of an unconscious process until the individual retrieves it into working memory through attention processes. Through the use of schemas, information processing can be automatic, freeing up the limited capacity of WM to organize additional information into more complex systems or schemas. Schemas are domain specific and augment WM capacity to an extent that corresponds to the complexity of the schema (Artino, 2008; van Merriënboer & Ayres, 2005). In this sense, schemas can be viewed of as chunks of domain-specific information (Artino, 2008; Kalyuga, 2007).

LTM uses information in both explicit and implicit processes. Explicit memory is involved in associative memory processes that are either episodic or declarative. It is the information we have available for conscious memory use. Implicit or procedural memory is the

information that is considered to be automatic and largely unconscious (Paas, Renkl, & Sweller, 2003). Riding a bike and driving a car are examples of procedural (implicit) memory. The storage and retrieval of automatic information is termed *automaticity*. Through automaticity, working memory resources are freed up to handle the explicit memory processes needed for learning to occur (Paas et al., 2003).

#### **Cognitive Load**

Cognitive load considerations are primarily important when learning complex tasks. Complex tasks require several interacting memory traces, limitations, and processes. Sweller (1988) coined the term *cognitive load* to account for how the limitations of working memory affect learning. To explain memory-processing limitations, cognitive load theory accounts for the inherent difficulty of the material, the learners' prior knowledge, the design of the instruction, and the amount of mental effort the individual exerts to learn the material.

Total cognitive load is the additive combination of intrinsic, extraneous, and germane cognitive load (Sweller, 1988; Sweller, van Merrinboer, & Paas, 1998). Intrinsic cognitive load is personal to the learner and accounts for the level of complexity imposed by the learners' prior knowledge and the material itself. Unnecessary instructional strategies use up limited available working memory resources, leading to extraneous cognitive load (e.g., split attention, redundancy). However, by understanding the material's level of difficulty and the complexity, instructional designers can avoid extraneous cognitive load by using effective design principals. Intrinsic and extraneous cognitive load are additive; when combined, the resources left for processing equal germane cognitive load (Paas et al., 2003). In order for learning to occur, intrinsic, extraneous, and germane cognitive load cannot be greater than what working memory is able to process. If the material is complex, then the intrinsic cognitive load will be high. To

account for the high intrinsic load, extraneous load from instructional design strategies should be minimized (Paas et al., 2003). For example, in the case of split attention, an ineffective strategy is to have students learn a task presented on a computer screen, while at the same time referring to an external manual about the task. To give another example, listening to music while trying to read through a text requires the learner to pay attention to two competing components at the same time, taxing cognitive resources unnecessarily.

In summary, "Cognitive load theory is concerned with techniques for managing working memory load in order to facilitate the changes in long-term memory associated with schema construction and automation" (Paas et al., 2003, p. 3). Intrinsic load is determined by the level of element interactivity inherent in the material (Sweller, 1998). Extraneous cognitive load causes working memory to use resources for irrelevant information processing. Since both intrinsic and extraneous cognitive load are additive, extraneous cognitive load becomes important for minimizing overall cognitive load (Paas et. al., 2003). Good instructional design plays an important role in reducing extraneous cognitive load, since the primary cause of high extraneous cognitive load is design that requires split attention or violates the redundancy principle (Yeung, Jin, & Sweller, 1998). Split attention makes it difficult for learners to ignore irrelevant information. Effective instructional design techniques free up cognitive resources in working memory (Chandler & Sweller, 1992; Yeung et al., 1998). Overall, learning performance will degrade if cognitive load is too high, potentially leading to the learner ceasing to learn.

### **Strategies to Reduce Cognitive Load**

Mayer and colleagues (Mayer, 2001, 2005, 2008; Mayer, Deleeuw, & Ayres, 2007; Mayer, Griffith, Jurkowitz, & Rothman, 2008; Mayer & Johnson, 2008; Mayer & Moreno, 2003;

Moreno, 2004; Moreno, 2007, 2010; Moreno & Mayer, 1999) have conducted extensive research

into strategies for reducing cognitive load. Table 1 presents a few of their findings.

Table 1

Features	Application				
Goal: To Reduce Extraneous Cognitive Processing					
Coherence	Eliminating extraneous words, pictures, images				
Signaling	Highlighting important words (e.g., section headings, highlighting, boldface font)				
Redundancy	Combining animations with narrations rather than animation, narration and text				
Spatial Contiguity	Placing corresponding portions of pictures and words near each other				
Temporal Contiguity	Presenting corresponding animation and narration simultaneously rather than successively				
Goal:To Manage Es	ssential Cognitive Processing				
Segmenting	Presenting narrated animation in learner-paced segments				
Pre-training	Providing pre-training in vocabulary and key concepts (e.g., outlines, key learning objectives, bottom line up front)				
Modality	Combining animation (visual) with narration (auditory), not animation (visual) with text (visual)				
Guided Activity	Prompting learners to select, organize, and integrate new information				
Reflection	Encouraging self-reflection to activate organization and integration of new information				
Feedback	Providing learners with proper schemas to repair misconceptions				
Worked Examples	Leveraging worked examples to show how to work though tasks/problems step-by-step				
Goal:To Encourage	Generative Processing				
Personalization	Communicating in an informal/conversational style				
Voice	Narrating in a non-accented voice rather than a machine- simulated voice				
Pacing	Allowing learners to control their pace, and process smaller chunks of information in working memory				
Sequencing	Ordering information to move from old (familiar)				
- U	information to new (unfamiliar) information				
Clear Structure	Using a familiar structure/pattern for presenting information (e.g., compare-contrast, classification, enumeration, cause-effect)				
Note: Table adapted	from Blankenbeckler et al. (2014), as cited in Graves, Wampler, & Roberts,				

<u>Note</u>: Table adapted from Blankenbeckler et al. (2014), as cited in Graves, Wampler, & Roberts, 2015, p.6.

Brunken, Plass, and Leutner (2004) conducted a study examining the role of irrelevant music incorporated into instructional material. The researchers gave learners an auditory multimedia learning system and a secondary task. The secondary task consisted of irrelevant background music and narration to assess the effects on cognitive load. As predicted, due to the split attention required to learn the tasks, students performed worse when presented with irrelevant music. This finding supports the need to consider design and reduce extraneous variables in learning presentations (Brunken et al., 2004). McCrudden, Schraw, & Hartley (2004) looked at the effects of split attention by approaching learners with two separate types of informational presentations. The first used a whole-sentence approach and the second used a sentence-by-sentence approach with off-screen presentation. The goal was to see which design placed fewer demands on cognitive load. Their results indicated that whole-sentence reading tasks, where the learner did not have to refer to anything else, placed fewer strains on working memory load and allowed for better retention of information. Van Merriënboer and Sluijsman (2009) suggested that instructors can reduce cognitive load by considering the student's level of expertise. For instance, early in the learning process, when intrinsic load is high, learners should study instructions and instructors should implement a scaffolding process. As the learner gains complex schemas through scaffolding and instruction, the instructor can taper off scaffolding and implement worked examples with self-guided explanations. Once the learner begins to reach the level of expert, the development of complex schemas frees up enough working memory resources that learners can then begin to work out problems for themselves. Studies that look at strategies to reduce unnecessary cognitive load help to identify how WM resources can be maximized in learning (van Merriënboer & Sluijsmans, 2009).

While there are methods that work to reduce cognitive load, there are also methods that inherently increase cognitive load and thus have a negative impact on learning. Kirschner, Sweller, and Clark (2006) argued that free exploration of highly complex material puts undue strain on limited WM resources. In addition, they suggested that, in problem solving strategies where an instructor presents a novice learner with a problem and asks the learner to solve it, the learner does not learn anything owing to the amount of resources such tasks impose. A lack of guidance could cause the novice learner to either not learn or learn the wrong material. Based on these findings, the proposed study will employ a tailored instruction design with built-in feedback messages to help scaffold learning.

### **Tailored and Interactive Learning**

Tailored IMI and learner interaction are complimentary principles. To be effective, IMI requires an understanding of interaction and appropriate design principles. In a tailored IMI environment, instructional designers structure the course and its content based on the needs of the learner (Graves et al., 2015). Interaction is the exchange between a learner and something else, such as content. However, there can also be design elements that encourage interaction between the learner and the learner's environment or educational context, as is most often the case in an IMI course (Larson & Lockee, 2014). The interaction in a tailored and interactive IMI learning context consists of using strategies that encourage learning and self-regulation, along with strategies that help to balance cognitive load expectations. In an IMI environment, strategies used to increase interactivity and tailor instruction differ somewhat from those found in a face-to-face learning environment, where the teacher is able to directly monitor the needs of the learner, it may be easier to provide guidance. However, in a tailored IMI environment, guidance is restricted to the programing and branching options within the IMI

course itself (Graves et al., 2015). In addition, in a traditional face-to-face interaction, feedback may be direct and immediate, whereas, in a typical structured IMI course, where the learner progresses through the content in a step-by-step fashion, the learner may receive delayed feedback or no feedback.

Another important form of interaction involves learner-to-self. This interaction is especially important for fostering self-directed learning and self-regulation strategies. When learners reflect on learning and engage in self-dialogue and personal goal self-assessment strategies, they use metacognition and other important self-regulation skills. As Chastain (1975) notes individualized instruction does not mean learning in isolation. This form of interaction may be especially important in cases where learners have some previous knowledge of the training content. Graves et al. (2014) found that, in an Army context, IMI was more effective among learners with some previous content knowledge. This may be explainable by research on misconceptions, which suggests that passively reading texts is less likely to correct learners' misinformation when compared with interactive learning, where they are able to act on newly corrected information. This study examined basic learning strategies, where learners were likely to have some prior content knowledge from their time in primary and secondary school. Therefore, IMI may be particularly effective for training in these skills.

Although tailored IMI training can range from having simple interactions, such as the ability to self-pace, to complex interaction as in adaptive feature designs, this study focused on a simple design. The design will utilize a diagnostic assessment (further discussed in Chapter 3) along with feedback and recommendations based on the results of the assessment. This methodology adheres to a learner-centric design where instructional designers assess individual learning needs and expect the learner to take an increasing level of responsibility for learning

(Graves et al., 2015). For this reason, a tailored IMI design supports higher levels of learner autonomy. Based on a review of the literature and past similar studies, it is reasonable to expect that both learners' ability to use self-regulation skills and the amount of cognitive load they experience while using this type of methodology can mediate the overall learning effectiveness on a tailored IMI course. This avoids a typical problem with traditional IMI, where the instructional designer expects the learner only to gain a general understanding of the topic without going into needed depth. As noted in previous research, too much interactivity could compromise learning (Graves, et al., 2014). For this reason, it is important to apply effective design principles when designing IMI.

In the U.S. Army, tailored IMI is one proposed method for meeting the needs of the individual soldier while enhancing learning effectiveness. In the past few years, studies looked at how to optimize soldiers' learning needs, for example by developing effective learning strategies and using tailored instruction to meet individual needs (Wisecarver et al., 2012; Graves et al., 2012; Graves, Blankenbeckler, & Wampler, 2014; Blankenbeckler, Graves, & Wampler, 2014; Blankenbeckler et al., 2013). Although these researchers found increased learning effectiveness when using a tailored training method, this finding applied to highly technical skills (adjust indirect fire and conduct a defensive by squad). The researchers did not address learning foundational skills, such as self-learning strategies, for enhancing the soldiers' future success in education and training. The studies proposed using a simplified tailored instruction model, where the soldier receives learning content recommendations based on diagnostic feedback in a self-paced, tailored IMI. These past studies supported the use of this method in the Army context; however, they did not address how the mediating variables of self-regulation and cognitive load can impact the effectiveness of this training and education method.

### **Connecting Self-Regulation and Cognitive Load**

Self-regulation and cognitive load have long been separate concepts in literature and research. However, given the importance of both areas, the combination of these two concepts can lead to greater insight into learning effectiveness, specifically when accounting for self-paced learning environments (Graves et al., 2012). The purpose of this section is to describe how cognitive load can impact SR. Since cognitive load derives from knowledge about cognitive architecture and its impact on learning, and since self-regulation involves monitoring of different cognitive, behavioral, and affective states, it stands to reason that cognitive load theory can complement theories of self-regulation. This section contains an explanation of how these theories relate in the context of learning.

As previously stated, self-regulation involves actively establishing, maintaining, and monitoring goal progress or the mental representation of a desired end state (Zimmerman, 2000, 2004). SR becomes directionless and ineffective without goals (Corno, 2008; Lens, 2008). The process of developing goals involves representing the desired outcome state in working memory. The goals are maintained during all three phases of SR (forethought, performance control, selfreflection) and become mental representations of the circumstances in which the goals can be attained (Zimmerman, 2004). Maintaining these representations in working memory becomes central for self-regulation and all of the variables that affect SR. For instance, distractions could cause SR goals to drift out of WM, thereby affecting attention and the amount of action the individual will engage in toward accomplishing the goals (Ames & Archer, 1988; Schunk, 2008; Winne, 2006; Winne & Hadwin, 1998). From a learning perspective, distraction in instructional design creates extraneous cognitive load and can derail attention required for maintaining selfregulation. However, through the use of effective strategies that incorporate self-regulation

strategies, instructors can support learning and redirect learners toward the achievement of goals (Graves et al, 2014).

Goal monitoring takes place primarily in working memory (Paas et al., 2003). SR strategies used to attain goals, such as outlining or self-questioning, aid in connecting, modifying, or reinforcing memory schemas (Artino, 2008; van Merriënboer & Ayres, 2005). When people retrieve goals from long-term memory and reevaluate them in working memory, they direct their attention toward the achievement of the final goal state, corresponding to the third stage of SR (Zimmerman, 2004). This helps the learner to develop strategies needed to learn the material. If the learner has high learning outcome expectancies and values the learning goals, then the learner will focus attention on learning. Goals help to refocus and refresh working memory duration, while aiding the learner in developing effective learning strategies (Wisecarver et al., 2012). In this sense, both cognitive load and SR strategies work together to aid in learning complex material. There is evidence that high cognitive load early in the learning is associated with the use of fewer SR strategies (DeShon, Brown, & Greenis, 1996; Ferrari, 2001; Van Dillen, Papies, & Hofmann, 2013). In some cases, students fail in open self-paced learning environments, such as hypermedia learning environments, because of cognitive overload and student disorientation (Gerjets, Scheiter, & Schuh 2008). In environments like hypermedia learning environments, students were found to use more cognitive based strategies versus planning and monitoring strategies (Azevedo, 2005), whereas other research found an association in SR strategy use and conceptual understanding (Greene, et. al., 2012). In addition, using SR processes such as planning, monitoring and effective strategy use are associated with the acquisition of mental models for learning complex information about biological systems (Greene & Azevedo, 2009). As students move from novice to expertise in a given domain they

shift their strategy use to accommodate their prior knowledge (Greene & Azevedo, 2009). However, "research suggests that students do not benefit from the use of computers in classrooms unless they are effective at self-regulating their learning" (Azevedo, 2005, p. 193). The interacting roles of cognitive load and SR therefore need more careful exploration. Engaging in self-regulation to optimize cognitive load is generally adaptive for cognition, motivation, learning, and performance.

#### Summary

This chapter presented a review of research and theoretical literature related to the topic of this study. Self-regulation, including the related concept of motivation, and cognitive load are important in understanding how learners attain success. Self-regulation refers to the strategies learners use to motivate and monitor their own learning, and can range from note-taking strategies to time management. Expectancy-value theory sheds light on the reasons learners might choose to develop varying self-regulation strategies, and shows that past learning experience has an important influence on learning outcomes. According to EVT, the ideal learning environment consists of learners who have high expectancy (self-efficacy) and high value for learning. Cognitive load theory, by contrast, emphasizes memory resources to explain that the ideal conditions for learning are those in which the complexity of the material is balanced with the difficulty of learning tasks, leaving sufficient working memory avaiable for processing and transferring knowledge into long-term memory. Despite the fact that both shed considerable light on the ideal conditions for learning, these two concepts have not been studied in combination, and their effects on one another are poorly understood. The following chapter presents the methodology for this study which will address this gap in existing literature.

### CHAPTER 3

### RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

#### **Overview**

This chapter will cover the methodology used for this study. A discussion is provided about the research design of the study, participants, research questions, data collection procedures, learning content design and development, and independent and dependent variables. The study investigated tailored versus non-tailored interactive multimedia instruction (IMI), along with how characteristics of individual learning experiences are impacted by cognitive processes related to self-regulation and cognitive load variables. Specifically, the research examined the potential mediating effects of (a) learners' disposition to self-regulate and (b) the level/type of cognitive load elicited during the learning experience. A better understanding of this relationship may increase our ability to match students to appropriate instructional content and designs.

#### Methods

### Design

This research is a true experimental pretest-posttest with a control group design (Gall, 2007). Individuals were randomly assigned to either the treatment or control group. The following is a depiction of this process.

Table 2

Random Assignment Matrix

	Group	Time		→
Random	Group 1	Observation	Treatment (tailored)	Observation
Assignment	Group 2	Observation	Control (non-tailored)	Observation

### **Dependent and Independent Variables**

**Independent variable.** The independent variables for this study represent the two groups: control group (non-tailored IMI) and the treatment group (tailored IMI), along with career experience as determined by course type the soldier was attending at the time of data collection (BLC & ALC).

**Dependent variables.** The dependent variables were the important constructs identified by this study. These factors were measured using the following instruments:

- a. User demographics survey
- b. The qualities of user experiences as measured with a user experiences survey.
- c. Learning assessment was measured using a pre/post test design.
- d. Perceived cognitive load was measured using the NASA-TLX instrument.
- e. Self-regulation factors were measured using the MSLQ instrument.

**Mediating variable.** Moderating variables are the variables that stand between the independent and dependent variables, and they mediate the effects of the independent variable on the dependent variable (Baron & Kenny, 1986). In this study, SR and cognitive load are thought to be the mediating variables that can potentially impact the dependent measure results.

#### **Participants**

Research indicates that Noncommissioned Officers (NCOs) who are early in their career, are less aware of self-learning strategies and techniques than NCOs further along in their career (Graves, et al., 2011). This study focused on the both the early career (E4) and mid-career (E5/E6) NCOs' experiences to further provide insight for future instructional design methods within this population. The first data collection session took place at Fort Eustis, Virginia with students in the Army's Advanced Leader Course (ALC). Originally, eighty participants were

recruited; however, the experiment was conducted at the end of the day and soldiers had additional duties to complete. Due to these competing challenges and the voluntary nature of the experiment, approximately only 50% (n=42) of the recruited sample participated. The second experimental session took place at Fort Benning, Georgia with a sample of soldiers (n=47) who all voluntarily participated. These soldiers were attending the Army's Basic Leader course (BLC). The final sample size of eighty-nine soldiers consisted of a combination of participants from these two sessions. The average aggregated age of the participants was 29 (SD=6.52) and the average age for BLC was 25 (SD=4.17), ALC 32 (SD=6.93).

To help ensure that the sample was representative of the population and increase internal validity, random assignment was used to provide participants an equal probability of being selected to either the control or treatment group (Gall, 2007; Keppel & Wickens, 2004). In order to seek the students' consent to participate in the research, the NCOs were gathered in a classroom and the purpose of the research was explained, along with the data collection process for the research effort, and the students' rights as participants in research. Instructors were asked to leave the room while the researcher administered informed consent to avoid unintentional participation pressure from senior NCOs'. The researcher handed out forms describing the research and informed consent. This process helped ensure that students understood their rights as participants in research; how their data will be analyzed, reported, and stored; the limits of the guarantee of confidentiality; and the Institutional Review Board approval that was received. Soldiers were not compensated for their participation in this study.

### **Materials**

The instructional design techniques used for the interactive multimedia instruction (IMI) courseware in this study were based on past findings from previous studies conducted with Army

NCOs' (Blankenbeckler et al., 2013, 2014; Graves, 2014), along with findings from previous research regarding the design of IMI for cognitive load considerations (Moreno, 2004; Moreno, 2007; Moreno & Mayer, 1999; Sweller, 1988a; Sweller, 1988b; Sweller, 2011; Yeung, Jin, & Sweller, 1998). The training content of the IMI was derived from previous research that identified NCOs' preferred strategies and techniques they frequently used to learn on their own (Graves, Rauchfuss, & Wisecarver, 2011). Findings from this early study were used to develop the IMI training entitled "A Leg Up on Self-Learning: Strategies for Success." This content was designed to broadly target new NCOs'. However, this content did not progress past initial development and proof of concept. For the purpose of this research, the overall content was revised to include voice quality sound modifications. In addition, a second form of the content was developed for use with the treatment group. This second set of content allowed for user control and tailored IMI, along with the addition of diagnostic assessment and feedback. This resulted in two forms of the same training content (control and treatment), with different learner controls and branching options. Individuals used a computer to access the content that was on a disk. The course content took approximately two hours to complete. Each participant progressed through initial instructions on how to use the courseware and then begin the lessons. Minimal assistance was provided to the participants as they progress through the courseware.

#### Procedure

Figure 1 depicts the flow and steps of the procedure used in this study. The procedure followed the steps of pre-course data collection, courseware, and post-course data collection design.

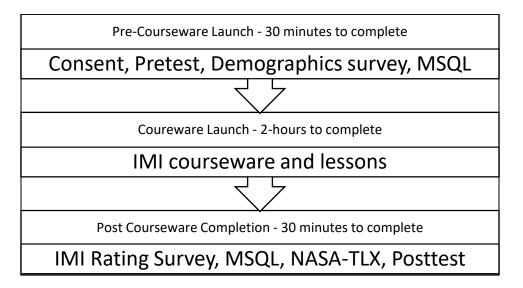


Figure 1. Research Study Data Collection Layout.

To begin with, all of the assessment documents were coded to ensure confidentiality. The courseware did not contain tracking features, so individual choices were not collected. Soldiers were asked to first complete an informed consent document (See Appendix A). Following the completion of the consent form, soldiers were randomly assigned to either the tailored (control) or the non-tailored (treatment) instruction group. In a quiet room, students were given 30-minutes to complete the MSLQ, demographics survey, and the pretest. Once all of the instruments were collected, students were then asked to begin the "A Leg Up on Self-Learning: Strategies for Success" (IMI) courseware.

The IMI content was the same product for both groups. However, the control group progressed through the IMI as programmed from the introduction to the last module "Evaluating Learning." In contrast, the treatment group (tailored IMI) was first administered a ten question diagnostic assessment (See Appendix B). This assessment was scored automatically and based on the individual score; the soldier was given feedback regarding areas of strengths and weaknesses. This was tailored feedback with recommendations based on the diagnostic score assessment. Individuals in the treatment group were allowed to progress through the content in any order. Both the control and treatment group took about two-hours to complete the lessons within the course. The courseware contained instructions for navigation and successfully progressing through the lessons. Once soldiers completed the courseware instructions, they then progressed through the lessons. While engaged in completing the lessons, soldiers were not given any additional assistance or instructions, unless needed. At the completion of the lessons, soldiers were asked to complete the CBT rating survey, NASA-TLX, and posttest.

### **Data Collection**

### **Data Collection Procedures**

The data collection instruments included a pre-training knowledge assessment, posttraining knowledge assessment, demographic questionnaire, learner experience survey, and measures of cognitive load (NASA-TLX) and self-regulation (MSLQ). Two variations of an IMI training module were presented to the NCOs. Almost half (n = 45) of the participating NCOs were presented with an IMI incorporating tailored training features into its design, and the other half (n = 44) an IMI that was sequential and did not incorporate tailored training features. Participating NCOs were randomly assigned to one or the other group. Both IMI modules presented the same content, intended to train techniques and strategies that NCOs can use to learn on their own for their Army jobs and to support their professional development. Prior to training, a demographic questionnaire, an assessment of background knowledge (pretest), and measures of learner self-regulation (MSLQ) were administered. The IMI training was then administered. After the training was complete, the post-training knowledge test (posttest), a learning experience questionnaire, and the NASA-TLX were administered. All data was collected and stored in coded envelops for data coding and analysis purposes. Each participant

had an individualized coded envelop to place all of the materials back into prior to leaving the study.

### Instrumentation

**Demographics survey.** A demographics survey was administered to understand the characteristics of the sample (Appendix C). The survey consists of 25 questions and was coded to maintain individual confidentiality. Characteristics such as rank, age, time in service and grade, military occupational specialty (MOS), and Army component (Regular Army, Army National Guard, Army Reserve) are examples of the demographic data that was collected. Self-perspective questions were asked to determine the individual's self-beliefs and level of self-efficacy prior to taking the course content. Civilian employment history and experience questions were asked to determine prior experience and training that may influence course progress and success. Because the level of education can potentially impact ability to self-regulate, along with prior knowledge and possibly cognitive load, civilian education and history questions were administered. Army related training questions were asked to determine the level of prior training and experiences.

**Knowledge assessment.** Participants received the same pretest and posttest measurement to help determine posttest gains in knowledge. Participants were asked to answer questions related to the topic of self-directed learning to gauge their background knowledge and experience with the topic. Two versions (A & B) of the test were created, with items consisting of 10 multiple choice questions covering information on attitudes and motivation, planning and analysis, information seeking, sense making, and evaluating learning (Appendices A & B). The following table lists tests A &B assessment balance matrix.

### Table 3

### A and B Assessment Balance Matrix

Self-		r	Test A	٨		Correct		r	Fest I	)		Corrot
			Test A	A		Correct			rest r	2		Correct
Learning						Responses						Responses
Topic												
Attitudes &	1					2					6	3
Motivations	(1)										(1)	
	2										7	
	(1)										(2)	
Planning &			5			7				5		6
Analysis			(3)							(3)		
			6							8		
			(4)							(3)		
Information		3				5	1					5
Seeking		(2)					(2)					
		4					2					
		(3)					(3)					
Sense					8	6			4			6
Making					(3)				(3)			
					10				10			
					(3)				(3)			
Evaluating				7		5		3				5
Learning				(3)				(2)				
				9				9				
				(2)				(3)				

\*Numbers represent the corresponding questions on the test e.g., Test A question 1 assess knowledge about "Attitudes & Motivations".

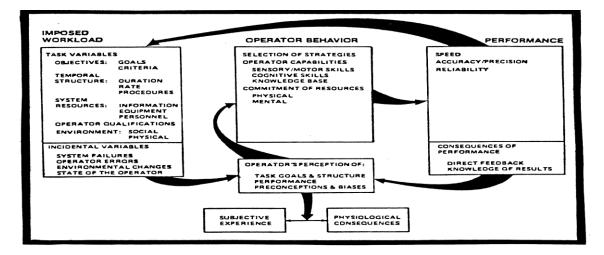
### Computer based training (CBT) rating questionnaire (learning experiences). This

questionnaire was designed to assess soldiers' perceptions about the quality, value, usability, and perceived effectiveness of the training content (Appendix F). Soldiers were asked to rate their level of agreement based on a 5 point Likert scale ranging from "Strongly Agree" to "Strongly Disagree". The "Strongly Disagree" scale was assigned a point value of 1 all the way up to the "Strongly Agree" scale being assigned a point value of five. Higher overall scores indicate a stronger level of agreement (Graves, et al., 2015).

NASA task load index (NASA-TLX). At the conclusion of the treatment and prior to taking the posttest, participants were asked to complete the NASA-TLX instrument (Appendix D). This instrument is proven to be sensitive for measuring mental workload (Hart & Staveland, 1988), with strong validity and reliability (Hart & Staveland, 1988; Human Performance Research Group, 1986; Rubio, Díaz, Martín, & Puente, 2004). Originally, it was developed as the result of a multi-year research effort that sought to identify and isolate factors representative of workload. Subjective measures such as this instrument are commonly used for determining subjective cognitive load. However, because subjective measures contain a high degree of variability, the use of rating scales is proposed to help reduce this variability (Hart & Staveland, 1988).

In comparison with other workload assessment methods, subjective ratings may come closest to tapping the essence of mental workload and provide the most generally valid and sensitive indicator. They provide the only source of information about the subjective impact of a task on operators and integrate the effects of many workload contributors (Hart & Staveland, 1986, p. 141).

The framework behind this instrument is based on the premises that workload is human-centered and emerges from the interaction between the task requirements and other circumstances, such as operator perceptions. The following is a depiction of this framework. (Hart & Staveland, 1988)



*Figure 2*. Conceptual Framework for Relating Variables that Influence Human Performance and Workload

The NASA-TLX measures mental workload on six scales (mental demand, physical demand, temporal demand, performance, effort, and frustration level) ranging from low to high ratings. This instrument also provides an alternative scoring method allows each scale to be analyzed based on perceived "demands" and "importance". It assesses workload on a scale with increments ranging from very low to medium and very high. The TLX Manual provides the following description table for each of the scales (Human Performance Research Group, 1986):

### Table 4

### Table Rating Scales Definitions

Title	Endpoints	Descriptions
Mental	Low/High	How much mental and perceptual activity was required
Demand		(e.g., thinking deciding, calculating, remembering looking,
		searching, etc.)? Was the task easy or demanding, simple
		or complex, exacting or forgiving?
Physical	Low/High	How much physical activity was required (e.g., pushing,
Demand		pulling, turning, controlling, activating, etc.)? Was the task
		easy or demanding, slow or brisk, slack or strenuous,
		restful or laborious?
Temporal	Low/High	How much time pressure did you feel due to the rate or
Demand		pace at which the tasks or task elements occurred? Was
		the pace slow and leisurely or rapid and frantic?
Performance	Good/poor	How successful do you think you were in accomplishing
		the goals of the task set by the experimenter (or yourself)?
		Was the pace slow and leisurely or rapid and frantic?
Effort	Low/High	How hard did you have to work (mentally and physically)
		to accomplish your level of performance?
Frustration	Low/High	How insecure, discouraged, irritated, stressed and annoyed
Level		versus secure, gratified, content, relaxed and complacent
		did you feel during the task?

Note: See Appendix A, p.13.

Motivated Strategies for Learning Questionnaire (MSLQ). In 1990, Pintrich and DeGroot developed a modified version of the original Motivated Strategies for Learning Questionnaire (MSLQ) based on expectancy value theory (Eccles, 1983; Wigfield & Eccles, 2000). The framework for this instrument is derived from early work on cognitive motivation and learning strategies (McKeachie, Pintrich, & Lin, 1985). The MSLQ was designed to look at

the relationships of cognitive strategy use, intrinsic values, self-efficacy, test anxiety, and selfregulation. To test out the efficacy of the modified instrument, Pintrich and DeGroot conducted a longitudinal correlation study of over three-thousand middle school and college age individuals. For tasks that were viewed as tedious, individuals who scored higher were found to use metacognitive strategies, such as increased persistence and effort (Pintrich & De Groot, 1990). This measure was found to have strong validity and reliability for measuring motivation related to self-efficacy, intrinsic value, cognitive strategy use, and self-regulation. Soldiers were given a slightly modified version of this instrument, as it pertains to this study. The self-regulation, cognitive strategy use, self-efficacy, and intrinsic value constructs were measured on a 5-point Likert scale ranging from "strongly disagree" to "strongly agree" (Appendix E). The following table lists the question number and the motivational construct in which it falls under when compared to the MSLQ.

Table 5

### Motivational Construct as Relates to MSLQ

Motivational	MSLQ Question number and Question
Construct	
Self-	2. Compared with other soldiers taking this course, I expect to do well.
Efficacy	7. I'm certain I can understand the ideas taught in this course.
	10. I expect to do very well with this course.
	13. I am sure I can do an excellent job on the problems and tasks assigned for
	this course.
	20. My study skills are excellent compared with others in this course.
	22. Compared with other students in this course I think I know a great deal
	about the subject.
	23. I know that I will be able to learn the material for this course.
Intrinsic	1. I prefer course work that is challenging so I can learn new things.
Value	5. It is important for me to learn what is being taught in this course.
	9. I think I will be able to use what I learn in this course in other courses.
	18. I think that what I am learning in this course is useful for me to know.
	25. Understanding this subject is important to me.

Cognitive	30. When I study, I try to put together information from different sources.
Strategy Use	33. It is hard for me to determine the main ideas in what I read. (*R)
Sualegy Use	
	35. When I study, I put important ideas into my own words.
	36. I try to understand even when something doesn't make sense.
	38. When preparing for a test I try to remember as many facts as I can.
	39. When studying, I copy my notes over to help me remember material.
	42. When I study for a test I practice saying the important facts over and over
	to myself.
	44. I use what I have learned in the past to help me learn new material.
	47. When I am studying a topic, I try to make everything fit together.
	53. When I read material, I try to say the words over and over to myself to help
	me remember.
	54. I develop outlines to help me study.
	56. When reading, I connect things I am reading about to what I already know.
Self-	32. I ask myself questions to make sure I know the material I have been
Regulation	studying.
	34. When work is hard I either give up or study only the easy parts. (*R)
	40. I work on practice exercises and answer end of chapter questions even
	when I don't have to.
	41. Even when study materials are dull and uninteresting, I keep working until I
	finish.
	43. Before I begin studying I think about the things I will need to do to learn.
	45. I often find that I have been reading for class but don't know what it is all
	about. (*R)
	46. I find that when the instructor is talking I think of other things and don't
	really listen to what is being said. (*R)
	52. When I'm reading I stop once in a while and go over what I have read.
	55. I work hard to learn even when I don't like the subject matter.
	& DeGroot 1990 p 40

Note: Pintrich & DeGroot, 1990, p. 40

### **Course Design**

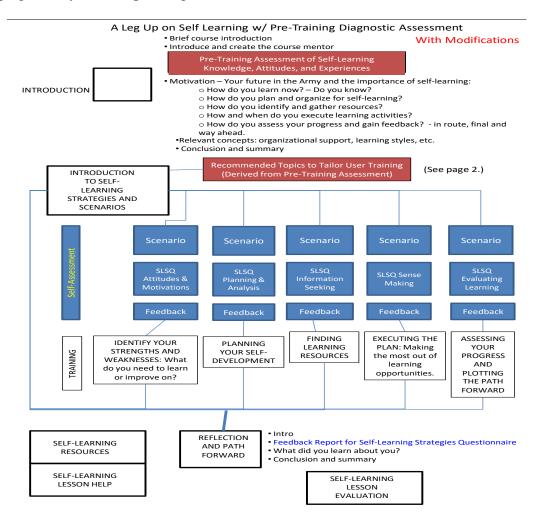
The tailored training IMI combines information with a pre-training diagnostic assessment followed by individualized feedback. The individualized feedback includes a report on how well the learner addressed each of the content areas covered by the training and provides them with recommendations on how to optimize their selection of content for their upcoming learning session. The recommendations were designed to aid the learner in understanding how to

prioritize future learning objectives. The following table provides a blueprint for the IMI design

used in this study.

### Table 6

"A Leg Up on Self-Learning" Blueprint

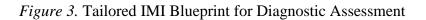


Based on past research, training using the pre-training diagnostic assessment, along with feedback for learners, was found to have large effects for learners with less prior knowledge; however, as the individual becomes more familiar with the domain, the effect decreases (Graves et al., 2014).Since this concept follows a learner-centered design, the focus is on providing

training that addresses individual needs, while allowing the individual to take responsibility for their own successes (Graves et al., 2015).

The automation schema for the IMI courseware in used in this study was designed to be both structured for the control group and open for self-pacing in the treatment group. To meet this goal, two versions of the IMI were developed: one with individualized feedback, training recommendations, and navigation scheme; the other without the tailored training design features (instructional design features that support learner-control were removed). Both versions of the IMI had the same instructional content with differences between them specific to their design and features. Each lesson was designed around a learning objective and begins with a realistic scenario to gain the participants' attention and orient their thinking toward the learning. The tailored IMI consisted of diagnostic assessment and feedback not found in the non-tailored IMI control group. The following is a blueprint for the navigation features based on the diagnostic assessment for the tailored IMI.

Course: Strategies for Self-Learning File Name: Section: Intro to Self-Learning	NOTE: This page is the main navigation page to access the modules! g	-
Page Title: SL_I_012 Version: 0.1	Examining Self-Learning Strategies	
	n a <b>RED</b> indicator to learn more about strategies to support your self-learning. Other modules have examined each of the indicated modules, select <b>Next</b> to continue.	<u>Recommended</u> Training Modules
1	<b>Determine learning strengths and impediments</b> – How	$\mathbf{a}$
for /i	to assess, gain feedback, and identify strengths and weaknesses.	<b>O</b> A
ided <b>5</b>	Develop a learning plan — How to analyze your learning	
Numbers in Blue are provided for reference ONLY do NOT display!	needs, develop goals, and create a workable timeline and plan.	U
do R are	Find learning resources and opportunities – How and	
In Blue are ONLY do N	where to get the right materials and do the right things to learn.	
s in	Make sense of your learning – How to make the most out of	
A Numbers	learning opportunities and make new knowledge and skills useful.	
	Evaluate learning progress – How to gauge progress,	
	troubleshoot problems, and make adjustments.	
Navigation: Graphics: Animation: Audio: Video: Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Hyperlinks:		



### **IMI Development**

To get the necessary design features in the courseware, several different software

applications were used. The final products of these applications were combined into the

courseware enabling additional features such as realistic human voice narration. The following

table lists the software used to develop the two versions of the IMI courseware.

Table 7

Software Used in the Development of IMI Courseware

Software	Purpose
Adobe Flash Builder	IMI Framework
4.8 using Flex	
Framework 4.10	

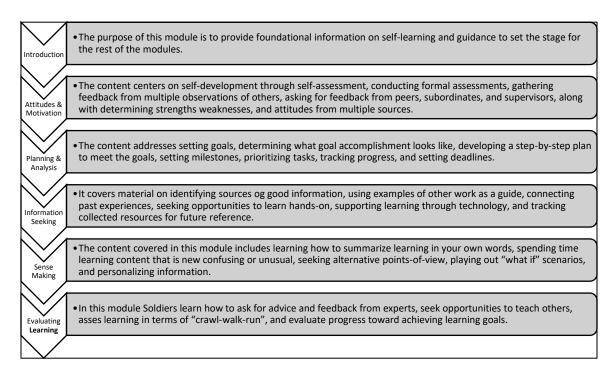
Adobe Flash CS8	IMI pages
Adobe Photoshop	IMI images
CS8	
Adobe Acrobat	Course documents and interactive survey
Professional	
Logic Pro	Real voice production
Adobe Audition CS 6	Audio edits

### **Course Modules**

This course is broken out into six modules, each covering a separate learning objective, with sub-content within each module. In order to provide individualized feedback, the diagnostic assessment is used to determine the degree of overall individual level course content and subcontent understanding within each module (See Appendix G-L for complete storyboards). The following is a brief description of the lessons within the course. All storyboard content was received from the research and design work of Blankenbeckler, Graves, Dlubac, and Wampler (2016).

Figure4

Lesson Layout



Each lesson was designed around a learning objective. The learning objectives were geared toward aiding the learner, in this case the soldier, in understanding how to engage in selflearning strategies. They were written and designed within an Army context, to provide the soldier with realistic and authentic scenarios he/she may encounter in an Army situation. The content is provided in a narration scenario based format. Soldiers are addressed by the IMI as if another NCO is speaking to them and helping them through the lesson. The following is an example (storyboard) of this interaction in the first module of the course:

Course: Strategies for Self-Learn Art Director: Multimedia De File Name: Section: Intro to Self-Learning Page Title: SL\_1003 Version: 0.1 Sound Advice for Your Future and Success in the Army "... I don't know anything about the job you're heading to, but I do know a few things. If you don't know the job, then learn it. If they can't tell you what the job is, then you figure it out and then tell them what the job is. Don't wait for someone to teach you. Learn the job and keep learning. Never stop. You never know what you might need to get the mission accomplished." "Remember, if it was easy, then they wouldn't give it to an NCO." - Anonymous BN CSM Today's NCO: Adaptive and Continual Learners by First Sergeant (Retired) Cameron Wesson, NCO Journal, February 6, 2014 Navigation: Graphics: **On Screen Treatments** NEXT go to SL | 004 Animation: Open with the title and image. At (use live male voice) insert the BACK go to SL | 002 Audio: quote on the screen with the reference to the NCO Journal. Video: Functionality Interactivity Hyperlinks:

Figure 5. Sound Advice for Your Future and Success in the Army.

In addition to context specific narration, soldiers were instructed to select a "virtual" mentor to work with from one of three possible options. These mentors stay with the individual throughout the course modules and help to provide a demonstration of a model NCO (See Appendix # for more details). They were also used to provide scaffolding for the learning content. Below is an example of the scripted narration for selecting a "virtual" mentor: **Narration:** A key component of self-learning is your support network. Your self-learning network may include supervisors, experienced peers, other senior NCOs, professors, and teachers—anyone who takes an interest in your development and success. No doubt, you have already received advice, guidance, or counseling in your career. A characteristic of our Army is that good leaders are interested and involved in the development, wellbeing, and success of their subordinates. This is especially true when subordinates show initiative and promise as future leaders. To guide you in this lesson, you may select a mentor, a virtual model of a successful

NCO. This virtual mentor will guide you through the scenarios and may intervene at times to

provide emphasis or discuss key points in training.

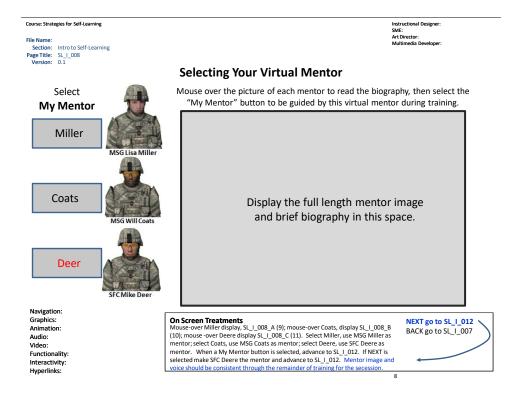


Figure 6. Selecting Your Virtual Mentor.

**Narration:** The available virtual mentors are depicted. Mouse over the pictures to view a brief biography of each of these senior NCOs. Select the "My Mentor" button adjacent to the senior NCO's picture that seems to be the most appropriate for or compatible with you. If you choose not to select a mentor, select NEXT and a virtual NCO will be assigned to assist you in training.

The course was designed to allow soldiers to first go through a brief lesson introduction. This is where they were guided to select a virtual course mentor. After they chose their mentor, the tailored IMI design required soldiers to take a brief diagnostic assessment and provided recommendations guiding the soldier to additional needed training within the course. The nontailored (designer controlled) IMI guided the learner to begin the first module in the series. In addition, reflection exercises, resources, and lesson help were also inserted into the course

design. To give a better idea of what the course entailed, the following is a breakdown and

example of the second module (see Appendix ... for all of the course storyboards).

Module 2, "Attitude and Motivations." This module was broken down into twenty-five

storyboards. The content centers on self-development through self-assessment, conducting

formal assessments, gathering feedback from multiple observations of others, asking for

feedback from peers, subordinates, and supervisors, along with determining strengths,

weaknesses, and attitudes from multiple sources. Below is a summary slide for the module.

Course: Strategies	s for Self-Learning		Instructional Designer: SME:	
File Name: Art Director: Section: Attludes & Motivations Toward Self-Learning Multimedia Developer: Page Title: SL_AM_025				
Version: 0.2		rning Attitudes and Motivations	Summary	
<ul> <li>To properly prepare for self development and self-learning you must assess where you are. An important aspect of that determination is identifying your strengths and weaknesses. This assessment should include:</li> <li>Self-assessment. Determine your attitudes toward learning and your strengths and weaknesses from your perspective. Understand that it is difficult to honestly self-assess and weaknesses from your perspective.</li> </ul>				
2.	your opinion may be prejudiced. Conduct a formal assessment. Review records of performance assessments, skill assessments, aptitude and intelligence tests, and other assessments and inventories that compare you to a standard.			
3.				
		subordinates, peers, and supervisors. Det		
5.	, ,	ths , weaknesses, and attitudes from mult	tiple sources to provide	
	input to your self development and self-learning plans. Self Assessment Job Aid			
	Select NEXT to conti	nue or BACK to return to the instructional	menu for this module.	
Navigation: Graphics: Animation: Audio:		On Screen Treatments	NEXT go to S_SL_I_0?? BACK go to SL_AM_006	
Video: Functionalit Interactivity Hyperlinks:		NEXT goes to the Intro Module Selection Menu SL_I_??		

Figure 7. Self-Learning Attitudes and Motivations Summary.

It begins with an authentic scenario based on what a junior level NCO would encounter

on the job. For example:

### Narration:

**SFC Ivy:** SGT Golden, I have some good news and some bad news, which do you want a first? **SGT Golden:** Just give it to me straight, Sergeant Ivy.

**SFC Ivy:** Okay. The First Sergeant was just alerted that your squad leader, Staff Sergeant Black, is being reassigned to the Old Guard. He will be clearing within a week. Your squad has been tops in the Company, maybe the Battalion. You are junior, but you have played a **major role** in that good performance. (Pause) You have demonstrated a lot of potential. The Platoon Leader and I thought that we'd just move you up, but the First Sergeant says that there are two more E (say the letter "e") fives in the Company who deserve a chance: Marsh in 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon and Wilson in 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon.

**SGT Golden:** (in a frustrated tone) Come on, Sergeant Ivy; isn't Wilson the guy from 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon who is always checking out early? Doesn't he have kids who are always getting sick at school or his wife isn't supposed to drive or something?

**SFC Ivy:** At ease, SGT Golden! Being critical of others won't help your case. The First Sergeant has made up his mind and convinced the Company Commander. He plans to pick the N-C-O who demonstrates that he is ready to go to the Advanced Leaders Course. If there is a tie, he wants to conduct a company board and rate the competitors. Your best course of action is to quit complaining and get the prerequisites for A-L-C knocked out ASAP. Don't you want be the First Squad Leader? Get your head right, Sergeant.

**SGT Golden:** Okay, Sergeant Ivy. Sorry that I popped off. Seems like the days aren't long enough sometimes.

SFC Ivy: Yeah, tell me about it. Listen, suck it up, young Sergeant; make it happen.

MENTOR: Think about how you would react and your motivation in a similar situation.

Sergeant Golden certainly let his attitude show. Sergeant Ivy cut him some slack, but the bottom line is that if he wants to be a squad leader, he has some prerequisites to complete. He also has some skills and knowledge to polish if it comes to a board. Attitude and motivation are key aspects of self-learning. So are understanding your learning strengths and weaknesses. Think about your own development. Do you know what your strengths and weaknesses are? Do you know how to assess them? When you are confronted with a new learning challenge, how do you react? What attitudes do you express? Put yourself in this situation.

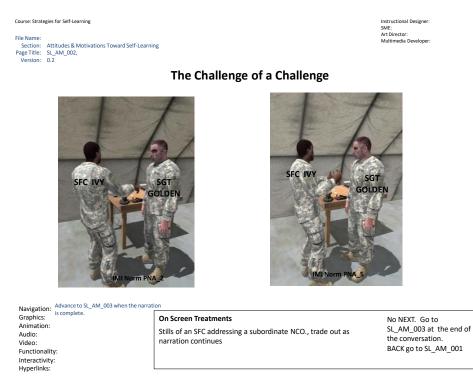


Figure 8. The Challenge of a Challenge.

The training then walks the soldier through methods for examining attitudes, strengths, and weaknesses. Soldiers are given guidance on conducting self-assessments and using multiple sources for feedback in order to form a self-development learning strategy. Similar strategies were used in the rest of the course modules.

### **Design and Analyses**

This research was a true experimental-between subjects design, with two groups (control and treatment). To examine the research questions, an Analysis of Variance (one-way ANOVA) was conducted to determine if there was a significant difference on the dependent variable measures by either the tailored or non-tailored IMI designs. Because the purpose of this research was to assess if mean differences exist on the dependent variables between, given independent variables with two or more discrete groups, a one-way ANOVA was determined to be an appropriate statistical analysis procedure. Significance level was set at p < 0.05 for all ANOVAs in order to reduce the probability of making a Type I error. This helps to reduce the probably of determining there is a difference between the two groups when there is in fact no difference. Also, since large groups were broken out into smaller groups for a portion of this analysis, the sample size was decreased for each cell during those analysis procedures. To avoid an issue of insufficient power to test the hypothesis the alpha level was set at the 0.05 level.

The results of the factorial ANOVA will be presented in the form of main effects and the interactions among study variables. When a significant interaction was observed, additional post-hoc analyses were conducted consisting of a series of independent *t*-tests. The Bonferroni technique was used to adjust for experiment wise error rates. The assumptions of homogeneity of variance were assessed using the Levene's test. In some cases further analysis using a multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA) was required to assess if mean differences exist. This was the case when the analysis was assessing if mean differences exist on more than one continuous dependent variable by one or more discrete independent variables. This helped to identify whether differences among groups on a combination of the dependent measures were likely to have occurred by chance. A portion of the research also required the use of a Multivariate Analysis of Covariance (MANCOVA). This procedure looks at the mean differences among groups on a combination of dependent variables

and determines the likelihood that those differences occurred by chance, while controlling for the

effects of one or more covariates. The MANCOVA was used to control for cognitive processes

related to self-regulation and cognitive load demands as the covariates. Lastly, relationships between

independent and dependent variables were tested using a Pearson product-moment r correlation. This

is a bivariate measure was used to help determine the strength of the association between the

variables being tested. The following Table 8 depicts what analysis procedures were planned to

answer the questions.

### Table 8 Analysis Procedure Plan

Variables	Analysis Procedure Plan
Does tailored training support cognitive processes and thereby reduce cognitive load versus non-tailored training? If the tailored training design does not support cognitive processes then cognitive load should be increased when compared to non-tailored training.	One-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) to compare overall pretest to posttest score differences. A 2 x 4 (two levels of IMI type by four levels of cognitive processing) multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA) 2 x 6 (two levels of IMI type by six levels of cognitive load demands) multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA), with IMI type as the between subjects factor and the NASA TLX overall mean cognitive load scales as the dependent variables. To rule out the effects of cognitive processes related to self-regulation from pretest to posttest, <i>a priori</i> repeated measures analysis of covariance (MANCOVA) was conducted with IMI type as the fixed factor and the MSLQ scales as the dependent variables. A <i>priori</i> repeated measures analysis of covariance (MANCOVA) was conducted with IMI type as the fixed factor and the NASA TLX cognitive load scales as the dependent variables.
Are there experience differences between the two groups sampled?	One-way analysis of variance (ANOVA)
IF there is a significant experience difference THEN test for differences between cognitive processes related to self-regulation and cognitive load demands with individual	2 x 4 (two levels of IMI type by four levels of cognitive processing) multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA) 2 x 6 (two levels of IMI type by six levels of cognitive load demands) multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA)

learning experience ratings.	IF significant then data was split between the two
	groups and a Pearson Product-Moment Correlation
	Coefficient was computed to give an indication of the
	linear relationship between two variables for cognitive
	processing scores and cognitive load demand scores by
	participants in the two courses
What is the relationship	2 x 6 (two levels of course by six levels of quality
of quality learning experiences	for learning experience as the dependent variables)
as they are related to cognitive	multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA) was
processes and cognitive load	performed.
demands?	Pearson Product-Moment Correlation Coefficient
	was computed to give an indication of the linear
	relationship between two variables (cognitive processes
	related to self-regulation and quality of learning
	experiences).
	Pearson Product-Moment Correlation Coefficient
	was computed to give an indication of the linear
	relationship between the cognitive load demands and
	· · ·
	mean quality of learning experiences.
	Pearson Product-Moment Correlation Coefficient
	was computed to give an indication of the linear
	relationship between the cognitive load importance scales
	and mean quality of learning experiences.

### **Summary**

This chapter discussed the process and procedures used to conduct this study. The study followed a true experimental design, with identified independent, dependent, and mediating variables reviewed. Soldiers participated in one of two experimental sessions and were randomly assigned to either a treatment or control group. The study flowed from pre-course data collection of dependent variables (pretest, demographics, MSLQ), to administering the courseware, and then to the posttest data collection of the dependent variables (posttest, learning experiences survey, NASA-TLX instrument). The course "blueprint" lays out the overall course design that was followed. The next chapter will further explore the data analysis process to include methods of analysis and results.

#### **CHAPTER 4 RESULTS**

#### **Overview**

This chapter presents the results of the analysis used to evaluate the mediating variables of cognitive processes related to self-regulation as measured by scales on the Motivated Strategies for Learning Questionnaire (MSLQ; self-regulation, cognitive strategy use, self-efficacy, intrinsic value) and cognitive load demands as measured by scales on the NASA Task Load Index (NASA-TLX; mental demands, physical demands, time demands, performance/success, effort, frustration) in tailored (learner controlled) versus designer controlled IMI. For all tests the alpha level was set at p = 0.05.

### **Demographics.**

The first data collection session took place at Fort Eustis, Virginia with students in the Army's Advanced Leader Course (ALC). Originally, eighty participants were recruited, however the experiment was conducted at the end of the day and soldiers had additional duties to complete. Due to these competing challenges and the voluntary nature of the experiment, approximately only 50% (n=42) of the recruited sample participated. The second experimental session took place at Fort Benning, Georgia with a sample of soldiers (n=47) who all voluntarily participated. These soldiers were attending the Army's Basic Leader course (BLC). The final sample size of eighty-nine soldiers consisted of a combination of participants from these two sessions. The average aggregated age of the participants was 29 (SD=6.52) and the average age for BLC was 25 (SD=4.17), ALC 32 (SD=6.93). A one-way factorial analysis of variance (ANOVA) was conducted to determine if there was a significant difference in ages between the two data collection locations. Results indicate a significant difference for age between the two groups, F(1,87) = 30.52, p=0.001.

These two courses represent two different levels of career development for an NCO. The BLC course is the first and most junior course an NCO attends, typically after about 4-years of Army service. ALC is the next step up in an NCOs career with participants reaching approximately 8-years in their career. Given the difference between career times, it is reasonable to expect differences in the average experience between the two samples. Both a non-parametric crosstab and an ANOVA were calculated to indicate the composition of each rank within the two courses, along with significance (Table 9). As expected, results indicate a significant difference for rank between the two courses, F(1,87) = 256.13, p = 0.001.

Table 9 Crosstab participants (n) for rank by course

	SPC/CPL	<u>SGT</u>	<u>SSG</u>	Total
BLC	44	3	0	47
ALC	0	29	13	42
Total	44	32	13	89

Next, since the purpose of this research is centered around cognitive processes related to self-regulation and cognitive load demands, it is reasonable to assume that the amount of education a participant has achieved may influence the types of cognitive processing strategies used, along with the amount of cognitive loads demands experienced. Descriptive statistics were run on the average level of education for the sample. Participants were broken out by rank and nonparametric statistics using crosstabs were run to determine the level of education based on rank. To do this, educational attainment was coded by aggregating the total responses into three possible categories (high school/GED, some college, Associates degree and above) and then splitting those categories out to run the crosstab for rank. Table 10 displays the number of participants who attained each level of education. Based on observations, there appears to be an

equal split between those with some college and those who have attained at least an Associate's degree, with a marginal percent of the sample attaining a high school diploma only.

Rank	High	Some College	Associates and	Total
	School/GED		Above	
SPC/CPL	9	19	16	44
SGT	3	21	8	32
SSG	0	5	8	13
Total	12	45	32	89

Table 10 Crosstabs for participants (n) in rank by education

Next, given the significant difference for rank/career achievement for soldiers in each course, another non-parametric crosstab, along with an ANOVA was conducted to indicate how education was represented between the two courses. If there were significant differences in educational attainment between the two samples, this could potentially be a confounding variable that could impact not only the pretest and posttest scores, but potentially all of the dependent variables used in this experiment to measure the influence of IMI design on learning (Table 11). Although there are significant differences for rank between the two courses, results did not indicate a significant difference for soldiers and educational attainment, F(1,87) = 0.24, p = 0.62. Table 11 *Crosstab for participants (n) education by course* 

	High	Some College	Associates and	Total
	School/GED		Above	
BLC	9	20	18	47
ALC	3	25	14	42
Total	12	45	32	89

Given that self-efficacy has a large influence on self-regulation (Bouffard-Bouchard, Parent, & Larivee, 1991; Schunk, 2008), to get an idea of the participants overall level of selfefficacy prior to the training, participants were asked to answer a self-assessment question comparing themselves with their peers and to rate whether they felt they are "ahead", "with", or

"behind" their peers. Answers were then coded and descriptive statistics calculated. On average, this sample self-reported being "ahead" of their peers (60%) higher than "with" (34%) or "behind" (6%). This indicates that the sample had a high level of self-efficacy going into the training. However, significant differences were not indicated, F(1,86) = 2.74, p = 0.10, for self-efficacy scores between the two courses. Significant results were also not indicated, F(2,85) = 2.18, p = 0.12, for self-efficacy scores between ranks or educational attainment, F(2,85) = 2.13, p = 0.13. Because rank was the only significantly different variable between the two courses, it is reasonable to assume that the cognitive processing and cognitive load demands variables can be isolated as potentially mediating factors for learning.

#### Hypothesis 1 & 2

This section will further discuss data collection results as it pertains to the hypothesis.

- (1) If the tailored training design (learner controlled) supports cognitive processes related to self-regulation (increases it), then cognitive load should be reduced compared to the control group (designer controlled).
  - a. If cognitive load is reduced, then both learners' test performance and reported quality of their learning experience should be increased compared to the control group.
- (2) If the tailored training design does not support cognitive processes related to selfregulation, then cognitive load should be increased compared to the control group.
  - a. If cognitive load is increased, then both learners' test performance and reported quality of their learning experience should be decreased compared to the control group.

Table 11 presents the means and standard deviations for scores on the pretest and posttest differences within learner and designer controlled IMI types (Table 12). Significant results were found for overall pretest to posttest gains, F(1,82)=3.99, p = 0.05.

Table 12 Pretest and Posttest Difference within learner and designer control

	IMI Type	М	SD	n
Pretest Total	Learner Controlled	3	2.59	4
		.76		5
	Designer Controlled	4	2.45	4
		.11		4
	Total	3	2.51	8
		.93		9
Posttest Total	Learner Controlled	5	3.01	4
		.30		3
	Designer Controlled	5	2.64	4
		.98		1
	Total	5	2.84	8
		.63		4

A repeated measures (two levels of IMI type and two levels of test) multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA) was conducted to test for significance with IMI type as the between subjects factor and pretest and posttest scores as the dependent variables. Results failed to support differences between the two groups pretest, F(1, 87) = .45, p = 0.51, and posttest, F(1, 82) = 1.18, p = 0.28, however there were observable improvements based on mean score differences.

Next, an analysis was conducted to determine whether the two IMI types made a difference in terms of eliciting cognitive processes related to several dependent variables (self-regulation, self-efficacy, cognitive strategy use, and intrinsic value). The most appropriate analysis approach to test this hypothesis is to use a 2 x 4 (two levels of IMI type by four levels of cognitive processing) multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA), with IMI type as the

between subjects factor and the cognitive processes as the dependent variables. Table 13 presents the means and standard deviations for scores on the dependent variables by IMI type.

	IMI_Type	М	SD	n
Self - Regulation	Learner Controlled	3.55	.50	45
	Designer Controlled	3.68	.57	44
	Total	3.62	.54	89
Cognitive Strategy	Learner Controlled	3.75	.61	45
	Designer Controlled	3.90	.49	44
	Total	3.82	.56	89
Self-Efficacy	Learner Controlled	4.15	.75	43
	Designer Controlled	4.16	.70	43
	Total	4.15	.72	86
Intrinsic Value	Learner Controlled	3.97	1.39	43
	Designer Controlled	3.86	.68	43
	Total	3.91	1.09	86

Table 13 Cognitive processes for self-regulation by IMI type

The results of the analysis revealed no significant differences in terms of IMI type eliciting cognitive processes related to self- regulation [F(1,87) = 1.31, p = 0.26], cognitive strategy [F(1,87) = 1.50, p = 0.23], self-efficacy [F(1,84) = .01, p = 0.95], and intrinsic value [F(1,84) = .29, p = .62]. This indicates that both design types were equivalent in the way they influenced these cognitive processes.

If the design did not support cognitive processing related to self-regulation, it was further hypothesized, that the amount of cognitive load should then be increased in the learner controlled IMI when compared to the designer controlled IMI type. The most appropriate analysis approach to test this part of the hypothesis is to use a 2 x 6 (two levels of IMI type by six levels of cognitive load demands) multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA), with IMI type as the between subjects factor and the NASA TLX overall mean cognitive load scales as the dependent variables. NASA TLX overall scale mean scores were calculated by multiplying the individual scales for cognitive load importance by the individual scales for cognitive load demands. The

result allowed for a score between 0 and 100, indicating an overall cognitive load score for each scale (physical, time, success, effort, frustration, and mental). Table 6 presents the means and standard deviations for scores on the dependent variables (Table 14).

	IMI_type	М	SD	n
TLX-Physical	Learner Controlled	9.23	15.89	39
-	Designer Controlled	8.34	13.99	43
TLX-Time	Learner Controlled	18.59	23.23	39
	Designer Controlled	20.00	23.79	43
TLX-Success	Learner Controlled	53.18	24.51	39
	Designer Controlled	50.79	26.84	43
TLX-Effort	Learner Controlled	28.54	22.99	39
	Designer Controlled	28.37	26.08	43
<b>TLX-Frustration</b>	Learner Controlled	33.90	25.51	39
	Designer Controlled	28.07	30.17	43
TLX-Mental	Learner Controlled	30.74	24.43	39
	Designer Controlled	24.30	20.17	43

Table 14 NASA- TLX cognitive load by IMI type

The results of the analysis revealed no significant differences in terms of IMI type eliciting cognitive load related to variables of overall physical demand [F(1,80) = .07, p = 0.79], time demands [F(1,80) = .07, p = 0.79], success [F(1,80) = .18, p = 0.68], effort [F(1,80) = .01, p = 0.98], frustration [F(1,80) = .88, p = 0.35], and mental demands [F(1,80) = 1.71, p = 0.20]. This fails to support the hypotheses and suggests that both design types were equivalent in the way they influenced cognitive load demands.

In order to rule out the effects of cognitive processes related to self-regulation from pretest to posttest, *a priori* repeated measures analysis of covariance (MANCOVA) was conducted with IMI type as the fixed factor and the MSLQ scales as the dependent variables. Assumptions of homogeneity of variance and homogeneity of covariance matrices were met, as Levene's Test of homogeneity and Box's M were not significant (p > 0.05). Only self-regulation

had a significant impact, F(1,75) = 6.40, p = 0.01,  $\prod_{p=0.08}^{2} = 0.08$ . These results are further displayed

in Table 15.

Table 15 MSLQ by IMI type

df	MS	F	Р
1	48.91	6.40	0.01**
1	14.16	1.85	0.18
1	.67	.09	0.77
1	6.17	.81	0.37
75	573.01		
	1 1 1 1	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

*Note.* \*= p < .05, \*\*= p < .01, \*\*\*= p < .001.

Further analysis was conducted using the Bonferroni post hoc multiple comparison procedure. Parameter estimates indicate significant results for self-regulation on pretest scores,  $t(1) = 2.99, p < .01, \ \Pi^2_p = .11$ . This indicates that learners who came into the training with higher self-regulation strategies tended to do better on the pretest but by the time they reached the posttest this effect had no impact on score results.

Next, a *priori* repeated measures analysis of covariance (MANCOVA) was conducted with IMI type as the fixed factor and the NASA TLX cognitive load scales as the dependent variables. Assumptions of homogeneity of variance and homogeneity of covariance matrices were met, as Levene's Test of homogeneity and Box's M were not significant (p > 0.05). Although, the frustration scale came close to being significant, the result failed to be significant for any of the TLX cognitive load demands scales (Table 16).

Source	df	MS	F	Р
TLX-Physical	1	15.69	1.52	0.22
TLX-Time	1	05.33	0.51	0.48
TLX-Success	1	00.75	0.07	0.79
TLX-Effort	1	00.16	0.02	0.90
<b>TLX-Frustration</b>	1	30.16	2.91	0.09
TLX-Mental	1	16.39	1.58	0.21
Error	71	10.35		

*Note.* \*= p < .05, \*\*= p < .01, \*\*\*= p < .001.

The NASA TLX cognitive load scales provide not only an overall measure on each of the subscales, but can be further broken down into cognitive load "importance" and "demands" scales. The cognitive load importance scales provide a measure of "How important were each of the following factors in contributing to the workload you experienced when completing the self-learning strategies IMI." This provides another level of analysis to help determine if the amount of importance placed on these variables can account for a degree of the variance. Further analysis was conducted using a repeated measures analysis of covariance (MANCOVA) with IMI type as the fixed factor and the NASA TLX importance scales as the dependent variables. Assumptions of homogeneity cognitive load of variance and homogeneity of covariance matrices were met, as Levene's Test of homogeneity and Box's M were not significant (p > 0.05). Table 17 presents the results of the significance test.

Table 17 NASA TLX cognitive load Importance scales by IMI type

Source	df	MS	F	Р
TLX-Physical	1	00.53	0.05	0.82
TLX-Time	1	12.16	1.15	0.29
TLX-Success	1	03.66	0.35	0.56
TLX-Effort	1	00.01	0.01	0.98
<b>TLX-Frustration</b>	1	51.74	4.91	$0.03^{*}$
TLX-Mental	1	00.86	0.08	0.78
Error	71	10.55		

Note. \*= p < .05, \*\*= p < .01, \*\*\*= p < .001.

Further analysis was conducted using the Bonferroni post hoc multiple comparison procedure. Parameter estimates indicate no significant results for NASA TLX importance scale of frustration on pretest scores [t(1) = 1.68, p > 0.05], however significant results were found for posttest scores [t(1) = -2.15, p < 0.05,  $\Pi_p^2 = 0.56$ ]. This indicates that learners who experienced a high level of frustration, tended to score poorer on the posttest.

The NASA TLX demands scales measures how demanding the self-learning strategy was based on each of the scales. Further analysis was conducted using repeated measures analysis of covariance (MANCOVA) with IMI type as the fixed factor and the NASA TLX demands scales as the dependent variables. Assumptions of homogeneity cognitive load of variance and homogeneity of covariance matrices were met, as Levene's Test of homogeneity and Box's M were not significant (p > 0.05). Results did not indicate significant results for any of the NASA TLX demands scales. Table 18 presents the results of the significance test.

Table 18 NASA TLX cognitive load demands by IMI type

Source	df	MS	F	Р
TLX-Physical	1	02.18	0.21	0.65
TLX-Time	1	02.81	0.26	0.61
TLX-Success	1	00.29	0.03	0.87
TLX-Effort	1	00.46	0.04	0.84
TLX-Frustration	1	24.43	2.30	0.13
TLX-Mental	1	15.99	1.50	0.22
Error	75	10.63		

*Note.* \*= p < .05, \*\*= p < .01, \*\*\*= p < .001.

#### Hypothesis 3

- (3) If tailored training design does not support differences in cognitive processes related to self-regulation and cognitive load demands are not significantly impacted, then military experience differences (rank) could impact these variables.
  - a. If military experience by rank impacts both cognitive processes related to selfregulation and cognitive load demands there should be a significant difference in the relationships between the two groups.

To analyze this portion of the hypothesis, experience differences were first explored based on age differences between the two testing conditions (BLC and ALC courses). The best test to analyze these variables is a one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA), which indicated a significant difference between ages in each group, F(1,87) = 30.52, p=0.001. BLC was also found to be primarily composed of less experienced NCOs (E4), whereas ALC had the more senior level NCOs (E5 & E6), indicating a fairly split for experience differences between the two courses.

An analysis was run to test the differences between cognitive processes related to self-regulation and cognitive load demands with individual learning experience ratings. First, significance was tested using a 2 x 4 (two levels of IMI type by four levels of cognitive processing) multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA) to see if military experience significantly impacted cognitive processes related to self-regulation. Table 19 presents mean scores and standard deviations broken out by course.

		Course				
		В	LC		A	LC
Variables	n	М	SD	п	М	SD
Self-Regulation	7	.71	.53	2	.52	.53
Self-Efficacy	7	.16	.83	9	.15	.57
Cognitive	7	.91	.66	2	.15	.39
Strategy						
Intrinsic Value	7	.11	1.34	9	.67	.61

#### Table 19 Cognitive processes related to self-regulation by course

Results of the analysis did not reveal significant differences for self-efficacy [F(1,84) = .002, p = 0.97], however there were marginally significant differences for self-regulation [F(1,87) = 2.84, p = 0.09], cognitive strategy [F(1,87) = 2.89, p = 0.09], and intrinsic value [F(1,84) = 3.48, p = 0.06]. Although the scores were not quite to the level of significance, the mean scores for the BLC group appeared on average to be higher than those of the ALC group. These factors might be indicative of their level of motivation.

Next, a 2 x 6 (two levels of IMI type by six levels of cognitive load demands) multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA) was conducted to see if military experience significantly impacted overall cognitive load. Table 20 presents the mean scores and standard deviations between the two courses.

				Course				
			BLC			ALC		
Variables	n M		SD	n	М	SD		
TLX Physical	3	.02	13.14	9	9.59	16.64		
TLX Time	3	0.58	25.32	9	17.95	21.33		
TLX Success	3	4.35	25.94	9	49.26	25.34		
TLX Effort	3	5.58	26.59	9	20.59	19.45		
TLX Frustration	3	3.51	25.94	9	38.92	28.34		
TLX Mental	3	8.14	21.90	9	29.82	22.95		

#### Table 20 NASA TLX Cognitive load demands by course

There were observed mean score differences between BLC and ALC, with BLC tending to have higher scores. However, significant differences were not found between the two groups on TLX for physical demands [F(1,80) = .23, p = 0.64], TLX time demands pF(1, 80) = .26, p = 0.61], TLX success/performance [F(1,80) = .81, p = 0.37], and TLX mental demands [F(1,80) = .89, p = 0.35]. Significant differences were found between groups and TLX effort demands [F(1,80) = 8.35, p = 0.01], and TLX frustration demands [F(1,80) = 6.61, p = 0.01].

Further analysis was conducted to test the relationship between cognitive processes and cognitive load demands by experience (course type). To explore these relationships, data was split between the two groups and a Pearson Product-Moment Correlation Coefficient was computed to give an indication of the linear relationship between two variables for cognitive processing scores and cognitive load demand scores by participants in the two courses. To investigate differences in participants responses, a pattern analysis was then conducted using the scores from Pearson's correlations allowing for group comparisons, to examine if and what the contrasting relationships are between the two groups. Table 21 presents the Pearson correlations for significantly different relationships between the two groups.

	BLC	ALC
	r	r
TLX physical by self-regulation	.52***	.04
TLX physical by cognitive strategy	53***	.15
TLX physical by self-efficacy	616***	.073
TLX physical by intrinsic value	325*	.439**
TLX Time by cognitive strategy	334*	.193
TLX time by self-efficacy	342*	.240
TLX time by intrinsic value	254	$.327^{*}$
TLX success by self-regulation	.276	$.373^{*}$
TLX effort by intrinsic value	.275	$.328^{*}$
TLX frustration by intrinsic value	315*	224
Note $*=n < 05$ $**=n < 01$ $***=n < 001$		

#### Table 21 Pearson correlations cognitive load demands and cognitive processing related to self-

#### regulation by course

*Note.* \*= p < .05, \*\*= p < .01, \*\*\*= p < .001.

Following the pattern analysis process described above, sharp contrast were then analyzed to determine an overall difference in between group patterns. Based on these findings, it appears that the more novice learners (BLC group) experienced more negative relationships on cognitive processing for physical cognitive load demands as they are related to cognitive processing when compared to the ALC group. Physical demands variable was influenced by the time of day and how many other competing factors participants had going on at that time. These relationships were then graphed out to portray a visual representation of the disparities (Figure

9).

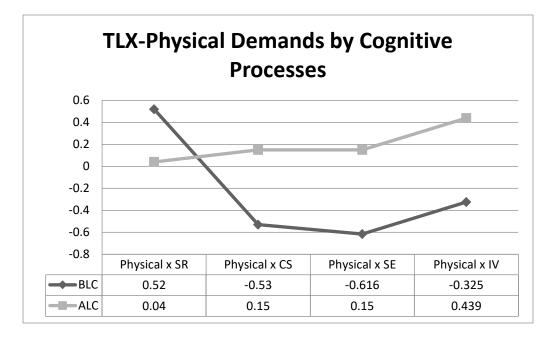


Figure 9. Differences for physical demands by cognitive processes

Similar results were found for cognitive load demands related to time in relation to cognitive processes. The time demands scale measured the amount of time a participant felt they had, whether they felt hurried or rushed, when compared to the cognitive processes they were using as they progressed through the IMI. It appears that the more pressure on time demands the ALC group felt, the higher they self-reported cognitive processes related to cognitive strategy use, self-efficacy, and intrinsic value. In contrast, there was a negative relationship with these variables as self-reported by the BLC group. These relationships were then graphed out to portray a visual representation of the disparities (Figure 10).

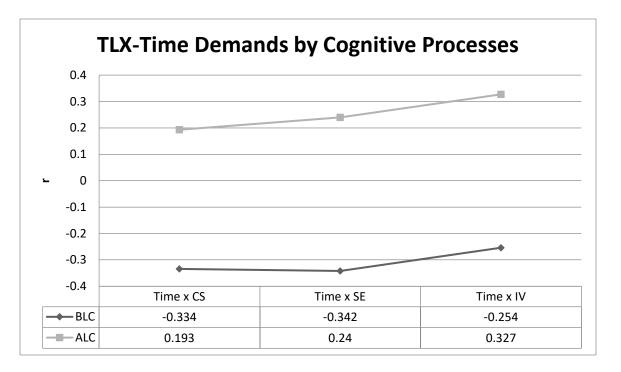


Figure 10. Differences for time demands by cognitive processes

There appears to be a positive relationship for intrinsic value and cognitive load demands on the physical scale, effort scale, and time scale for the ALC group. A negative relationship was observed for both BLC and ALC for intrinsic value and cognitive load frustration scale. Intrinsic value is associated with motivation and the personal value a person places on the task or content they are engaged in. For instance, this data indicates that the more effort, how hard the person had to work, the more they appeared to value the content they were learning. These relationships were then graphed out to portray a visual representation of the disparities (Figure 11).

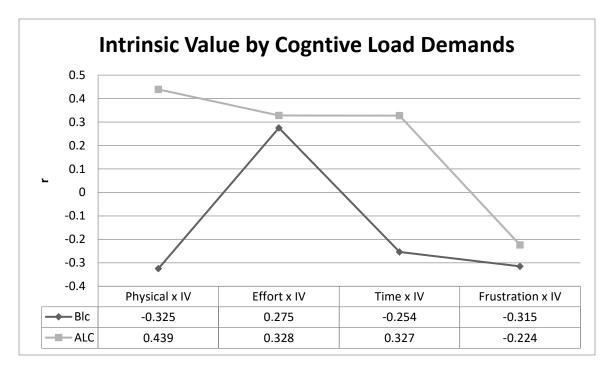
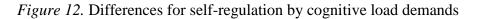
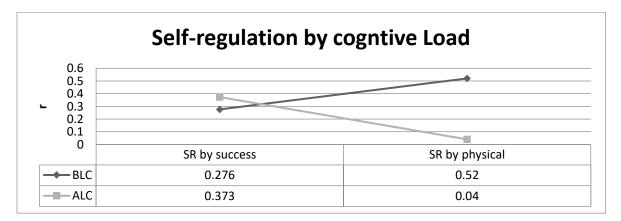


Figure 11. Differences for intrinsic value by cognitive load demands

Both groups experienced significantly different relationships for self-regulation when compared to cognitive load scales of success and physical demands. This relationship suggests that the more a participant felt they succeeded in accomplishing the training, the higher their ratings were on scales of self-regulation. These relationships were then graphed out to portray a visual representation of the disparities (Figure 12).





The experiences between the more novice group (BLC) and the experienced group (ALC) appear to be different on several self-report rating scales indicating that these variables impacted each group differently.

#### Hypothesis 4

(4) If learning experiences are related to cognitive processes and cognitive load demands, then there should be a significant relationship between learning experience ratings on cognitive processes scores and cognitive load demand scores.

 a. There should be a positive relationship between participants rating their learning experiences higher and increase scores in cognitive processes and cognitive load demands.

This hypothesis examines the role of the quality of learning experiences and how they related to cognitive processing and cognitive load demands. Higher quality learning experiences were expected to yield higher scores on cognitive processes related to self-regulation and cognitive load demands. Table 22 depicts the mean and standard deviations for the quality of learning experiences, cognitive processing related to self-regulation scales, and overall cognitive demands scales.

	М	SD	п
Quality of learning	3.20	01.01	85
experience			
Quality of design and	4.00	00.71	85
content			
Continuity of topics	3.92	00.74	85
Credibility of	3.61	00.86	85
examples			
Focus and relevance	3.70	00.82	85
Tracking progress	3.85	01.05	85
Self-regulation	3.62	00.54	89
Cognitive strategy	3.82	00.56	89
Self-efficacy	4.16	00.72	86
Intrinsic value	3.91	01.09	86
TLX Physical	8.77	14.84	82
TLX Time	19.33	23.39	82
TLX Success	51.93	25.62	82
TLX Effort	28.45	24.51	82
TLX Frustration	30.84	28.03	82
TLX Mental	27.37	22.39	82

Table 22 Learning experience by cognitive processing and cognitive load demands

To analyze the next part of the hypothesis, a 2 x 6 (two levels of course by six levels of quality for learning experience as the dependent variables) multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA) was performed. Although, mean score differences were not significant by course (mean quality of learning experience [F(1,83) = 3.52, p = 0.06], mean quality of design content [F(1, 83) = .00, p = 0.99], mean continuity of topics [F(1,83) = .04, p = 0.84], mean credibility of examples [F(1,83) = 3.07, p = 0.08], mean focus and relevance [F(1,83) = 1.68, p = 0.19], and tracking progress [F(1,83) = .00, p = 0.98]); quality of learning experiences, quality of design content, credibility of examples, and continuity of topics were leaning toward being significant. Means and standard deviations are presented in Table 23.

	Course							
		BLC		ALC				
Variables	n	М	SD	п	M	SD		
Quality of learning	45	3.40	1.04	40	2.97	1.05		
Quality of design	45	3.97	0.83	40	3.97	0.56		
Continuity of topics	45	3.93	0.85	40	3.90	0.60		
Credibility of examples	45	3.81	0.84	40	3.44	0.71		
Focus and relevance	45	3.81	0.84	40	3.59	0.78		
Tracking progress	45	3.84	1.08	40	3.85	1.03		

Table 23 Mean quality of learning experiences

Given that there was some significance for the relationships between cognitive processing scores related to self-regulation and overall cognitive load scores, further analysis was conducted to test these relationships with participants quality of learning experiences. To explore these relationships, a Pearson Product-Moment Correlation Coefficient was computed to give an indication of the linear relationship between two variables (cognitive processes related to self-regulation and quality of learning experiences). Table 24 presents the Pearson correlations for significantly different relationships between the two groups.

Table 24 Correlation of learning experience relationships with self- regulation

	Mean quality of learning	Mean quality of design and	Mean continuity of topics	Mean credibility of	Mean focus and relevance	Tracking progress
	experience	content		examples		
Self-Regulation	.19	.42***	.49***	.38***	.37***	24*
Self-Efficacy	.23*	.43***	.36***	.31**	.36***	28**
Intrinsic Value	.38***	.37***	.37***	.50***	.34**	27*
CognitiveStrategy	.23*	.47***	.54***	.43***	.35***	36***
<i>Note.</i> *= <i>p</i> <	.05, **= <i>p</i> <	.01, ***= <i>p</i> <	.001.			

Next, further analysis was conducted to test the relationship between cognitive load demands and mean quality of learning experiences. To explore these relationships, a Pearson Product-Moment Correlation Coefficient was computed to give an indication of the linear

relationship between the two variables. Table 25 presents the Pearson correlations for

significantly different relationships between the two groups.

Table 25 Correlation of learning e	experiences with TLX-overall cognitive load
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TLX Multi						
	Mean quality of learning experience	Mean quality of design and content	Mean continuity of topics	Mean credibility of examples	Mean focus and relevance	Tracking progress
Physical	.15	10	05	02	03	23*
Success	.56***	.36***	.36***	.39***	.46***	.36***
Time	04	.01	.04	01	.02	.08
Effort	.41***	.20	.19	.30**	.23*	.11
Frustration	28**	15	15	27*	31**	17
Mental Demands	.29**	.10	.14	.19	.08	.01

*Note.* \*= p < .05, \*\*= p < .01, \*\*\*= p < .001.

Next, further analysis was conducted to test the relationship between the cognitive load importance scales and mean quality of learning experiences. To explore these relationships, a Pearson Product-Moment Correlation Coefficient was computed to give an indication of the linear relationship between the two variables. Table 26 presents the Pearson correlations for significantly different relationships between the two groups.

	Mean quality of learning experience	Mean quality of design and content	Mean continuity of topics	Mean credibility of examples	Mean focus and relevance	Tracking progress
Physical	.40**	.17	.19	.15	.21	.02
Success	.51***	.33**	.38***	.39***	.38***	.20
Time	.33**	.32**	.32**	.28**	.28**	.28**
Effort	.40***	.28**	.34**	.33**	.30**	.04
Frustration	.08	.05	.04	.02	.02	.01
Mental Demands	.38***	.34**	.37***	.36**	.30**	.13

Table 26 Correlation of learning experiences with TLX- cognitive load importance scales TLX Importance

*Note.* \*= p < .05, \*\*= p < .01, \*\*\*= p < .001.

Next, further analysis was conducted to test the relationship between the cognitive load demands scales and mean quality of learning experiences. To explore these relationships, a Pearson Product-Moment Correlation Coefficient was computed to give an indication of the linear relationship between the two variables. Table 27 presents the Pearson correlations for significantly different relationships between the two groups.

ILA Demunus						
	Mean quality of learning experience	Mean quality of design and content	Mean continuity of topics	Mean credibility of examples	Mean focus and relevance	Tracking progress
Physical	.05	24*	15	11	13	25*
Success	.33**	.22*	.11	.16	.33**	.28*
Time	14	15	08	15	11	05
Effort	.33**	.10	.11	.21	.14	.08
Frustration	43***	27**	22*	42***	43***	24*
Mental Demands	.23*	055	.04	.08	05	.01

Table 27 Correlation of learning experiences with TLX- cognitive load demands scales TLX Demands

*Note.* \*= p < .05, \*\*= p < .01, \*\*\*= p < .001.

Given the overall significant relationships between both cognitive processes related to self-regulation and cognitive load demands for learning experiences, a deeper level of analysis was conducted to compare the degree of these relationships between the two courses. First, data was split between the two courses (BLC and ALC groups) and then a Pearson Product-Moment Correlation Coefficient was conducted to determine the magnitude of the relationship on these factors. The split in these relationships was then compared to determine where significant differences between the two courses occurred. Table 28 indicates those relationships where there was the largest disparity between the correlations and the courses. Only those factors where there was a discrepancy reported was used to give a clear picture of the differences between the two courses had a significant relationship and the other did not. This indicates discrepancies in the way experience (by course) impacts these factors.

		Quality of	Design	Continuity	Credibility	Focus	Tracking
		learning	and	of topics	of	and	progress
		experience	content		examples	relevance	
Self-	BLC					.42**	.34*
Regulation							
	ALC					.29	.12
Cognitive	BLC				.45**	.44**	
Strategy							
	ALC				.30	.15	
Self-efficacy	BLC	.32*	.48***	.41**	.38**		
	ALC	.09	.31	.24	.16		
Intrinsic	BLC	.40**	.41**	.40**		.49***	
value							
	ALC	.30	.32	.32		.08	

Table 28 Disparity between the two courses for the relationship between quality of learning experiences and cognitive processes

*Note.* \*= p < .05, \*\*= p < .01, \*\*\*= p < .001.

There appears to be a stronger relationship between these factors for the BLC (less experienced) group, than for the ALC group.

Next, a Pearson Product-Moment Correlation Coefficient was conducted to determine the magnitude of the relationship of the cognitive load demands factors between the two courses (BLC and ALC). The split in these relationships was then compared to determine where significant differences between the two courses occurred in correlations between mean learning experience ratings and cognitive load demands scales. Table 29 indicates that relationships where there was the largest disparity between the course correlations occurred. Only those factors where there was a discrepancy are reported to give a clear picture of the differences between the two courses one course had a significant relationship and the other did not. This indicates discrepancies in the way experience (by course) impacts these factors.

		Quality of learning	Design	Continuity of topics	Credibility	Focus and relevance	Tracking
		experience	and content	of topics	of examples	relevance	progress
Physical	BLC	experience	content		examples		09
demands	BLC						09
	ALC						36*
Time	BLC			11			
Demands							
	ALC			.31*			
Success	BLC						.28
	ALC						.46**
Effort	BLC	.43**		.13	.19		
	ALC	.31		.31*	$.40^{**}$		
Frustration	BLC	17			14	23	
	ALC	32*			38*	35*	
Mental	BLC	.45**			.32*	.39**	
Demands							
	ALC	.17			.07	22	

Table 29 Disparity between the two courses for the relationship between quality of learning experiences and cognitive load demands

*Note.* \*= p < .05, \*\*= p < .01, \*\*\*= p < .001.

#### Summary

This chapter presented the results of the analysis used to evaluate the mediating variables of cognitive processes related to self-regulation as measured by scales on the MSLQ and cognitive load demands as measured by scales on the NASA-TLX in tailored versus non-tailored IMI. Data analysis involved the use of quantitative statistical procedures to test levels of significance, along with the magnitude of relationships between the different variables. Significant results were found for self-regulation on pretest but not posttest scores. Those who did not have high self-regulation coming into the training, it is likely that the training increased their self-regulation use by the time they took the posttest. Additionally, self-regulation and cognitive load appeared to have different effects on participants depending on their learning experiences and career experience. The next chapter of this dissertation will discuss these results further.

#### CHAPTER 5 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

#### **Overview**

The purpose of this study was to investigate cognitive processing related to selfregulation and cognitive load as factors potentially mediating how learners respond to tailored (learner controlled) versus non-tailored design (designer controlled) IMI design. The potential impact of career experience and learning experiences was of additional interest. It was believed that the tailored-training design may support a reduction in cognitive load and increase selfregulation strategy use. This section will conclude with a discussion of the limitations, recommendations, and viable avenues for future research.

#### **Mediating Variables and Instructional Design**

The tailored training IMI was hypothesized to support cognitive processes related to selfregulation (increase it), thereby decreasing cognitive load when compared to the control group. This study failed to find significant main effects for IMI type differences and the mediating variables of cognitive processing related to self-regulation and cognitive load demands. Learning from pretest to posttest did occur, further analysis failed to indicate improvement based on the IMI type. Both the tailored IMI and designer controlled IMI had the same influence on the improvement observed in posttest scores. It was suggested that the learner controlled IMI (tailored) would require the participant to hold more information in working memory about where to go and what to do versus the designer controlled IMI. This would in turn cause learners to engage in the use of self-regulation strategies to reduce the burden on the participants reported cognitive load demands. However, this study failed to support this, as both types also appeared equivalent in the way they influenced overall cognitive processes related to self-regulation, along with the amount of cognitive load demands they placed on the learners.

Next, if the tailored training did not support cognitive processes related to self-regulation, it was hypothesized that cognitive load would be increased. This would in turn cause both learners' test performance and reported quality of their learning experience to be decreased compared to the control group. Although the nature of IMI design itself is thought to support the use of self-regulation strategies, such as understanding what needs to be learned (Graves, et al., 2012; Blackenbeckler, et al., 2016), this was not found to be the case in this study. Based on the hypothesis, it was also assumed that learning performance would degrade if cognitive load demands are too high, however this study failed to support this assumption. However, there were noted differences for self-regulation on pretest scores. This indicates that individuals who came into the training with self-regulation skills tended to score better on the pretest but by the time they reached the posttest these differences did not appear to have a significant impact on learning. In other words, at the point where self-regulation was measured in this study, it appears that learners already high in self-regulation are bringing those skills to the training, which in turn resulted in higher pretest scores.

What remains unclear is whether these nonsignificant results actually support the null hypothesis that there was no difference between the instructional designs and the way these mediating variables impacted learning or are these results potentially influenced by other issues. Although based on anecdotal observations and participants comments, an alternative explanation for the results could lie within the design of the courseware. It was observed that the designer controlled content allowed learners to engage in their own self-pacing. In other words, although the designer controlled IMI required the learners to go through the content in a "lock-step" fashion, it did not prevent those learners from self-clicking through the content, allowing them to

get to get to unfamiliar content on their own. Evidence to support this possibility can be found through participant comments they wrote down, as noted below:

**Designer Controlled Comments:** 

"It's too easy to skip through, and a [sic] student's is pressed for time, he will not learn much. Also the scenarios are painfully slow."

"Do not allow content to be clickable without finishing the entire slide, or slide users will rush through/slick through just to finish the job."

"Probably don't make it to where you can skip the entire presentation."

#### **Career Experience**

Next, it was hypothesized that military career experience could impact self-regulation and cognitive load variables differently based on the career disparity between the two groups. Experience impacts the refinement of strategy selection (Ericsson & Charness, 1994). The more experience an individual has with a topic, the more refined their strategy use and selection becomes and thus less intrinsic cognitive load is potentially placed on the participant (Van Merriënboer & Sluijsman, 2009; Kirschner, Sweller, & Clark, 2006). This impacts both self-regulation processes, such as knowing "what" or "when" to solve a given problem (DeShon, Brown, & Greenis, 1996; Ferrari, 2001; Lens, 2008; Van Dillen, Papies, & Hofmann, 2013), as well as, the development of complex schema structures allowing for the limitations of working memory to be negated (Sweller, 2011). Variations in past experience, knowledge schemes, and level of expertise, could imply that different learners will have different learning needs (Ericsson & Charness, 1994). However, more experienced individuals will also feel a greater sense of frustration when required to learn the same information, which from a cognitive load perspective can lead to a redundancy effect; potentially negative learning to occur (Mayer & Moreno, 2002).

This study was conducted in two Army courses that are taken at very different points in a soldier's career (BLC & ALC). As expected, significant age and rank differences were found between the two participant groups. BLC was comprised of soldiers who were early in their career (novice level NCOs), while ALC was comprised of higher level, career experienced soldiers. This made it possible to analyze the influence of experience differences between these two groups. Indeed, results supported these suggested differences through self-reported cognitive load demands. The BLC group tended to score higher on effort scales, while ALC tended to score higher on frustration scales. The effort scale asked participants to rate how hard they had to work to accomplish their level of performance during the training. Research indicates that individuals with more experiences tend to use a set of modified more specialized set of strategies and expend less effort. These findings support this line of research. Findings from this study also suggest that the ALC participants experienced higher levels of frustration than BLC participants. It is possible that at this point in the ALC participant's career they had already developed several learning strategies they were successful at using and this training was instructing them to use other strategies that were directly competing with the strategies they were familiar or comfortable with using.

On scales that measured cognitive load physical demands, results suggests those who were more junior in their career experienced a stronger relationship with the use of selfregulation strategies, while an inverse relationship between physical demands and cognitive strategies, self-efficacy and intrinsic value was noted. This suggests the BLC level participants who felt they experienced higher physical demands, the less they tended to value the training, believe in their ability to learn from the training and to utilize effective cognitive strategies. In contrast the ALC participants did not appear to be as impacted by physical demands in relation to

self-regulation, cognitive strategy use, or self-efficacy. Instead, there was a suggested higher relationship between physical demands and intrinsic value, suggesting that participants tended to value the training when they felt it was more physically demanding.

Time demands also tended to impact experience levels differently. In the BLC group those participants who tended to feel more time pressure also tended to use less cognitive strategies, experienced lower self-efficacy, and less intrinsic value. In contrast, those in the ALC course who rated time pressures as high also tended to have higher intrinsic-value scores, while cognitive strategy and self-efficacy were less impacted. Those who reported expending more effort to complete the IMI also tended to report higher levels of intrinsic value, with ALC reporting higher levels than the BLC group. Lastly, when participants in both groups reported higher levels of frustration, they also tended to report lower levels of intrinsic value. Frustration had a negative impact on overall intrinsic value. This means that when participants, regardless of their level of experience felt frustrated with the training, they tended to value the training less.

Overall, the biggest difference between the two groups suggests that physical and time demands had a greater negative impact on cognitive strategy use, intrinsic value and self-efficacy for the BLC participants, whereas these demands appear to have a positive impact on both selfefficacy and intrinsic value for the ALC participants. Both groups experienced positive relationships for success and self-regulation, along with effort and intrinsic value, while both also experienced a negative relationship with frustration and intrinsic value. These findings suggest that the relationship between cognitive strategy use and cognitive load demands variables is different depending on the learner's level of career experience.

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#### **Learning Experiences**

Lastly, the role of the quality of learning experiences and how they are related to cognitive processing and cognitive load demands were examined. It was hypothesized that higher quality learning experiences were expected to yield higher scores on cognitive processes related to self-regulation and cognitive load demands based on reported learning experiences. Results of this study supported this hypothesis. This line of questioning is important because learning experiences impact overall expectancies. Expectancies are beliefs about how well one will do in the future. Factors that mediate expectancies include attributions, choice, control, task value, effort, and utility. Although values play a large role in expectancy value theory, they are only one piece of a more complex puzzle, where ability and other conceptual qualities dynamically impact overall outcomes. Success and failure do not impact expectancies directly; however, the attributions of task outcomes can influence future expectancies (Eccles et al., 1983; Eccles et al., 1998; Wigfield & Eccles, 2000). The assumption is that, in a situation where expectancies are high, the individual is more likely to engage in effective learning strategies, persist when the task is hard, and attribute success and failure to controllable personal factors, such as study time and ability (Wigfield & Eccles, 2000). It involves an active process of making-meaning through interaction and experiences, connecting or modifying new information into existing memory schemas. This in turn is impacted by individual learning experiences.

Although, learning experiences were not significantly different between the BLC and ALC participants, the overall quality of learning experiences and credibility of examples were leaning toward significance. Deeper analysis revealed several positive relationships between learning experiences and cognitive processing. For instance, participants who tended to use selfregulation strategies also reported higher levels of learning experiences related to the quality of

design, continuity of topics presented, credibility of the examples, focus and relevance, along with the ability to track progress. Learning experiences had a direct positive relationship with all of the cognitive processes, suggesting medium to large effects noted between self-regulation and design of content, along with the continuity of topics presented. Participants who reported higher levels of self-efficacy also tended to report a positive relationship with the quality of design. Cognitive strategy use tended to have a higher relationship with learning experiences related to credibility of examples, design quality, and continuity of topics. Positive relationships were also noted for success across all of the learning experiences scales. Whereas, quality of learning experiences, credibility of examples and mean focus and relevance had an inverse relationship with frustration. As the individual experienced higher levels of frustration they also reported lower levels of quality learning experiences.

Experience was also noted to impact these relationships, with BLC reporting more significant relationships between overall learning experiences and cognitive processing, most notably with self-regulation and focus and relevance, cognitive strategy use with credibility of examples and focus and relevance, self-efficacy with content design and continuity of topics, and intrinsic value with quality of learning experience, design of content, continuity of topics and focus and relevance.

Similar relationships were also reported with the BLC participants for cognitive load demands and overall user experience. Participants that reported expending greater effort also reported higher quality of learning experiences, whereas more experienced participants who reported expending more effort reported higher quality of credibility of learning examples. Lower experienced learners also reported higher mental demands and a relationship with quality of learning experiences and focus and relevance. In contrast, more experienced participants

reported higher levels of frustration being negatively associated with the quality of learning experiences, credibility of examples, and focus and relevance.

#### Limitations

The study supported the need for further research in this area and with this population. It is important to continue to gain insights into how cognitive processes, cognitive load demands, expertise, and learning experiences all interact to either improve or inhibit overall learning in IMI training. Although learning did occur in the training, the nature of the participants, and the type of training could have impacted the overall results as well. The training was geared toward teaching learning strategies to Army soldiers. It could be that the level of motivation for the topic, along with the many competing demands placed on soldiers also accounted for some of the variance in the results. It also suggested the need to study the population when comparing the differences between the population and a less structured, scheduled population such as college students. Another limitation noted was with the demands that the participants were under when they engaged in the learning experiment. Some of the participants had additional duties that were competing with the time it took to complete the IMI training. Future studies should try to limit competing priorities when working with soldiers.

#### Implications

Although there were some interesting suggested relationships between these variables, it also speaks to the need for further research that focuses solely on each variable. In addition, it suggests that when individuals know the material, they may already be engaging in self-tailoring, whether it be by design or by self-clicking through material. It appears that learner experiences have a significant impact on self-regulation and cognitive load. Whereas, learner expertise will impact how each of these variables are perceived. Less experienced learners will expend more

effort and experience higher self-regulation for novel content than more experienced learners. This helps to support the role of expectancies in learning, along with the need to consider the redundancy principle for this type of training. IMI by its very nature has the potential to impose high cognitive load demands. Because this is the case, it is also necessary for IMI to include learner scaffolding and feedback. Pretest(s) can be used to help the learner understand when and what needs to be learned. One of the main implications for this research was to suggest the need for further research with this population.

#### Recommendations

while this research was conducted in an Army military setting, and this setting had specific factors that are special to Army soldiers, the findings from this research can extend to the overall adult learning literature. It is true that soldiers are constantly asked to balance a multitude of things, training and education being part of that balance. It is also true that soldiers are required to engage in IMI training frequently in order to learn their military occupational specialty, maintain certifications, or even take leadership related training. All of these factors require soldiers to use effective self-regulation strategies, while working within the limits of cognitive load. However, these soldiers experience some of the same challenges as their counterpart civilians do outside of the military when engaged in IMI. All adult learners progress through self-regulation processes in a similar manner (Zimmerman, 2008).

This research supports the need to consider self-regulation, cognitive load and how they are influenced through learning experiences and expertise effects. When designing IMI training and education, it is important to consider the learners career experiences related to the topic, along with learning experiences the learner will engage in within the IMI. Specifically, junior level or novice learners can benefit from structured scaffolding that is geared toward helping

them gain self-regulation strategies, while helping to minimize cognitive load. More advanced learners, may have a set of strategies they are used to using within a given domain. When asked to repeat old content they are familiar with or to use unfamiliar strategies, these learners will experience a higher amount of frustration, which in turn can have a negative impact on learning. Guiding learners in the development of appropriate self-regulation strategies in a tailored, selfdirected learning environment can increase intrinsic value, self-efficacy, cognitive strategy choice and refinement, along with effort, while at the same time reducing negative cognitive load factors, such as frustration demands. It is therefore recommended that soldiers, along with all adult learners become well-versed on strategies to increase self-regulation and decrease cognitive load, while at the same time instructional designers should provide scaffolding to aid in this process and be aware of extraneous cognitive load that could impact successful learning.

#### Conclusions

This research set out to explore some key variables that are seldom researched together; self-regulation and cognitive load. Although these variables intuitively influence and impact one another, it is difficult to find research that explains these relationships, and even harder to find research that explains these relationships within a military environment for IMI-based training and education. The research led to more questions, specifically related to the complex relationship within all of these factors and the possibility of other influential factors that need to be studied. However, in several instances, such as with experience and expertise, this research provided further support to the educational psychology literature. Future publication of this material is planned within Educational Psychology related journals.

In conclusion, this study supports research related experience differences and how it impacts self-regulation processes, cognitive load demands and overall learning experiences. It

did not support the hypothesis that instructional design differences between tailored IMI and non-tailored would be impacted by cognitive processing and cognitive load demands. However, because there were observed mean score gains between pretest and posttest, it does suggest the need to consider these variables, along with expertise and learner experiences in the design of IMI to optimize potential learning.

This research failed to support the hypothesis that instructional design related to learner controlled versus designer controlled IMI is impacted by cognitive processes or cognitive load. It appears that the impact these variables have on IMI training is far more complicated and complex. Instead of considering how they mediate IMI instructional design principles, it is important to look at how they interact with expertise and overall user experiences to influence learning. Expertise differences were noted for the two groups, along with how these mediating variables impact the learners at the two different levels. Learning experiences also appear to be related to how this dynamic relationship was experienced, with expertise differences also being a factor. Given the complexity that evolved from the nature of these relationships, further research in this area is suggested.

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### APPENDIX A: INFORMED CONSENT DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HUMAN RESEARCH PROTECTION PROGRAM

#### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD) INDIVIDUAL INVESTIGATOR AGREEMENT Part 1 AGREEMENT INFORMATION

This DoD Individual Investigator Agreement describes the responsibilities of the individual researcher who is engaged in human subject research, not an employee of the assured institution, and is associated with the assured institution for the purpose of conducting research. This Agreement also describes the responsibilities of the assured institution. This Agreement, when signed, becomes part of the engaged institution's Federal Assurance for the Protection of Human Research Subjects approved by DoD (and may become part of the Federalwide Assurance (FWA) approved by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)).

A. Name of Investigator:

**B.** Institution with the Assurance

Name: U.S. Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences DoD Assurance Number: A20127 DHHS FWA Number [if applicable]: NA Assurance Expiration Date: 1 August 2016

C. Scope

\_\_\_\_\_This Agreement applies to all research performed by this investigator in collaboration with the institution with the assurance, unless specified below.

\_\_\_\_\_This Agreement is applicable only to the research listed in this Agreement and does not apply to other research in which the investigator may be involved. (*List titles and other identifying information.*)

**D.** Effective Date

This Agreement is effective as of the date signed by the DoD Component Designated Official, and expires at the conclusion of the research defined in Part 1C or on the date listed in the DoD approval document.

Part 2 INVESTIGATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

As the Investigator named in Part 1A above, I:

A. Have reviewed: a) *The Belmont Report: Ethical Principles and Guidelines for the Protection of Human Subjects of Research*; b) the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) regulations for the protection of human subjects at 32 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 219 (32 CFR 219) and DoD Instruction 3216.02; c) the assurance of the institution referenced above; d) the DoD Component policies identified in Part 3 of the DoD Assurance (if applicable); and e) the relevant institutional policies and procedures for the protection of human subjects.

B. Understand and accept the responsibility to comply with the standards and requirements stipulated in the above documents and to protect the rights and welfare of human subjects involved in research conducted under this Agreement.

C. Will comply with all other applicable federal, DoD, international, state, and local laws, regulations, and policies that provide protections for human subjects participating in research conducted under this Agreement.

D. Will complete any education and training required by the institution and the Institutional Review Board(s) (IRB) prior to initiating research covered under this Agreement (attach documentation).

E. Will abide by all determinations of the IRB designated under the institution's assurance and will accept the final authority and decisions of the IRB, including but not limited to directives to terminate my participation in designated research activities.

F. Will not enroll subjects or engage in research activities under this Agreement prior to the protocol review and approval by the IRB and the institution.

G. Will comply with requirements from the IRB when responsible for enrolling subjects, to include obtaining, documenting, and maintaining records of informed consent for each such subject or each subject's legally authorized representative as required under DoD regulations at 32 CFR 219.

H. Acknowledge and agree to cooperate with the IRB for initial and continuing review, report for the research referenced above, and provide all information requested by the IRB or institution in a timely fashion.

I. Will seek prior IRB review and approval for all proposed changes in the research except where necessary to eliminate apparent immediate hazards to subjects or others.

J. Will report immediately to the IRB: a) unanticipated problems involving risks to subjects or others and b) serious or continuing non-compliance.

K. Will comply with recordkeeping requirements for research protocols referenced above.

L. Will make all other notifications as specified by the IRB and the institution.

M. Acknowledge my primary responsibility for safeguarding the rights and welfare of each research subject, and that the subject's rights and welfare will take precedence over the goals and requirements of the research.

Part 3

### ASSURED INSTITUTION'S RESPONSIBILITIES

This institution will apply the terms of its assurance to the Investigator and the research as specified in the Scope of this Agreement, Part 1.

### Part 4

#### AGREEMENT BETWEEN AN INVESTIGATOR AND AN ASSURED INSTITUTION

The investigator, the investigator's employer, or an official of the assured institution may unilaterally terminate this agreement upon written notification to other signatories.

Investigator:

I understand my responsibilities as described in this Agreement and the policies referenced in Part 2A above. I acknowledge and accept my responsibility for protecting the rights and welfare of human research subjects and for complying with all applicable provisions of the institution's assurance.

Signature:	Date:
Name:	
Rank/Grade/Position:	
Institutional Title:	
Telephone number:	
Date of last Citi training:	
FAX number:	
Email address:	
Mailing Address:	

Acknowledgement by Investigator's Employer (or DoD Supervisor if DoD Employee)

I am aware that my employee is entering into this agreement.

Signature:

Date:

Name: Rank/Grade/Postion: Institutional Title: Telephone number: FAX number: Email address: Mailing Address:

C. Acknowledgement by Investigator's Sponsoring Unit Chief

Acting in an authorized capacity on behalf of this institution and with an understanding of the institution's responsibilities under the institution's assurance, I will provide oversight of the Investigator and the research conducted under this Agreement.

Signature:

Name: Rank/Grade/Position: Institutional Title: U.S. Army Research Institute Telephone number: FAX number: Email address: Mailing Address:

D. Institutional Official of the Assured Institution

Acting in an authorized capacity on behalf of this institution and with an understanding of the institution's responsibilities under the institution's assurance, I am aware that this individual is involved in our project and approve this research.

Signature:

Date:

Name: Michelle Sams Rank/Grade: Director (SES) Institutional Title: U.S. Army Research Institute Telephone number: 703-545-2324 FAX number: 703-806-2151 Email address: michelle.r.sams.civ@mail.mil Mailing Address: 6000 6th Street, FT Belvior, VA 22060-5610

### APPENDIX B: ACHIEVEMENT TEST A

Test A

ARI Subject Number: \_\_\_\_\_ IMI Version L \_\_\_ D\_\_\_\_

Instructions: Place an X in the space provided for your answer selection(s). Please refrain from guessing - if you don't know, pick that option.

1. When assessing your personal strengths and weaknesses, it may be useful to gather documents such as Army physical fitness tests, field performance evaluations done at combat training centers, counseling sessions, inspection results, etc. Once you have gathered these materials, an effective way to develop an honest self-assessment is to:

\_\_\_\_\_ A. Compile the information by taking notes in a document or spreadsheet.

\_\_x\_\_ B. Compare the documents to identify information in common among them.

\_\_\_\_\_ C. Identify information that reflects your skill and professionalism as an Army

NCO.

D. I don't know.

2. How can observations of your supervisor(s) be used to gain a better understanding of your skills, strengths, and weaknesses? (Select all that apply.)

\_\_\_\_x\_\_\_A. Identifying the types of tasks delegated to you compared to others.

\_\_\_\_\_B. Determining who your supervisor prefers to socialize with.

\_\_\_\_\_ C. Documenting the types of feedback your supervisor prefers.

\_\_\_\_\_ D. I don't know.

3. When seeking information, finding learning experiences, and locating the proper learning resources, which of the below listed techniques should you use to assure success? (Select all that apply.)

\_\_\_\_\_ A. Use only resources recommended by my supervisor.

\_\_\_\_x\_\_ B. Seek opportunities to learn things hands-on.

\_\_\_\_x\_\_C. Keep a list to track resources you have reviewed.

D. I don't know

4. What do you consider when choosing learning resources? (Select all that apply.)

- \_\_\_\_x\_\_A. Time that you have available for learning activities
- \_\_\_\_\_B. Cost of the source material in commercial book stores and on-line
- \_\_\_\_x\_\_ C. Availability and accessibility of the source
- \_\_\_\_x\_\_ D. Recommendations by civilian teachers, professors, and subject matter experts E. I don't know

5. Learning on your own requires time. Which of the options below are effective ways to manage your work, time, and personal life to optimize time available for self-development and self-learning? (Select all that apply.)

\_\_\_\_x\_\_A. Taking care of yourself by eating right, exercising, and resting.

\_\_x\_\_ B. Look for efficient ways to accomplish routine tasks.

\_\_\_\_x\_\_ C. Organize your workspace and living area to make it possible to find what you need when you need it.

\_\_\_\_\_ D. Set a daily time to deal with unexpected problems and keep to a strict

schedule.

E. I don't know.

6. Next quarter, you need to train your unit on a new piece of chemical hazard detection and early warning equipment. The Soldiers will need to know how to put the equipment into operation, how to employ it, take it out of operation, and maintain it. The equipment is something that you have never used before. How would you begin planning for your learning task? (Select all that apply.)

\_\_\_\_x\_\_\_ A. Clearly define what you need to learn.

\_\_\_\_\_\_B. Plan step-by-step what you need to do in working toward my learning goals.

\_\_\_x\_\_\_C. Prioritize your learning tasks and/or topics that need to be covered.

\_\_\_x\_\_\_ D. Develop a list of milestones and use it to track your learning progress.

\_\_\_\_\_ E. I don't know.

7. When you are learning on your own, it is good to check if you have learned what you intended to learn. There are a number of ways to do this. Select all of the techniques listed below that are a viable ways to check on your learning. (Select all that apply.)

\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_A. Talk through what you have learned with an experienced peer, a subject matter expert, or a mentor.

\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_B. Demonstrate or teach your new knowledge and skills to subordinates, associates, or superiors.

\_C. Review your notes to ensure they are complete and accurate.

X \_D. Reflect on the knowledge and use it in a collaborative problem solving situation.

\_E. I don't know.

8. There are a number of techniques that you can apply when you realize you do not understand something during the learning process. Select from the list below viable techniques to make sense of something you do not understand. (Select all that apply.)

\_\_\_\_x\_A. Seek out different alternatives/points-of-view on the topic.

B. Focus on a single "best" source of information for the topic.

\_\_\_\_x\_\_C. Seek opportunities to teach/explain to others what you have learned.

\_\_\_\_x\_\_ D. Summarize what you are learning in your own words.

E. I don't know.

9. Assessments and evaluations are different. From the following list, select ALL of the events or actions that are typically assessments. (Select all that apply.)

\_\_\_\_x A. A pre-inspection

B. An annual NCOER

C. Exams during a course

\_\_\_\_x D. A diagnostic Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT)

E. I don't know.

10. An important aspect of "sense making" is to verify that the knowledge and skills that you have acquired through self-learning are proper, correct, valid, and safe. Select the techniques listed below that would assist and support you in this verification process. (Select all that apply.)

\_\_\_\_x\_\_\_A. Study multiple, varied source documents and resources.

\_\_\_\_x\_\_B. Consult with subject matter experts (SMEs) and recognized, accomplished professionals in the field.

\_\_\_\_ C. Find information from one published source or author.

\_\_\_\_x\_D. Conduct periodic self-testing or coordinate for examination by peers or superiors.

E. I don't know.

### APPENDIX C: ACHIEVEMENT TEST B

Achievement Test Version B

ARI Subject Number: \_\_\_\_\_ IMI Version L \_\_\_ D\_\_\_\_

------Instructions: Place an X in the space provided for your answer selection(s): Please refrain from guessing - if you don't know, pick that option.

1. As a Soldier, what criteria should guide your efforts in identifying and selecting resources that will support your self-learning effort? (Select all that apply.)

\_\_\_\_x\_\_ A. Time that you have available for learning

B. Retail cost and return/resale value of the books, courseware, or courses

\_\_\_\_x\_ C. Availability and accessibility of resources and materials

\_\_\_\_\_ D. Frequent and early appearance in the lists provided by web based search

engines

\_\_\_\_\_ E. I don't know

2. From the source categories listed below, identify the generally accepted categories of sources of information that support self-learning. (Select all that apply.)

 $x_A$ . People – such as peers, supervisors and mentors, subject matter experts, and teachers

B. Web search engines – such as Google <sup>TM</sup>, Yahoo<sup>®</sup>, Bing <sup>TM</sup>, Ask, etc.

\_\_\_\_x\_ C. Courses and courseware – including classes, courses, distance learning, eLearning, and correspondence courses

\_\_\_\_x \_\_ D. Books and references – including military field and technical manuals, articles in professional or trade journals, and volumes from electronic and traditional libraries \_\_\_\_\_ E. I don't know

3. Assessments and evaluations are different. From the following list, select ALL of the events or actions that are typically assessments. (Select all that apply.)

A. An annual NCOER

\_\_\_\_x B. A diagnostic Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT)

\_\_\_\_x C. A periodic counselling

D. A promotion board

E. I don't know.

4. After self-learning a new skill but prior to using it on the job or in a live environment, you should practice or rehearse what you have learned. Identify the "sense making" techniques listed below that could be used in this effort. (Select all that apply.)

\_\_\_\_\_ A. Review your notes to ensure that they are complete and accurate.

- \_\_\_\_x\_\_ B. Think through the conditions that may be factors such as time, distance, and the available or required resources.
- \_\_\_\_x\_\_ C. Use a diagram that you have developed to walk through the required sequence and procedures.
- \_\_\_\_x\_\_ D. Conduct "what-if" scenarios considering different aspects of the task and review potential problems, impediments, and challenges.

E. I don't know.

5. Learning on your own requires time. Which of the options below are effective ways to manage your work, time, and personal life to optimize time available for self-development and self-learning? (Select all that apply.)

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. Keep a strict schedule; set aside time daily to deal with unexpected problems.
- \_\_\_\_\_x\_\_\_B. Take care of yourself; eat right, exercise, and rest.

\_\_\_x\_\_ C. Look for efficient ways to accomplish routine tasks.

- \_\_\_\_x\_ D. Organize your workspace and living area to make it possible to find what you need when you need it.
  - E. I don't know.

6. Documents from your official, unit, or personal records can be useful when developing a selfassessment. These documents may include but are not limited to physical fitness tests, field performance evaluations done at combat training centers, counseling sessions, NCOERs, and inspection results. Once you have these documents and materials, what is an effective way to develop an honest self-assessment?

\_\_\_\_\_ A. Identify all entries that reflect positively on your skill and professionalism as an Army NCO.

B. Compile the information in a single spreadsheet grouping like documents.

\_\_x\_\_ C. Compare the documents to identify information that is common among them.
\_\_\_ D. I don't know.

7. How can observations of your supervisor(s) be used to gain a better understanding of your skills, strengths, and weaknesses? (Select all that apply.)

\_\_\_\_\_A. Determining who your supervisor prefers to socialize with.

\_\_\_x\_\_ B. Determining the situations when your advice or recommendations are requested.

\_\_x\_ C. Identifying the types of tasks delegated to you compared to others.

D. I don't know.

8. Planning for self-learning is much like planning any type of military operation. Military operations have objectives, learning plans have goals. From the list below identify the

characteristics that should be considered when developing effective learning goals and milestones. (Select all that apply.)

- \_\_\_\_x\_\_\_A. Learning goals should be linked to a timeframe to assure both a sense of urgency and a sense of accomplishment.
  - B. Learning goals should require you to stretch yourself and sacrifice; they must be the most important aspect of your life and military career.
- \_\_\_x\_\_\_C. Learning goals should be relevant to your work, current or anticipated duties, and your success or the success of your unit.
- \_\_\_x\_\_\_D. Learning goals should set specific objectives and may be associated with time, scores, accuracy, or performance standards.
  - E. I don't know.

9. When you are learning on your own, you need to establish ways and means to determine if you have learned what you intended to learn. There are a number of ways to do this. Select all of the techniques listed below that are viable ways to check on your learning. (Select all that apply.)

\_A. Review your notes for accuracy and assure that you have accurately recorded the resources and literature used in your learning.

- \_\_\_\_X\_\_\_B. Talk through what you have learned with an experienced peer, a subject matter expert, or a mentor.
- \_\_\_\_X\_\_\_C. Demonstrate or teach your new knowledge and skills to subordinates, associates, or superiors.
- X \_\_\_\_D. Reflect on the knowledge and use it in a collaborative problem solving situation.
  - \_E. I don't know.

10. A key element of learning is assuring that you understand what you are learning in the appropriate context. There are a number of techniques that can assist you in this verification process to assure that you correctly understand. Select from the list below viable techniques to make sense of something you do not understand. (Select all that apply.)

\_\_\_\_x\_\_A. Seek opportunities to teach/explain to others what you have learned.

\_\_\_\_x\_\_ B. Summarize what you are learning in your own words.

\_\_\_\_x\_C. Seek out different alternatives/points-of-view on the topic.

\_\_\_\_\_D. Focus on a single "best" source of information for the topic.

E. I don't know.

### Appendix: CBT Rating Questionnaire

INSTRUCTIONS: Please indicate the degree to which you are in agreement with each of the statements below.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
(Quality of Learning Experience)					
1. I would recommend that this IMI be					
made available to all junior NCOs.					
2. I would use this IMI to refresh my					
skills at a later date.					
3. I feel I have a better understanding of					
the task after completing the IMI.					
4. I preferred this IMI to others I have					
used in the past.					
5. The IMI interactively helped my					
learning process.					
6. On the basis of this IMI, I could					
execute the task as a combat leader.					
7. I feel this IMI was able to meet my					
individual learning needs.					
(Quality of Design and Content)					
8. The displays on the screen were clear					
and legible.					
9. The graphics supported the material					
being presented.					
10. Prompts and cues in the IMI assisted					
me in navigating through the material.					
11. The information presented seemed					
accurate and doctrinally correct.					
12. I felt like I was in control of my					
learning process.					
13. The information presented seemed up-					
to-date.					
14. I could easily track where I was in the					
IMI.					
15. Uniforms, practices, and equipment					
were up to date.					
(Continuity of Topics)					
16. There was a good connection between					
the topics.					
17. The sequence of topics seemed to					
build on each other.					

18. IMI content was grouped to facilitate			
learning.			
19. There was a clear focus of topics in			
the IMI.			
20. Grouping of content allowed me			
flexibility in accessing material.			
(Credible Examples)			
21. Examples contributed to my learning.			
22. The examples made sense.			
23. I learned a lot about the task from the			
examples.			
24. Examples were presented in a realistic			
mission context.			
25. Repetition of examples was helpful.			
(Focus and Relevance)			
26. Sections of the IMI were of the right			
length to allow me to complete them			
without needing a break.			
27. Questions asked within the IMI were			
reasonable and helped me to			
understand the topic.			
28. The questions asked within the IMI			
focused on what was being taught.			
29. The overall focus of the IMI was right			
on target.			
(Tracking Progress)			
30. If I took a break during the learning			
process, I could easily resume			
learning when I returned.			
31. I would be able to take breaks during			
the learning process and keep track of			
my progress.			

### Recommendations to Improve the IMI

INSTRUCTIONS: Given the questions we asked above, please consider the items you rated lowest when answering the following questions.

(1) If you could make specific changes to the content or design of this IMI to improve your learning experience, what would they be?

(2) In what ways could the course be modified to improve it for your fellow NCOs and subordinates?

Thank you for your participation. This concludes our data collection.

APPENDIX D: DEMOGRAPHIC	SURVEY FOR NCO SELF-LEARNING IMI
Date: ARI Subject Numbe	er:
1. Rank: 2. Ag	ge: (years)
3. Time in Service (months):	4. Time in Grade (months):
5. MOS: 6. Component:	
	B. Army National Guard
	C. Army Reserve
7. Current Duty Assignment: (e.i. Squad M	Iember; Team Leader; Section Sergeant,
etc.) 7.A. How le	ong (months):
	8.A. How long (months):
	lassification, what was your previous MOS?
Deployments:	
10. Have you been deployed?YES	NO
10.A. If yes, number of times: 10	).B. Total months deployed:
Self-Perspective/ Self-Assessment:	
11. Compare yourself to your peers (check	one): Ahead: With: Behind:
Civilian Employment History and Experien	nce:
12. Last Civilian Job: (if	none, state NONE); how long (months):
	f none, state NONE); how long (months):
14. Did you receive any training (other tha	n orientation or guided supervision) from your
employer for a previous civilian job? YES:	:NO:
14.A. If yes, briefly describe the tra	aining received:

Civilian Education History and Experience: (Place an X in the appropriate blanks) 15. High School

\_\_\_\_\_ A. Not yet a High School or GED graduate

\_\_\_\_\_B. Graduated High School

\_\_\_\_\_ C. Completed requirements for a GED

16. Trade School: \_\_\_\_

16.A. (List occupational skill and level(s) attained): \_\_\_\_\_

17. Civilian Higher Education and Learning Experiences: Collage and Professional Degrees: (Place an X in the appropriate blank of the highest degree and/or hours/credits attained)

(Trace an X in the appropriate brank of the ingliest degree and/or nours/credits attained)											
A. Some college credits – no	B. Associate/Two-year	C. Some credits beyond									
degree	Degree	Associate/Two-year Degree									
D. Bachelor's Degree	E. Some credits beyond	F. Master's Degree									
	Bachelor's Degree										
G. Some credits beyond	H. Some credits toward a	I. Professional Degree									
Master's Degree	Professional Degree										

18. If you hold or are pursuing an Associate, College, or Professional Degree, state the Degree, field of endeavor, or study: (If no Degree is held or being pursued, state NONE.)

19. Approximately how much time do you spend working on other (not Army related) college, online, or distributed learning courses each week (both on and off duty)?

\_\_\_\_\_ A. None

\_\_\_\_\_ B. 1-5 hours

\_\_\_\_\_ C. 6-10 hours

\_\_\_\_\_ D. 11-15 hours

\_\_\_\_\_ E. More than 15

Professional Military Education Experience:

20. Structured Self-Development (SSD) and Noncommissioned Officer Education System (NCOES)

(Place an X in blank of the highest level of the NCOES completed.)

A. Completed SSD Level I	B. Completed Basic Leaders	C. Completed Advanced		
	Course (BLC)/Warrior	Leader Course (ALC)		
	Leaders Course (WLC)	Common Core		
D. Completed ALC	E. Completed SSD Level III	F. Completed Senior Leaders		
		Course (SLC)		
G. Completed SSD Level IV	H. Completed the Sergeants	I. Completed SSD Level V		
	Major Course			

21. How long has it been since you completed your last NCOES course?

(Place an X in the appropriate blank.)

\_\_\_\_\_ A. None completed.

- \_\_\_\_\_ B. Less than 1 year
- \_\_\_\_\_ C. At least 1 year, but less than 2 years

\_\_\_\_\_ D. At least 2 years, but less than 3 years

- E. At least 3 years, but less than 4 years
- \_\_\_\_\_ F. 4 years or more

Army e-Learning and Distributed Learning (dL) Experiences:

The Army's e-Learning Environment provides access to courses in Information Technology, project management, business, leadership skills, and other subjects.

22. List the three (3) most recent e-Learning/dL certifications or completion certificates that you have attained earned through Army e-Learning: (If none, state NONE on line A.)

- A.\_\_\_\_\_
- B.\_\_\_\_\_
- C. \_\_\_\_\_

23. During a typical month in the past year, about how many hours by category did you dedicate to e-Learning/dL both on and off-duty?

\_\_\_\_\_A. Mandatory or directed training

- \_\_\_\_\_ B. New equipment or new systems training
- \_\_\_\_\_ C. MOS or job specific training
- \_\_\_\_\_ D. Pre-deployment training
- \_\_\_\_\_E. Professional military education courses (e.i. SSD)
- \_\_\_\_\_ F. Courses or subjects that I selected for self-development
- \_\_\_\_\_ G. Place an X here if you took no e-Learning or dL classes in the past year.

24. Rank order the following factors that motivate you the MOST to seek out and complete e-Learning, dL, or online courses, with 1 being the MOST important motivating factor and 6 being the LEAST important motivating factor.

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. Professional development
- \_\_\_\_\_ B. Promotion potential
- \_\_\_\_\_ C. Improving my ability to do my job (technical and tactical)
- \_\_\_\_\_ D. Personal desire to learn or improve
- \_\_\_\_\_ E. Future job potential once I transition out of the Army
- \_\_\_\_\_ F. Mandated/ordered to complete

\_\_\_\_\_ G. Place an X here if you took no e-Learning or dL classes in the past year.

Distractions to Self-Learning

25. There are many aspects of life that have the potential to negatively impact the time available for self-development and self-learning. In the table below identify the three (3) top items that are or become distractors when you are trying to focus on reading, study, course work, or other self-learning activities. Additionally, write in any omitted distractors that impact you in the OTHER blocks and rank them appropriately. (Inter 1 through 3 in the appropriate blocks with 1 being the greatest distracter.)

A. Primary duties in my unit	B. Additional duties in my unit	C. Family obligations			
D. Social activities with	E. Social media updating or	F. Electronic gaming			
friends or family	viewing				
G. Watching television	H. Playing sports	I. Exercising/body building			
J. Hunting or fishing	K. Volunteer or service work	L. Hobbies (list) (rank); (rank)			
M. Other	N. Other	O. Other			
(rank)	(rank)	(rank)			

### APPENDIX E: NASA- TASK LOAD INDEX NASA Task Load Index

INSTRUCTIONS: This questionnaire measures the level of workload you experienced when completing the Self-Learning Strategies IMI.

(1) How important were each of the following factors in contributing to the workload you experienced when completing the Self-Learning Strategies IMI?

	Not	Somewhat	Important	Very	Essential
	Important	Important		Important	
(a) Mental Demands					
(b) Physical Demands					
(c) Time Demands					
(d) Performance/Success					
(e) Effort/How Hard You Worked					
(f) Frustration with the Task					

For the next set of items, please circle the tick mark on the scale that most closely reflects your response:

(2) How mentally demanding was the Self-Learning Strategies instruction?

																			1
Very	Low	,	•		•		•	•		•	•				•	•	Ve	ery H	ligh
(3) Ho	(3) How physically demanding was the Self-Learning Strategies instruction?																		
Very	Low	,															Ve	ery H	ligh
(4) Ho	(4) How hurried or rushed was the pace of the Self-Learning Strategies instruction?																		
Very	Low	,															Ve	ery H	ligh
(5) Ho	ow su	cces	sful v	were	<b>you</b> i	in ac	comp	olishi	ng w	hat y	ou w	vere a	isked	l to d	lo?				
Very	Low	,															Ve	ery H	ligh
(6) Ho	(6) How hard did you have to work to accomplish your level of performance?																		
Very	Low	,															Ve	ery H	ligh

(7) How discouraged, irritated, stressed, and annoyed were you?

1	Very	Low	V									ligh

## APPENDIX F: MOTIVATED STRATEGIES FOR LEARNING QUESTIONNAIRE (MSQL):MODIFIED

### Self-Regulation Questionnaire

INSTRUCTIONS: On the scale below, please indicate the degree to which you are in agreement with the following statements.

(RS = reverse scored items)

(Self-	Regulation Items)	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
1.	I ask myself questions to make sure I know the material I have been studying.					
2. (RS)	When work is hard I either give up or study only the easy parts.					
3.	I work on practice exercises and answer end of chapter questions even when I don't have to.					
4.	Even when study materials are dull and uninteresting, I keep working until I finish.					
5.	Before I begin studying I think about the things I will need to do to learn.					
6. (RS)	I often find that I have been reading for a class but don't know what it is all about.					
7. (RS)	I find that when the instructor is talking I think of other things and don't really listen to what is being said.					
8.	When I'm reading I stop once in a while and go over what I have read.					
9.	I work hard to learn even when I don't like the subject matter.					

(Cogr	itive Strategy Use Items)	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree or	Agree	Strongly Agree
		8		Disagree		8
1.	When I study, I try to put together					
	information from different sources.					
2.	It is hard for me to determine the					
(RS)	main ideas in what I read.					

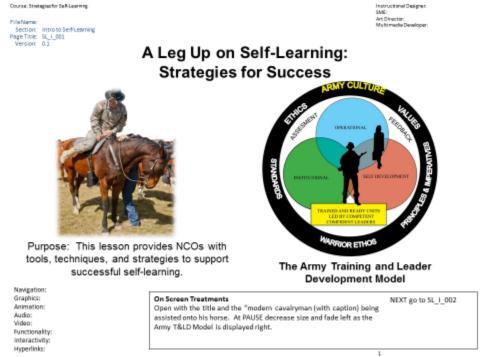
3.	When I study, I put important ideas in my own words.			
4.	I try to understand even when something doesn't make sense.			
5.	When preparing for a test I try to remember as many facts as I can.			
6.	When studying, I copy my notes over to help me remember material.			
7.	When I study, I say the important facts over and over to myself.			
8.	I use what I have learned in the past to help me learn new material.			
9.	When I am studying, I try to make everything fit together.			
10.	When I read material, I try to say the words over and over to myself to help me remember.			
11.	I develop outlines to help me study.			
12.	When reading, I connect things I am reading about to what I already know.			

(Self-Efficacy)		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
1.	Compared to other NCOs, I expect					
	to do well.					
2.	I'm certain I can understand the					
	material being taught today.					
3.	I expect to do very well in learning					
	about this material.					
4.	I am sure I can do an excellent job					
	on the types of problems and tasks					
	described in this course.					
5.	I know I will be able to learn the					
	material for this course.					

(Intrinsic Value)	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	
-------------------	----------------------	----------	---------------------------------	-------	-------------------	--

1.	I prefer work that is challenging so			
	I can learn new things.			
2.	It is important for me to learn the			
	material being taught.			
3.	I think I will be able to use what I			
	learn here in other situations.			
4.	I think what I am learning will be			
	useful in other courses.			
5.	Understanding this subject is			
	important to me.			

### APPENDIX G: STORY BOARDS - A LEG UP ON SELF-LEARNING: STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS: MODULE 1: INTRODUCTION



Narration: Welcome to the lesson entitled a Leg Up on Self- Learning: Strategies for Success. The lesson and its resources are designed, as the title implies, to give you a leg up, a boost into the saddle in support of your ongoing and future self-learning opportunities. (PAUSE) To begin, examine the Army's Training and Leader Development Model. Leader training and development occurs within the frame work of the Army's culture - a culture composed of Army values and ethics, the Warrior Ethos, standards, and enduring principles and imperatives. The three distinct but related training domains lay at the center of this model; they are institutional, operational, and self development. This lesson focuses on the self development domain, specifically the self-learning aspects of self development.



Narration: Self development both complements and supplements the training and instruction that you receive in schools and institutions as well as the training and experiences that you encounter in units and operational assignments. (PAUSE 1) Self development can never be fully separated from institutional instruction and operational training and experiences since self development draws from and supports these complementary domains. To achieve your personal and professional goals, you must supplement institutional and organizational training and education through continuous, planned self development. (PAUSE 2) There are three types of self development – structured, guided, and personal development. Self-learning is a key aspect of lifelong learning and occurs in all three types of self development.

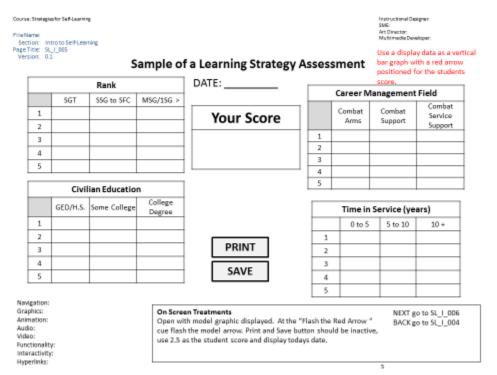
Course: trianglastic tell-Learning Prille Name: Section: Into to SetFLearning Page Trole: SL_1003 Version: 0.1		Instructional Designer: SMS: Ant Director Meltimedie Developer :
Sound Adv	ice for Your Future and Success in	ו the Army
learn it. If they can't tell y someone to teach you. L mission accomplished."	about the job you're heading to, but I do know a few things. If you you what the job is, then you figure it out and then tell <b>them</b> what the earn the job and keep learning. Never stop. You never know what y y, then they wouldn't give it to an NCO.* – <b>Anonymous BN CSM</b>	he job is. Don't wait for
Today's NCO: Adaptiv	e and Continual Learners by First Sergeant (Retired) Cameron Wesson, NCO Jou	rnal, February 6, 2014
Newlgation: Graphics: Animation: Autio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Hamedinks:	On Screen Treatments Open with the title and image. At (use live male voice) incert the quote on the screen with the reference to the NCO Journal.	NEXT go to SL_1_004. BACK go to SL_1_002

Narration: Now, . . . it is easy to talk about self development, but what is your approach to it. What do you plan to achieve, how do you plan to accomplish your self-learning and self development, what are your goals? Listen to this practical guidance provided by a battalion command sergeant major to a subordinate departing for new duties. It is sound advice for many situations in the Army today: (use live male voice) "... I don't know anything about the job you're heading to, but I do know a few things. If you don't know the job, then learn it. If they can't tell you what the job is, then you figure it out and then tell *them* what the job is. Don't wait for someone to teach you. Learn the job and keep learning. Never stop. You never know what you might need to get the mission accomplished. . . . Remember, if it was easy, then they wouldn't give it to an NCO !"

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Course: Strategies for Self-Learning Pille Name: Section: Intro to Self-Learning Page Trate: SL_J064 Version: 0.1	5	nstructional Designan Mill: Mathimedia Developer: Mathimedia Developer:
	What About Your Self-Learning	
	<ul> <li>Self-learning will support you in a successful Army understand how you operate as a learner?</li> <li>What should you learn?</li> <li>How do you set and track your learning goals?</li> <li>What techniques work best for you?</li> <li>Are you more structured or freewheeling when learned you find the most useful learning resour</li> <li>How do you find the most useful learning workin</li> <li>How do you evaluate yourself honestly to find weight the structure of the struct</li></ul>	earning? rces? g for you?
Nevigation: Graphics: Animation: Audio: Video:	On Screen Treatments Open with image on the screen. At the PAUSE insert the onscreen text.	NEXT go to SL_1_005 BACK go to SL_1_003

Narration: While it is easy to agree that self-learning is important to your future and career, how do you manage and conduct your self-learning now? Are you making progress? Are you satisfied with your progress? Consider the questions listed. (PAUSE) Are you satisfied with your answers? The modules of this lesson are organized to provide you with self-learning techniques and strategies. These strategies are derived from the feedback from a group of over 1,300 successful N C Os. These are the strategies that they shared, the strategies that they said helped them to be successful in their self-learning. In the modules of this lesson you will be able to assess your attitude toward and agreement with these learning strategies.



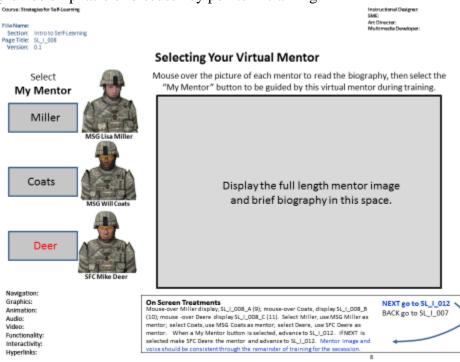
Narration: The results of your ratings will then be compared with those expressed by your peers, seniors, and subordinates. This display will show your ratings ranked with those of your fellow N C Os. You can compare (Flash the Red arrows) your ratings by rank, career management field, civilian education, and time in service. You can print or save the results for future comparisons. If your ratings are lower than your peers, you may have some work to do. The time and effort you are dedicating to learning activities may not be achieving the results that you desire. If you rate higher than your peers, you may have some strengths that you can build on. Each module will describe and explain these strategies and show techniques that can be used to improve your self-learning. These proven strategies will assist in improved learning efficiencies and may assist in calibrating your attitude toward aspects of self-learning.



Narration: You are the target of this training, and your knowledge and skills should benefit from your improved self-learning skills. However, as a professional N C O and leader you will be better equipped to provide recommendations and guidance to your Soldiers to improve their learning and self development skills. As you master these strategies and see the improvement, you should share these techniques and strategies with subordinates, peers, and even your superiors.

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P	roviding Guidance and Advice for You	r Self-Learning
Nevigation: Graphics: Animation: Audio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity:	On Screen Treatments Stills of mentors talking with Soldiers.	NEXT go to SL_1_008 BACK go to SL_1_006
Hyperlinks:		7

Narration: A key component of self-learning is your support network. Your self-learning network may include supervisors, experienced peers, other senior NCOs, professors, and teachers, anyone who takes an interest in your development and success. No doubt, you have already received advice, guidance, or counseling in your career. A characteristic of our Army is that good leaders are interested and involved in the development, wellbeing, and success of their subordinates. This is especially true when subordinates show initiative and promise as future leaders. To guide you in this lesson, you may select a mentor, a virtual model of a successful NCO. This virtual mentor will guide you through the scenarios and may intervene at times to provide emphasis or discuss key points in training.



Narration: The available virtual mentors are depicted. Mouse over the pictures to view a brief biography of each of these senior NCOs. Select the My Mentor button adjacent to the senior NCO's picture that seems to be the most appropriate for or compatible with you. If you choose not to select a mentor, select NEXT and a virtual NCO will be assigned to assist you in training.

{IN THE PICTURE, 'DEER' IS SPELLED WITH ONLY TWO E's.}

Course: Strategies for Self-Learning

PileNerre: Section: Introto SelFLearning Page Title: SL\_1\_008\_A Version: 0.1

MSG Lisa G. Miller



MSG (P) Lisa Miller is currently serving as the Operations Sergeant Major of a Brigade Support Battalion (BSB), supporting an Armored Brigade Combat Team (ABCT). During her most recent combat deployment, she served as the First Sergeant of a Distribution Company in a BSB supporting operations in a SBCT area of responsibility of over 1,000 square miles. She was an Honor Graduate of the Sergeants Major Course and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Logistics Management.

Navigation: Graphics: Animation: Audio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Hyperlinks:

Course: Strategics for Self-Loarning

PilleName Section: Intro to SelFLearning Page Title: SL\_1008\_B Version: 0.1 On Screen Treatments

When MSG Miller's image receives a mouse-over on frame SL\_L008, display the above image and biography on the space provided in frame SL\_L008.

> Instructional Designer: SME: Art Director: Multimedia Developer:

Instructional Designer SME:

Art Director: Multimedia I

#### MSG William W. Coats



Navigation: Graphics: Animation: Audio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Hyperlinks: MSG Will Coats is currently serving as the Plans and Training Sergeant in the G3 of a Heavy Corps. During his most recent combat deployment, he served as the First Sergeant of a cavalry troop engaged in Stability Operations and the training of indigenous police and armed forces in a remote region. He has been selected for resident attendance at the Sergeants Major Course. He holds an Associate Degree in Business Management and is projected to graduate with a BS Degree in Business Administration just prior to attending the Sergeants Major Course.

**On Screen Treatments** 

When MSG Coat's image receives a mouse-over on frame SL\_L008, display the above image and biography on the space provided in frame SL\_L008.



10

Course: Strategies for Self-Learning		Instructional Designer: SME:			
PileNerse: At Devoter: Section: Intro to SelFLearning Page Title: SL008_C					
Version: 0.1	SFC Michael A. Deer				
	SFC (P) Mike Deer is currently serving				
	as the First Sergeant of a Basic Training				
13	Company having just completed 14				
	months as a Senior Drill Sergeant. Prior	·			
	to his assignment as a Drill Sergeant, he				
	served as the Senior Trainer on a				
	Military Transition Team (MITT) for an				
	executive protection detachment. He				
	holds an Associate Degree in Political				
	Science and speaks both Modern Standard Arabic and Hebrew. He is an				
	Honor Graduate of the Battle Staff NCO				
	Course and earlier in his career he was				
	a successful walk-on for the All Army				
	Military Pentathlon Team.				
Navigation:					
Graphics: Animation:	On Screen Treatments When SFC Deere's image receives a mouse-over on				
Audio: Video:	frame SL_I_008, display the above image and biography				
Functionality: Interactivity:	on the space provided in frame SL_I_008.				
Hyperlinks:		11			
Course: Strategies for Self-Learning	OTE: This page is the main navigation page to access the modules!	Instructional Designer: SME:			
Section: Introto SelFLearning		Art Director: Multimedia Developer:			
PageTitle: SL_1_012 Version: 0.1	Examining Self-Learning Strategies				
	m more about strategies to support your self-learning.	After you have			
examined each of the mod	iules, select Next to continue.				
· · P	Determine learning strengths and imp				
i to	to assess, gain feedback, and identify strengths	and weaknesses.			
p g d 2	Develop a learning plan – How to analyze	e vour learning			
dis ip	needs, develop goals, and create a workable tim				
ao	inclus, acteriop Bount, and cleare a montable in	icinic and plan.			
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ence 4	Make sense of your learning – How to r				
de la 🖌 🔽	learning opportunities and make new knowledg	e and skills useful.			
Lefere	Evaluate learning progress – How to gau	ige progress.			
2 ° 5	troubleshoot problems, and make adjustments.	0-1-0			
Navigation: Graphics:	On Screen Treatments	NEXT go to SL   013			
Animation: Audio:	BLUE numbers are for reference only! Do not display. If 1 is selected go to SL_AM_001. If 2 is selected go to SL_PA_001.	BACK go to SL_1_008			
Video: Functionality:	If 3 is selected go to SL_IS_001. If 4 is selected go to SL_SM_001.				
Interactivity: Hyperlinks:	If 5 is selected go to SL_EL_001. Provide a visited state; place a  or or blocks selected. Do not play narration on revisit.	n the			

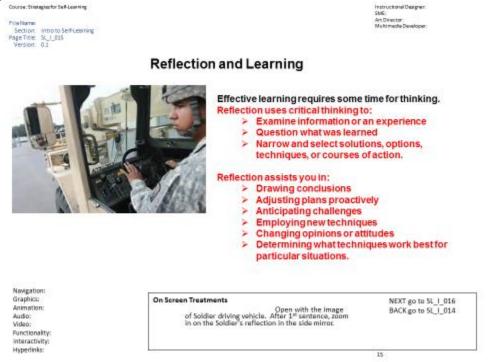
Narration: This lesson is organized with five primary instructional modules. Select each module to learn more about related strategies. If this is your first time using this lesson, it is recommended that you complete the modules in order, beginning at the top. After you have completed each of these modules and explored the related strategies, select Next to continue.



Narration: As indicated in the modules, self-learning resources generally fall into three general categories: (PAUSE) people, (PAUSE) books and references, (PAUSE) and courses and courseware. These categories merge, blend, and are frequently interconnected. Your personal computer, iPad, or smartphone may provide you access to many of these resources. To assist with your ongoing and future self-learning, we have provided links, access, and copies of some training resources.



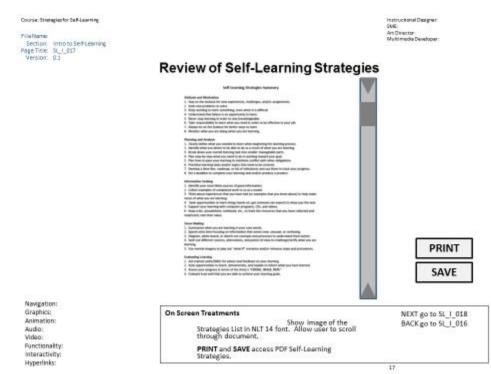
Narration: No people {like a genie??} or subject specific books or resources have been packaged into the course materials. However, by selecting the resources tab on the navigation bar you can gain access to a variety of documents, presentations, and sites that will support self-learning. As indicated in earlier training, Army Knowledge on-Line provides an unparalleled gateway to a variety of these resources. Hyperlinks to several sites available on A K O are provided. The resources table of contents page furnishes details and a summary of some of these resources. Resources can be downloaded or links saved for your future reference and access. You can explore this tab later, but for now select NEXT to continue.



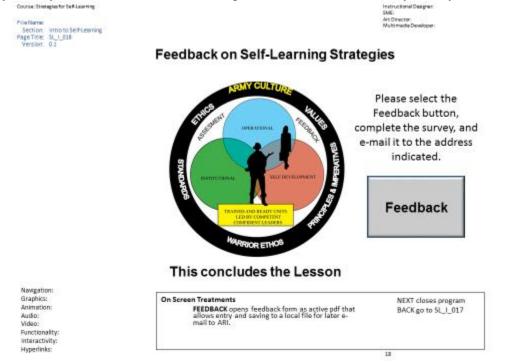
Narration: We learn by doing, constructing, building, talking, and writing, but we also learn by thinking. Reflection is thinking about events, activities, things that you have read about, and experiences you have had. The act of reflecting enables you to make sense of what you learned, adopt it, and integrate it into your daily life, routine duties, and job performance. For example, as a learner, you should reflect on the techniques and strategies you have learned and determine what may work best for you. Reflection brings together ideas within a wider perspective. It enables you to see the bigger picture and view a problem or situation in perspective. Reflection will enable you to integrate and apply the knowledge or skills you have learned.

,	Tile Name:			Instructional Designer: SME: Ant Director: Multimedia Developer:
	VESIOL		n Relevant to Self-Learning St	rategies
			u had (or examples you know about) to help re learning and the strategies that help.	
		Monitor activities during     effectiveness of various st	learning; testing, revising, and evaluating the rategies.	
		Evaluate outcomes again effectiveness. (Is it faster; the standard?)		
		<ul> <li>Spend extra time focusir confusing.</li> </ul>	ng on information that is new, unusual, or	
		<ul> <li>Seek out different alterna verify what you are learnin</li> </ul>	tives and points-of-view to help challenge or g.	
		<ul> <li>Evaluate how well you and goals.</li> </ul>	e able to achieve your learning milestones	
	Navigatio Graphics		On Screen Treatments	NEXT go to SL   017
	Animatio Audio:			BACK go to SL_1_017
	Audio: Video: Functions Interacti Hyperlini	wity:		
	Hyperina	0.		

Narration: As you consider various self-learning strategies, you must consider and determine what works best for you, in your environment, and in your situation. Reflection should be an ongoing process throughout a self-learning effort. These strategies, some of which you have already reviewed in training modules, may be helpful to your process of reflection. Use critical thinking to examine the self-learning strategies that you employ, question their validity or applicability to the situation, and draw conclusions based on their possible benefits and results. For example, recommendations or examples from peers and superiors are a good start point, but reflect and determine what works best for you.



Narration: A list of self-learning strategies is provided once again for your review. You can save or print a copy for your use, consideration and sharing with your Soldiers and others. These strategies from your fellow N C Os provide a foundation. As you refine your self-learning skills you may determine additional strategies that are beneficial for you or your Soldiers.



Narration: This concludes the lesson, Leg Up on Self- Learning: Strategies for Success. As indicated in the introduction, this lesson and its resources were designed to give you a leg up, a boost into the saddle in support of your ongoing and future self-learning opportunities. Your

training and development as a Soldier and leader are fundamental to the Army's success and mission success in future conflicts. Your feedback on this material and lesson is important. Please click the Feedback button and complete the survey; e-mail it to the address indicated. We wish you success and victory in all future endeavors, "This We'll Defend". "Army Strong".

### APPENDIX H: STORY BOARDS - A LEG UP ON SELF-LEARNING: STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS: MODULE 2: ATTITUDES & MOTIVATION



Instru	stm	of Dec	Inet	
SME:				
AttD	recto			
Note	made	Dev	sloper	

### Attitudes and Motivations + Your Strengths and Weaknesses Navigation: Graphics: On Screen Treatments No NEXT. Go to Animation: Autão: SL AM 002 at the end of Still of mentor (1, 2, 0r 3) addressing the student. the conversation. Video: Advance to SL\_AM\_002 when the narration is BACK go to Intro Module Functionality: complete. Selection Menu SL 1 7? Interactivity: Hyperlinks:

MENTOR: In my younger days the older sergeants told me that if the Army wanted me to have an attitude, they would have issued me one. However, attitudes are a fact of nature. As N-C-Os and leaders we know it is much easier to motivate Soldiers to do things that they enjoy and understand. It is always more difficult if they don't enjoy the task, or (Pause) they feel pressured. In this example, Sergeant Golden is meeting with his Platoon Sergeant. Listen in; the news is not all good. Sergeant Golden's "to do list" is about to get longer.



### Narration:

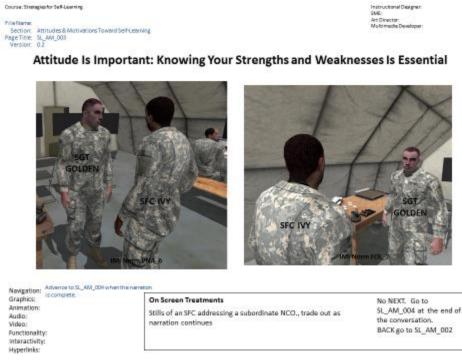
first?

SFC Ivy: SGT Golden, I have some good news and some bad news, which do you want a

SGT Golden: Just give it to me straight Sergeant Ivy.

SFC Ivy: Okay. The First Sergeant was just alerted that your squad leader, Staff Sergeant Black, is being reassigned to the Old Guard. He will be clearing within a week. Your squad has been tops in the Company, maybe the Battalion. You are junior, but you have played a major role in that good performance. (Pause) You have demonstrated a lot of potential. The Platoon Leader and I thought that we'd just move you up, but the First Sergeant says that there are two more E (say the letter "e") fives in the Company who deserve a chance, Marsh in 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon and Wilson in 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon.

SGT Golden: (in a frustrated tone) Come on Sergeant Ivy; isn't Wilson the guy from 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon who is always checking out early. Doesn't he have kids who are always getting sick at school or his wife isn't supposed to drive or something?



### Narration:

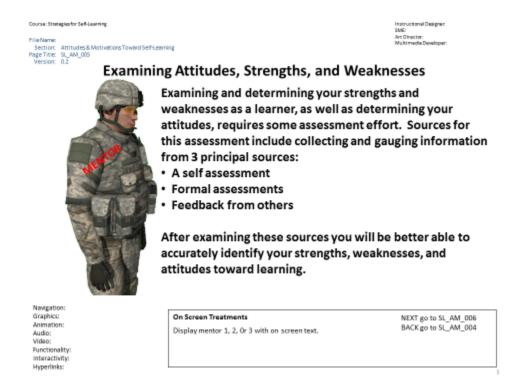
SFC Ivy: At ease SGT Golden! Being critical of others won't help your case. The First Sergeant has made up his mind and convinced the Company Commander. He plans to pick the N-C-O who demonstrates that he is ready to go to the Advanced Leaders Course. If there is a tie, he wants to conduct a company board and rate the competitors. Your best course of action is to quit complaining and get the prerequisites for A-L-C knocked out ASAP. Don't you want be the First Squad Leader? Get your head right, Sergeant.

SGT Golden: Okay Sergeant Ivy. Sorry that I popped off. Seems like the days aren't long enough sometimes.

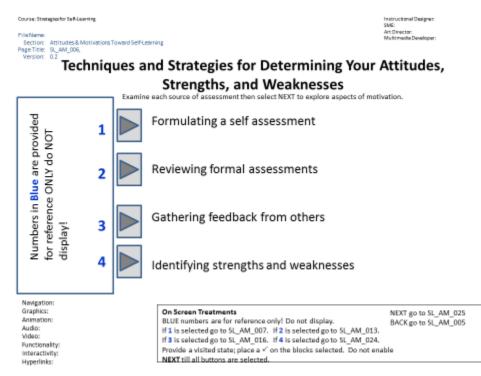
SFC Ivy: Yeah, tell me about it. Listen, suck it up young Sergeant, make it happen.



MENTOR: Think about how you would react and your motivation in a similar situation. Sergeant Golden certainly let his attitude show. Sergeant Ivy cut him some slack, but the bottom line is that if he wants to be a squad leader, he has some prerequisites to complete. He also has some skills and knowledge to polish if it comes to a board. Attitude and motivation are key aspects of self-learning. So are understanding your learning strengths and weaknesses. Think about your own development. Do you know what your strengths and weaknesses are? Do you know how to assess them? When you are confronted with a new learning challenge, how do you react? What attitudes do you express? Put yourself in this situation.



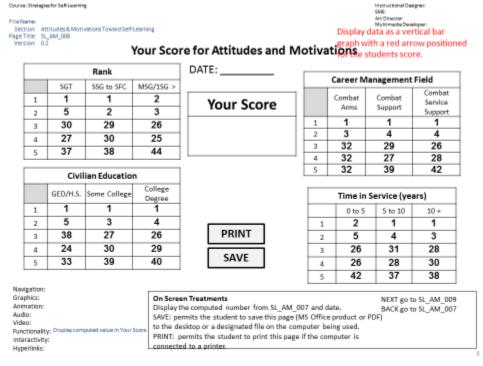
MENTOR: As you think about your future self development, it is important that you understand your learning strengths and weaknesses. Additionally, as you prepare to embark on a new self-learning effort, both those you want to do and those that you must do, you should assess the situation and understand your attitudes. You cannot adjust a poor attitude, mitigate a weakness, build on a strength, or improve your motivation without being aware of it. Determining where you are and what you may need to alter or develop is critical. This module will provide you information on how to conduct a self-assessment. The three principal sources of information for this assessment are listed. Take notes and record data from your assessment and findings as you collect information.



Narration: Chances are that you may not be aware of all of your strengths or your weaknesses. A significant step in identifying your strengths and weaknesses is to conduct a self-examination. However, this assessment is more thorough and complete if you gather information about yourself from other sources. These sources may include a review of records and interacting with others who know you or have observed you. You will then need to review the findings and make sense of what you determine. Select each button to learn more about assessment and evaluation techniques that can assist you. After you have examined each topic select Next to continue.

Course: Strategies for Self-Learning Pille Neuros: Section: Attitudes & Motivations Toward Self-Learn Page Tritle: SL_AM_007	ing				SME: Art D	uctional Dealg Inactor: Imadia Davalo	
Version: 0.2 NCO Self-Lean The table below provides a list of learning strategy listed, please rat button when your selections are of	e your degree of agreemen	that NCOs h	ave reported	using to lea th to self-le	arn on their	own. For	each
oncer when your announcement	annprese.	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	
I stay on the lookout for new expe and/or assignments.	niences, challenges,	o	0	o	0	o	SUBMIT
I seek out new problems to solve.		o	0	0	0	0	
I keep working at learning someth difficult.	ing, even when it is	o	o	o	0	٥	
I understand failure is an opportu	nity to learn.	o	0	o	o	0	
I never stop learning in order to s	ay knowledgeable.	o	0	o	o	o	
I take responsibility to learn what effective in my job.	I need to in order to be	o	0	o	o	o	
I am always on the lookout for be	tter ways to learn.	0	0	0	0	0	
I monitor what I am doing when I	am learning.	o	0	o	o	0	
Nevigation: Graphics: Animation: Audio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Score/computed meanwise on008. Hyperlinks:	On Screen Treatments Selection of submit will ca factors and display that va Values are: SD=1, SwD=2, Require selection of a valu value and advance when S	alue on SL_SI NAorD=3, V ae for each (i	M_005. SwA=4, SA=5 row) Learnin		N B/	EXT go to	SL_AM_008 SL_AM_006

Narration: A critical aspect of your self-assessment is to gauge your attitudes about selflearning. Using your own experiences and attitudes, follow the instructions on the slide and rate your agreement with each of the Learning Strategies listed. There are no right or wrong selections. Your honest response will provide you with the most accurate input to your selfassessment. After you have determined your agreement with each statement, click on the submit button to compare your self-assessment to your peers and others.



Narration: Now compare your score for attitudes and motivational strategies to others. If your score is equal to or below those of your peers or more senior N-C-Os, you have some work to do. You may see the impact reflected in a less than enthusiastic attitude toward self development and learning. Perhaps you procrastinate or postpone beginning or completing learning tasks. You also may experience frustration with or make frequent changes to your learning plans. You may sometimes resist trying or adopting changes to tactics, techniques, or procedures in your job or duties, or you may be reluctant to integrate or employ new equipment or systems. Scoring higher than your peers may indicate that your learning attitudes and selfmotivation strategies are strengths that you can build on. You may print or save this data for your future reference. After reviewing the comparisons, select next to examine additional aspects of higher self-assessment scores.

Course: Extension Servicements     Section: Attitudes & Motivations Toward Self-Learning     Page Time: SL_AAL_009     Version: 0.2	Manuel de la construction de la construction SME: Art Director: Maltimedia Daveloper:
More on the "So What" of Your Your Score for Attitudes and	d Motivations
Research indicates that people who score high are	
more open to and positive about learning. They: 🛛 🖓 🛄	

- Seek and react to feedback from others.
- · Learn more quickly from their experiences.
- Tend to reflect on their experiences, are inquisitive and ask themselves:
  - Why things happen?
  - > Why they respond as they do?
- Seek clarification more readily and ask questions to improve their understanding.

 Understand more clearly their learning strengths and weaknesses.



Leaders set the example. The positive and negative motivation and attitudes are contagious and spread quickly in an organization.

Navigation:
Graphics:
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interactivity:
Hyperlinks:

On Screen Treatments	NEXT go to SL_AM_009
	BACK go to SL_AM_007

Narration: Your assessment score and response to the assessment questions provide you an indication of your current attitude toward self-learning and self development. Research indicates that individuals who have higher scores are more positive and open. They tend to be curious, broad-minded, and seek out new experiences. Openness to learning is a predictor of motivation to engage in and be more interested in self development. Moreover, openness to new experiences is an important predictor of the likelihood of employing other self-regulated learning strategies. Additionally, when leaders express a positive attitude toward self development and self-learning, they influence their subordinates to adopt similar positive attitudes.

Functionality: Interactivity: Hyperlinks:

Hyperlinks:

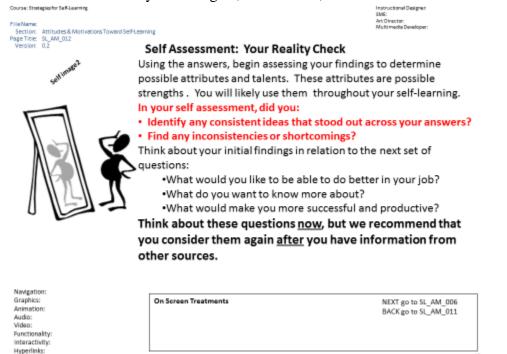
Course: Strategies for Self-Learnin	-	instructional Designer SME: Ant Director: Ma bit mode Developer:
Section: Attitudes&Moti PageTitle: SL_AM_010 Version: 0.2	vations Toward Self-Learning Self Assessment: What a	
Before you ca and preferenc	n set your self development direction you	need to make yourself aware of likes, dislikes,
For example ye	u good at? Determine areas where you ex ou may be good at:	This NCO enjoys fabricating parts and
o Perforr Your strengths	engines ng others ning physically demanding activities may be indicated when performing activiti by or you learn quickly.	ies teaching metalwork skills to others.
What are yo when you feel: O Uncom o Bored o Ineffect o Frustra	fortable	Jent
There may be t	types of activities that you avoid such as we	orking with numbers or speaking in public.
Graphics: Animation: Audio:	On Screen Treatments	NEXT go to SL_AM_011 BACK go to SL_AM_009

Narration: In your self assessment you should take a structured approach. Ask yourself questions and assess your attitudes toward types of activities. Your strengths and weaknesses may be evident in the attitudes that you express. This is part of being self-aware. You should ask yourself the questions listed, and you should record your responses to combine or compare them with the other elements of your assessment.

FileNete: Section: Attitudes&MotivationsToward	(Self-Learning	SME: Art Director: Multimedia Developer:
PageTicle: SL_AM_011 Version: 0.2	Self Assessment: Cautions	
	As you think about your strength attitudes toward learning, consid • What do you do well or wh •What do you know a lot abo •What makes you successful •What do you like to do? •What kinds of things have y Your work? The answers to the questions be	der these questions. lat are you good at? out? and productive? rou done in your life?
	insight to your learning foundati	ion.
Navigation: Graphics: Animation: Audio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity:	On Screen Treatments	NEXT go to SL_AM_012 BACK go to SL_AM_010

Narration: Self assessments, (Pause) by themselves, (Pause) can be inaccurate or deceiving. If you are completely honest, they provide good information. However, with a self

assessment alone, you may not see yourself as you truly are. It is always best to be skeptical about information from a single source. Your self assessment provides a good start, but other sources of information about your strengths, weaknesses, and attitudes must be considered.



Narration: Keep in mind that your self assessment is from a single source (pause) - you. (Pause) Again, it is recommended that you remain skeptical about information from a single source. However, an honest self assessment provides a good start. You can begin now to think about knowledge or skills you desire to acquire and attitudes that could make you more successful or productive. Avoid premature conclusions but keep your initial findings in mind as you consider other sources.

Course: Stategies for Self-Learning Pille Nerre: Section: Attitudes & Motivations Toward Self-Learn Page Trate: SL_AM_013 Version: 0.2		Instructional Designer: SMS: Art Director: Multimedia Developer:
Sources for your formal asso • Performance evaluations: NO performance and developmenta	Assessment: What do your records sho ssment may include: OERs (DA Form 2166-8), records of formal I counseling (DA Form 4856), Service School A Form 1059), and civilian job evaluations.	?
<ul> <li>Skills tests: Expert Field Medic</li> <li>Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT</li> </ul>	al Badge (EFMB), Expert Infantryman Badge (EIB), ), and other skill tests	
<ul> <li>Tests administered in resident</li> </ul>	and non-resident schools	r 🔪 📑 🖥
<ul> <li>Field performance evaluation unit evaluations</li> </ul>	s, such as those at the combat training centers and	Standard"
<ul> <li>Results of Inspections, such as</li> </ul>	command inspection programs, IG inspections, etc.	
	<ul> <li>Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery [GT] Score as well as other Line Scores should be age Aptitude Battery (DLAB)</li> </ul>	K
<ul> <li>Occupational interest invento</li> </ul>	ries - e.g., Strong Interest Inventory *	
<ul> <li>Personality assessments - e.g.</li> </ul>	California Psychological Inventory * or the 16PF*	
* NOTE: Links to these inventorie	s and assessments can be found at the Resources Tab.	
Navigation: Graphics: Audio: Vidao: Punctionality: Interactivity:	On Screen Treatments	NEXT go to SL_AM_014 BACK go to SL_AM_006
Hyperlinks:		

Narration: Formal assessments provide less bias sources to gain insight into your strengths and weaknesses. Again, multiple sources should be consulted. Records and reports provide a measure of your performance and compare it to a standard. Sometimes these assessments provide comparisons to the performance of others or rank you with your peers. Other types of formal assessment provide customized skill or aptitude appraisals. These may provide insights to undiscovered or undeveloped talents or a realistic view of perceived attribute and characteristics. Review this list then examine examples of records provided from other N-C-Os.

[This looks good, but we'll need to be sure that we can include Strong and CPI, given copyright. We can include links with information about these tests, like Wikis.]

RATED METRIANA (LEP FOR MERICIPAL) NOTMART, WILLIAM M.	55N 113-22-1111	1948UULATE 20115408
ANALY OF GALARY ANALYSING RESPONDENCES     POLYMPICE CONTRACTOR OF CONTRACTOR     POLYMPICE CONTRACTOR     POLYMPICE CONTRACTOR     POLYMPICE CONTRACTOR     POLYMPICE CONTRACTOR     POLYMPICE     POLYMPICE CONTRACTOR     POLYMPICE     POLYMPI	in daty performance commended by rapervises o performed repeations	This NCOER extract provides few specific examples of conduct of performance. The rat
	over facts 2010223 etcolores o encourages holdies on nost Company rans o participated on the Company softwar team	NCO, some future Promotion Board, or a Assignments NCO will have difficulty
e JACSTONE     There Mill     There Mill     Compares the test families     Compares and test families     Compares and test families     Compares and test families	o guided his Soldien to augrore their performance our a team o provided a tole model for his Soldiery	
Control Contro Control Control Control Control Control Control Control Control Co	o prepared his Soldiers for the X10 (rol o saw to it that Soldiers got the best training possible o improved weapon qualification and PT recret of his S	strengths or weakness This NCOER provides t specific examples to support the ratings give
tion: CS:	On Screen Treatments	NEXT go to SL_AM_00 BACK go to SL_AM_01

Narration: Not all records will provide valuable information for your effort. You may have to search for specific references to or examples of strengths or areas that require improvement. Your rater and senior rater may not always provide the specifics needed in their rating bullets. In this illustration, an extract from an N-C-O-E-R, this sergeant's rater provided very few examples to substantiate the ratings in the N-C-O-E-R; many of the bullets are weakly worded, more space filler than substance. From the extract of this single record, it would be difficult to find indications of this N-C-Os strengths, weaknesses, or attitudes. Course: Strategies for Self-Learning

Instructional Designer.

			a Test Sco		100	1	OODEN, ALE	Ine R.				This APFT card provides an example of a strength, in this
		174.4			-			SP INF	BN			
51278, 10 51278		20	Aur 14, 11	SGT 100	20 50705		AUGU COM	ADE ADEMON BODY AND	549 4557.5 Notes	BOOK STOCK	HOR BODY ON	case, the NCO's physical strength. Sergeant Gooden
70 67	157	94	70 NJ BAR 1004	159.	90	A. AND 1024	0.0	576	Pc 664 1008	170	678	has sustained a high level of physical readiness over the
70	PAB	87	04 10 Kee 1004E 72	001 98	90	IL AND ICCAE	APRA)	ASPR	10 WA 10 P	1 1974)	1040	past 6 months. He actually improved his sit-up score and
13.28	JEW	93	13.56	çe	92	Sectors score	ATA5	2005	SHERAN SOL	AL 19743	1040	qualified for the Army Physica
Colorado antesa	ente S	274	NODCOC DOM		272			2014	140 140 100000000		10%	Fitness Badge. With minimal additional conditioning, he
Dee D	ree, o	10	Country To	Step. i	STC.	COMMENTS			COMP/G			seems ready to participate in training or attend schools that are physically demanding.
FORM 795. N	17.041	an -1 mu	NA PETRO, FINE	75.47	V04 870	0.00 (0.1.2*C					1010.00	are physically demanding.
gation: hics:					On	Screen Ti	reatme	ints				NEXT go to SL_AM_006

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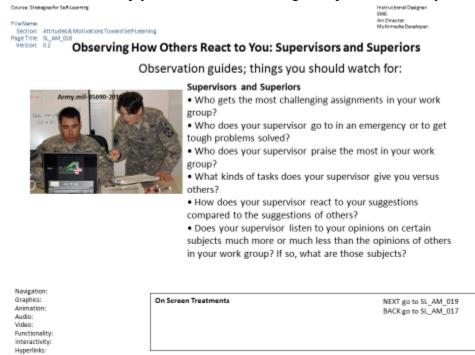
Narration: When scores or ratings appear on some records, they may require some interpretation. In this example, the young sergeant did not improve his A-P-F-T score from October to March. However, he did sustain a high score, improved his sit-up raw score, and his scores of 90 or above in each event and total score now qualify him for the Army Physical Fitness Badge. This record provides an indication of a strength, in this case his physical strength, and provides evidence of this N-C-Os preparedness to participate in training programs or attend schools with high physical fitness demands. However, to provide the most accurate evaluation, your formal assessment should draw on current records from multiple sources.



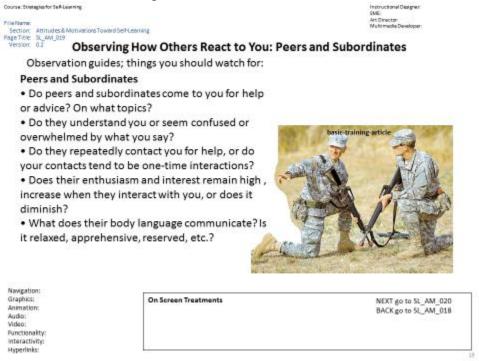
Narration: Hearing what your subordinates, peers, superiors, family, and friends think about you will also contribute to your overall assessment. Their feedback can assist in identifying strengths and weaknesses that you may not have noticed or that you have been reluctant to acknowledge. Among these possible contributors, your supervisor plays a unique role. Supervisors should provide guidance and recommendations for self development of subordinates. There are two ways to gather feedback from others. You can either watch how they act and figure out what they think of you or (Pause) you can ask them directly.

Course Strategister Set Learning Pole Name Section: Antitudes & Montrescions Too Page Tree: S. LM. 017 Version: 0.2 Gathe	13	the Observation Approach
		To gather more accurate perceptions, watch the reactions of the same person several times. Trends should emerge helping you to gauge their opinion toward you. Watching someone once is not very reliable. Their behavior may be the result of other issues.
Newgation: Graphics: Animation: Audio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Hyperinks:	On Screen Treatments	NEXT go to SL_AM_D18 BACK go to SL_AM_D16

Narration: Watching how others act toward you, listening to their comments, and monitoring the decisions they make regarding you, provide indications of what they think about your skills and expertise. It is important to observe eye contact, facial expressions, and body language. Listen to what they say and the tone of their voice. The time that they spend with you and frequency of contact are also aspects to observe. When observing others, watch the same person several times to help you see trends indicating the opinions that they hold toward you.



Narration: Use these questions to guide your observations of supervisors and superiors. Look for trends and indicators. Keep your observations in context. Their behaviors may sometimes be the result of other issues or circumstances. For example, if your supervisor selected someone else to perform an important task was it because you were too busy, unavailable, or was it the other persons turn?



Narration: Use these questions to guide your observations of peers and subordinates. Again, look for trends, indicators, and keep your observations in context. Behaviors may sometimes be the result of other issues. By using your observations of others, you can gain insights into their perceptions of you. However, your conclusions are at best an educated guess so stay open to new information and in

sights.

Course: Strategias for Self-Learning

Provide The Section: Attitudes & Motivations Toward Set Rearing Page Trole: 5L, 444,000 Version: 0.2 Instructional Designer SME: Art Director Maittimedie Developer

### Asking for Feedback



#### Who to Ask

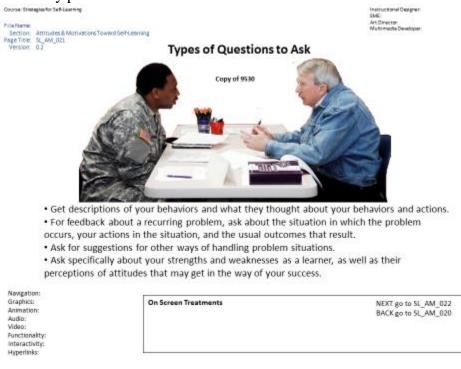
 Ask people who have been able to observe you enough to offer useful information.

 Ask people who have observed you from different perspectives.

 Ask a former or current supervisor, mentor, or teacher who may have greater experience in an area of interest.

Navigation: Graphics: Animation: Audio: Video:	On Screen Treatments	NEXT go to SL_AM_021 BACK go to SL_AM_019
Functionality: Interactivity: Hyperlinks:		

Narration: While many good insights into your strengths and weaknesses can be gained through observing how others interact with you, often directly asking other people results in better information. When asking for feedback, talk to people who know you in different ways. Consider talking with people in different categories: subordinates, peers, and supervisors. Your supervisor, subject matter experts, teachers and trainers, or mentors who have observed your performance may provide the best feedback.

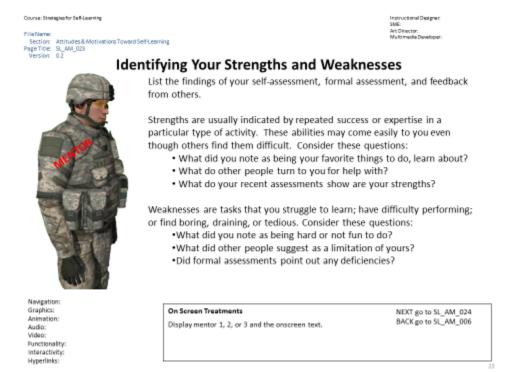


Narration: Ask questions that will contribute to your self-assessment and later analysis. Recommended types of questions are listed. Take notes. Remember that you are seeking honest opinions and impressions. Do not be defensive. You came for feedback not debate, so keep any feelings and disappointments at bay. This feedback will help you determine some things to build on as well as things to correct and improve.

	Attitudes & Motivations Toward S SL_AW_022	efficenting	SME: Art Director Me trimedia Developer
Version.	0.2 T	hings to Remember When Aski	ng Questions
	• Be respectful	of other people's time, and prepare	auestions ahead of time.
		y and respectfully.	
	<ul> <li>Ask for clarific</li> </ul>	ation and examples when points are	e unclear.
	<ul> <li>Summarize th</li> </ul>	e points to make sure that you unde	erstand the person correctly.
	<ul> <li>Thank the fee</li> </ul>	dback providers for their time and a	issistance.
Navigatio Graphics: Animation		On Screen Treatments	NEXT go to 5L_AM_D06 BACK go to 5L_AM_021
Audio: Video: Functiona	ality:		

Narration: Be sure that you maintain a professional air. You may want to come back to this person at some point in the future to reassess yourself or gauge your progress. Remember that they are providing their attention to your development and future. Be sure to thank them for their time and assistance. Consider their time as an investment in you and your development.

Course: Strategies for Self-Learning



MENTOR: Okay, now let us discuss the remaining step. You should have taken notes throughout the process. From the input, you should be able to identify common perceptions people have of you. Behaviors, comments on your performance, and opinions expressed by others should be reflected in formal assessments, observing others, and receiving direct feedback. Instead of taking a single comment or point of feedback about you from others as fact, look for the recurring themes or patterns that you read about, observed, or heard from more than one person or source. Consider the questions listed to support your analysis.

PiterName Page Tice: 92, 400 (2003) Version: 0.2	My Strengths    My Strengths	your attitude? What p e impact on you as a le My Weaknesses 	ersonality traits did arner or as a leader? My Self Development and Self-Learning Plan 
LUL P	reassessment when you cha promoted, or experience si		
Navigation: Graphics: Animation: Audio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity:	On Screen Treatments Display mentor 1, 2, or 3 and the on	screen text.	NEXT go to SL_AM_D06 BACK go to SL_AM_023
Hyperlinks:			24

Interactivity: Hyperlinks:

MENTOR: Look at what others identified as your strengths and weaknesses and compare their comments to what you know about yourself and what you learned when looking at the results of your formal assessments. Examining the way you live your life and the situations you have experienced can reveal things you may desire to change, improve, or reinforce and sustain. Now catalog what you have learned. The results will facilitate your plan of action for improvement through self development and self-learning. However, keep in mind that you will change with new experiences. Periodic reassessments are recommended.

Course: Strategies for Self-Learning		Instructional Designer: SMIC:
File Name:		Art Director:
Section: Attitudes& MotivationsTowardSelf-Lean Page Ticle: SL_AM_025 Version: 0.2	ling	Multimedia Developer:
Self-Le	arning Attitudes and Motivations Summa	ary
To properly prepare for se	If development and self-learning you must assess w	here you are. An
	letermination is identifying your strengths and weak	nesses. This
assessment should includ	2:	
<ol> <li>Self-assessment. Determine</li> </ol>	ermine your attitudes toward learning and your stre	ngths and
weaknesses from you your opinion may be	r perspective. Understand that it is difficult to hone prejudiced.	stly self-assess and
<ol><li>Conduct a formal asse</li></ol>	ssment. Review records of performance assessmen	its, skill
	and intelligence tests, and other assessments and i	
compare you to a star	e ,	
1 /	multiple observations of others. Detect trends from	n how they
interact with you and		n now ency
,	,	
	subordinates, peers, and supervisors. Detect trend	
	gths , weaknesses, and attitudes from multiple sour	tes to provide
input to your self devi	elopment and self-learning plans. Self Assessme	ent Job Aid
Select NEXT to cont	inue or BACK to return to the instructional menu fo	r this module.
Navigation:		
Graphics: Animation:	On Screen Treatments	NEXT go to 5_SL_I_0?? BACK go to SL_AM_006
Audio:		DACK go to SL_AM_006
Video: Eurotionality:	NEXT goes to the Intro Module Selection Menu SL_I_??	

Narration: Here is a summary of the module. It provides the steps of the assessment process to determine your attitudes, strengths, and weaknesses toward self-learning and self development. Select the button to open, save or print a Self Assessment Job Aid. Review this list and select NEXT to continue or BACK to return to the instructional menu for this module.

### APPENDIX I: STORY BOARDS - A LEG UP ON SELF-LEARNING: STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS: MODULE 3: PLANNING AND ANALYSIS STRATEGIES



### Narration:

MENTOR: Accepting challenges and learning new skills are elements of your job description. The difference between a stepping stone and a stumbling block is where you put your foot. You need to step off, get started the right way. In this example, your buddy Sergeant Smith is receiving a new mission from his Platoon Sergeant. Let's listen in.

PliniName Section: Planning and Analysisfor Self-Learn Page Time: SL, FA_002 Version: 0.2	re	Instructional Cestgren SME: Ant Director Meltrimedie Developer :
	It Starts with a New Requirement	
	SGT Smith       SFC Jones	
	On Screen Treatments	

Narration: (Use voices of Smith and Jones)

SFC Jones: Hey SGT Smith, got a mission for you. We begin gunnery with basic rifle marksmanship and qualification firing in three weeks. I want you to develop classes on bore light procedures, sight adjustments, and zeroing. I want each Soldier in the Platoon to be able to zero his own weapon effectively and not burn a lot of unnecessary ammo. Preliminary Marksmanship Instruction begins in two weeks. Any questions?

SGT Smith: Ah-h-h, No Sergeant. Advance to SL\_PA\_003

Course: Strategiser for Full Course; Primiliarme Section: Planning and Analysistor Self-Learning Page Trace: SL, FA, 203 Version: 0.2		Instructional Designer SME Art Director Mattimedia Developer
	What New Skills Are Required?	
	SGT Smith       SFC Jones	
Newlgation: Advance to 5_SL_PA_003 when the		
Graphics: nervetion incomplete. Author: Video: Functionality: Interactivity:	On Screen Treatments Still of an SFC addressing a subordinate NCO.	No NEXT or BACK. Go to SL_PA_004 at the end of the conversation.
Hyperlinks:		

Narration: (Use voices of Smith and Jones)

SFC Jones: How about it Smith, you ever taught these marksmanship skills before? How about using a bore light?

SGT Smith: Ah-h-h, No Sergeant.

SFC Jones: Well you better get spun up. This is your pony to ride trooper, but . . . let me know if you need help.

Advance to SL\_PA\_004.

	3	- 5g	
PilleMatter Section: PageTicle: Version:	SL_PA_004	AnalysisforSelf-Learning	

Course: Strategies for Self-Learning

Where Do You Begin?



Newlgation: Enable NEXT when Nemation ends Graphics: Animation: Audio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Hyperlinks:

On Screen Treatments Still with SGT Smith in the background thinking and the mentor (1, 2, or 3) in the foreground addressing the student. NEXT go to SL\_PA\_005 BACK go to SL\_PA\_002

tructional Designat

SME: Art Director

Narration:

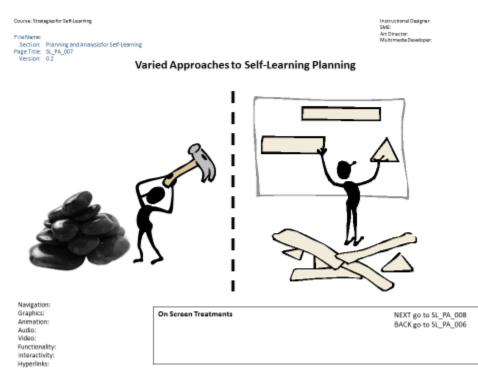
MENTOR: Well Sergeant Smith sure doesn't seem very confident about all this. For sure, he has some learning to do; maybe a new skill or two to master. What about you? When you get a new tasking or mission, especially one that you don't know very much about, what do you do? How do you approach preparing to gain new knowledge or learn new skills? Put yourself in this scenario. Think about it a minute then select NEXT to begin a self-assessment.

nit button when your selections are complete.	Not	Somewhat	Relevant	Very	Essential
Clearly define what I needed to learn when beginning the learning process	Relevant	Relevant	0	O	0
Identify what I hope to be able to do as a result of what I am learning	0	0	•	0	0
Break down my overall learning task into smaller, manageable parts	0	0	0	0	0
Plan step-by-step what I need to do in working toward my goal	0	0	0	0	0
Plan how to pace my learning to minimize conflict with my other obligations	0	0	0	0	0
Prioritize learning tasks and/or topics that need to be covered	0	0	0	0	0
Develop a time-line, roadmap, or list of milestones and use them to track my progress	0	0	0	0	0
Set a deadline to complete my learning task and/ or produce a product (e.g., a briefing)	0	0	0	0	0

Narration: Consider the scenario you observed and rate the relevance of each of the Learning Strategies listed. There is no right or wrong selection. An honest response will provide you with the most accurate self-assessment. After you have determined the relevance of each strategy, click on the submit button to compare your self-assessment to peers and others.

Course: Strategies for Seif-Learning Pille Name Section: Pilanning and Anal Page Title: SL, PA (006								SME Art 0 Mož	uctional Designan Intector Intecta Developer: X	
vesor 02	Citiz Peridia	an Education	DATE:	Yau Scos 45	10 	Timelr		Id 		
	Menu		Print	Save		Back	Page x of y	Next		
Newgation: Graphics: Animation: Audio: Video: Functionality: Display.comp Interactivity: Hyperinks:	uted value in Your Sc	Display as SAVE: perr file on the	e comput bar grapi nits the s compute	ted number fro h with NCO ave	rlayed. this page	(MS Office	productorP		NEXT go to SL_PA_DI BACK go to SL_PA_OI desktop or a designate s printer.	05

Narration: Now compare your score for the relevance of Planning and Analysis in selflearning strategies to others. Your average score is represented by the Soldier icon. If your score is equal to or below those of your peers or more senior NCOs, you have some work to do in developing or refining your attitudes, strategies, and approach to self-learning. In the past, you may see the impact reflected in disrupting conflicts, wasted time, or lack of organization as you embarked on new self-learning efforts. Scoring higher than your peers may indicate that your planning and analysis skills and strategies are a strength for you, one that you should build on. After reviewing the comparisons, select next to review ways to improve your self-learning strategies that relate to planning and analysis.



Narration: Some NCOs described their approach to self-learning as "diving in" or "just doing it". They spend little or no effort on upfront planning, analysis, or prioritization. Other NCOs described creating schedules, trackers, spreadsheets, and other aids to work through their self-learning process and using software like excel or word documents to maintain a checklist and summary of what they had learned and what they intended to do next in the process. While extensive preparations may not be required for all self-learning, the "dive in" or "get a bigger hammer" approach seldom proves successful for complex, large, or self-learning tasks over extended periods.

Course: Strategies for Self-Learning File Name: Section: Planning and Analysis for Self-Learning Course Take: 0. Mar 2010	Instructional Designer SMS: Art Director: Multimedia Developer:	
PageTicle: SL_PA_008 Version: 0.2	Planning to Learn	
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8.	What do I need to learn; what is my goal? What should I be able to do, perform, or know after I learn? What are the associated milestones, tasks, or sub-elements to m How do I attain these milestones? How do I learn but keep from conflicting with other obligations? • Normal duties • Family plans • Other How do I prioritize the tasks or topics that need to be covered? How do I track my progress toward the milestones and goal? What is the deadline; when is the product due or performance re	_

Navigation:		
Graphics: Animation: Trigger actions on the nemation. Audio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Interactivity:	On Screen Treatments Display the image of SGT Smith with the Question Mark. At the end of the next to last sentence, 1. fade the Question Mark, 2. display the list of questions to the right of the page, and 3. display the light bulb over SGT Smith's head.	NEXT go to SL_PA_009 BACK go to SL_PA_007

Narration: Think back to the scenario and Sergeant Smith's dilemma. He has some things to learn and a lot to get done in a short time. He may be trying to figure out how to do the whole thing, and may not be considering how to divide the task into smaller or easier to accomplish elements. He may not have yet determined what he needs to learn or the most efficient and effective way to accomplish the self-learning tasks. We will approach self-learning planning and analysis from that perspective. (display and turn on the idea light bulb) Review the questions related to "planning to learn," then select next to continue. Instructional Designer

Section: Planning and Analysisfor Self-Learning Page Tinte: SL\_PA\_009 Version: 0.2

### Planning Is Planning

#### **Checklist for Planning a Self-Learning** Project

1. Find a focus

Course: Strategies for Self-Learning

- 2. Set realistic goals
- 3. Develop ideas for specific strategies and activities for learning
- 4. Identify resources and support systems
- 5. Develop an action plan
- 6. Execute the plan

Navigation:

Audio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity Hyperlinks:

7. Review and evaluate

#### Plan Developmen Mission Analysis Analyze the missio arpose Tasks - specified, implied, essentia Tasks - speces Constraint Write restated missi femain and weather Construction and you Construction and you Construction Troops available Time available Risk assessment Course of Action Development Analyzes relative combat power **Froop Leading Procedures** Generate options Array initial forces Develop scheme of mar FTC COA statement and sket COA Analysis Hasty war gam ÿ **COA** Comparison

SME Art Director: Multimedia Develope

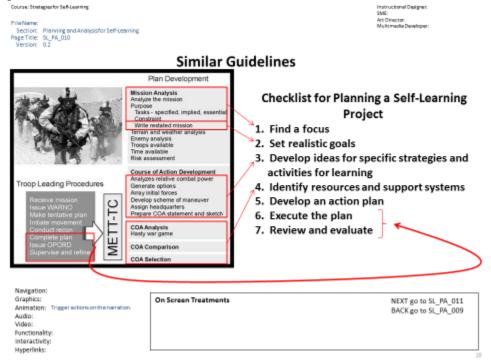
**Tactical Planning Guidelines** 

Graphics: Animation: Trigger ections on the nemation On Screen Treatments NEXT go to SL PA 010 BACK go to SL\_PA\_008

COA Selection

166

Narration: Think back to a real world or training tactical mission that you successfully completed. What made it successful? What would you do the same or do differently given a similar mission? Preparing to execute a self-learning project and preparing to carry out a tactical mission have many similarities. Self-learning can be approached using similar guidelines for planning.



Narration: We have drawn some arrows to indicate some of the parallels between these two planning activities. As we review the planning and analysis strategies, these relationships will become more apparent. With these relationships and parallels in mind, let us now look at some planning and analysis strategies.

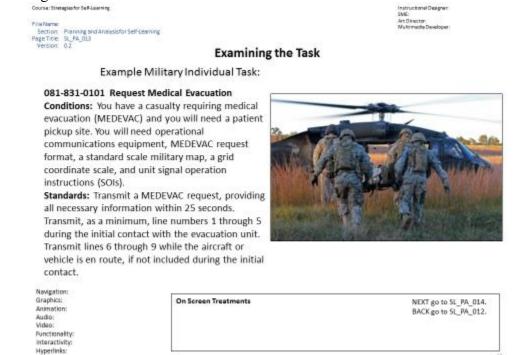
Course: Strategies for Self-Learning Pille Name: Section: Planning and Analysis for Page Trible: SL_PA_011 Version: 0.2	ir Self-Learning Nu	Directer: Iti media Developer:
Refi	ning Your Self-Learning Planning and Analysis Strate	egies
	Select each topic in order. Then select NEXT to continue.	
Determine Wha to Learn	t Establish Learning Goals and Milestones	Establish a Timeline 3
	Determine Resource Requirements and Impediments 5	
Navigation: Graphics: Autio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Hyperlinks:	On Screen Treatments BLUE numbers are for reference only! Do not display. If 1 is selected go to SL_PA_012. If 2 is selected go to SL_PA_018. If 3 is selected go to SL_PA_023. If 4 is selected go to SL_PA_027. If 5 is selected go to SL_PA_029. Provide a visited state; place a ✓ on the blocks selected. Do not enable NEXT till all buttons are selected.	NEXT go to SL_PA_031. BACK go to SL_PA_010

Narration: Considering these similarities, we will address the various strategies and components associated with both professional and personal self-learning tasks and opportunities. We recommend that you review these topics and complete them in order. When you have completed all topics, select NEXT to continue.

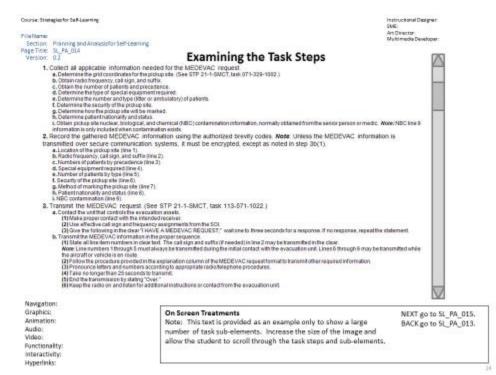


Narration: Your ideas, actions, and how you review and reflect on what you learn are the keys to successful self-learning. Soldiers are busy, with lots of competing demands for their time and attention. Thinking about self-learning as a mission may help you focus your energy on a

topic over a period of time. Find and define a focus for your effort by determining just what you need to learn or be able to perform. What do you need or want to be able to do upon completion of learning.



Narration: Start by analyzing the learning task and determining what you need to learn. Military individual and collective tasks are generally well organized. Most provide a task statement, define conditions under which the whole task will be executed, and provide discernible and measurable performance standards. Our example task, Request Medical Evacuation, is an individual Skill Level two task. To successfully execute this task you must determine the required elements of information, accurately transmit the required elements of information, and transmit the required information in a specified amount of time.



Narration: This task has three performance steps. However, each performance step has multiple sub elements. The part task of transmitting a prepared message from information that someone else has provided is relatively simple, but correctly performing the whole task with its many sub elements requires in-depth knowledge and proficiency in associated skills. Learning to perform the full task, unassisted, may require the acquisition of additional knowledge or development of new skills. Analysis of this task reveals that correct performance requires knowledge and skills in map reading, operation of communication's systems, radio-telephone procedures, understanding of medical terms and patient mobility, and an understanding of tactical operations, as well as performance of the recording and transmission elements of the task.



Narration: Leaders may desire to focus on learning or improving their knowledge of military collective tasks. Many collective tasks have characteristics similar to those discussed for individual tasks, and most are well documented by the task proponent. Most have multiple steps or aspects and have quantifiable or observable performance measures. Most require performance of prerequisite or associated knowledge and skills, all have related individual tasks, and many are associated with or related to other collective tasks. However, not all aspects of military doctrine, tactics, or procedures are so fully documented. For some, you may need to determine on your own the associated or related tasks as you plan your learning goals.

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	CIV	lian Education	
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Narration: Your self-learning and personal development may include civilian education such as college, technical, or trade courses. These courses generally require satisfactory completion of requisite activities to receive credit or meet course objectives. Course objectives may include class attendance, participation in a special activity, satisfactory submission of papers or projects, performance of laboratory requirements, and attainment of satisfactory scores on quizzes or tests. Additionally, some courses may require demonstration of knowledge or skill proficiency for award of certifications or course credit. Instructional Designer: SME:

Step 1 of Task 081-831-0101 - Request Me	dical Evacu	ation: Collect all applicable information	
needed for the MEDEVAC request.			Proficie
Task Step Sub Element	My Status	Action	T = Train
<ul> <li>Determine the grid coordinates for the pickup site. (Task 071-329-1002.)</li> </ul>	Р	Need additional training and practice determining my map location using terrain association and resection.	P = Requ Practice
<ol> <li>Determine the type of special equipment required.</li> </ol>	Р	Require additional knowledge of "special equipment" available and applications.	U = Untr
f. Determine the security of the pickup site.	Р	Require additional knowledge of pilot's requirements for crew/aircraft safety, probability of enemy contact, and enemy air defenses.	
L Obtain pickup site chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) contamination information, normally obtained from the senior person or medic. <i>Note:</i> NBC line 9 information is only included when contamination exists.	U	Have only minimal training on the detection of chemical agents and symptoms of chemical or biological agents. Plan to focus on the basics now and defer detailed training on CBRN detection till later.	

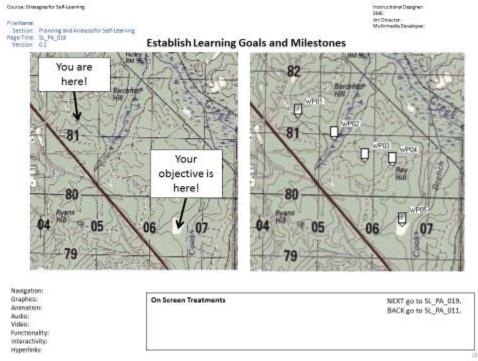
task sub elements b., c., e., g., and h. of Step 1 of the Request Medical Evacuation Task.

Course: Strategies for Self-Learning

On Screen Treatments					
Note: NEXT returns to the nav menu at SL_PA_011.					

NEXT go to SL PA 011. BACK go to SL\_PA\_016.

Narration: Determining what to learn for professional as well as personal self-learning and development should include a detailed analysis of the knowledge and skills required for satisfactory performance and understanding of the task or skill. In this example, a student has listed sub elements of the task that require additional self-learning. Note that the student has identified foundation knowledge and related or associated tasks and skills. While simple or onetime efforts may require little consideration, more complex efforts can be performed more effectively with more structured analysis and planning, identifying or listing the knowledge and skills to be learned.



Narration: Self-learning is similar to planning and executing a tactical mission or finding your way using land navigation. Like navigating to the correct point on the ground, you must plan your route and set intermediate goals or way points. By attaining the intermediate goals you advance toward and reach your objective.

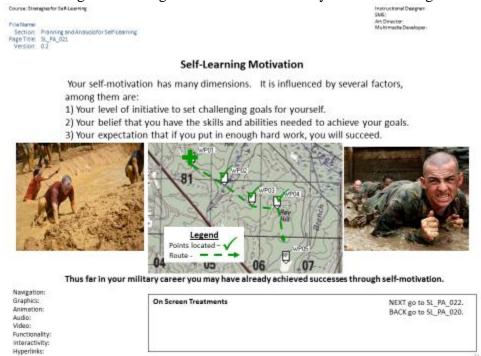
Hyperlinks:

Course: Strategistic TeR-Learning Pille Neuros: Section: Planning and Analysisfor SetF-Learning Page Totic: SL, FA_019 Version: 0.2	Framing SMART Goals and Milestones	Instructional Dealgrec SME Art Director: Multimedia Developer:
s •	SPECIFIC	
M •	MEASURABLE	
× •	ATTAINABLE	
R •	RELEVANT	
¥ •	TIME BOUND	
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Navigation: Graphics: Animstion: Audio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Haperinks:	On Screen Treatments	NEXT go to SL_PA_020. BACK go to SL_PA_018.

Narration: Like waypoints along your route, well crafted intermediate goals and milestones help assure progress toward the desired end-state or final goals. The term SMART will assist you in developing appropriate intermediate and final goals for your self-learning. They will help you manage your time, your resources, guide your decisions, and assure effective efforts. Since much of your self-learning may be self-driven, motivation and goal setting go hand-in-hand. Goals provide the direction you need to reach your destination, help provide the motivation to keep you going, and give you a means of determining or measuring your progress.

ort: 0.2	Developing SMART Goals and Milestones	7
	SMART Goal Preparation Form	Writing S.M.A.R.T.
1. GOAL: [Write	your goal here]	goals can take a little practice. Refe
2. Next, identify	the specific elements that make it a S.M.A.R.T. goal:	back to the learnin
SPECIFIC:		need(s) you have
MEASURABLE:		identified. Write
ATTAINABLE:		one or more short-
RELEVANT:		term S.M.A.R.T.
TIMELY:		goals that will help
3. Lastly, revise y	your goal if needed based on the above elements.	you achieve a
S.M.A.R.T. Goals	<ul> <li>In order to be S.M.A.R.T., a goal needs to be:</li> </ul>	learning need.
SPECIFIC:	A general goal would be "improve PT score." A specific goal would be, "improve PT score	•
	to 275 or higher for approval to go to Air Assault school"	
MEASURABLE:	To determine if your goal is measurable, ask questions such as "How much? How	
	many? How will I know if and when I have accomplished my goal?"	PRINT THE
ATTAINABLE:	Something you are capable of achieving.	SMART GOAL
RELEVANT:	Because we are focusing on work-related self-learning, your goals should be job-specific	FORM
	and focus on work important to the organization's success.	
TIMELY:	A goal should be grounded with a time frame. With no time frame tied to it, there is no	
	sense of urgency.	
stion:		
ies:	On Screen Treatments	NEXT go to SL PA 021.
tion:	Print the SMART Goal form when the button is selected.	BACK go to SL_PA_019.

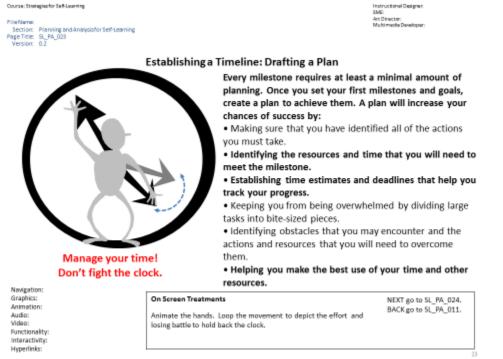
Narration: End and intermediate goals will be developed from the results of your analytical efforts to determine what to learn. The term SMART (say with emphasis) should be used to make the goal statements actionable, determining and providing the direction and details needed to measure achievement and accomplish or attain the goal within the desired timeframe. Intermediate milestones should clearly support attainment of your final goal. This format may assist you in writing actionable goals and milestones for your self-learning.



Narration: Let us briefly consider the role of motivation in your self-learning. Staying motivated is a critical element to your success in combat, in demanding training, as well as in self-learning. One reason for taking the time to identify and establish realistic goals is because they have a powerful effect on your motivation to continue and complete self-learning projects or efforts.

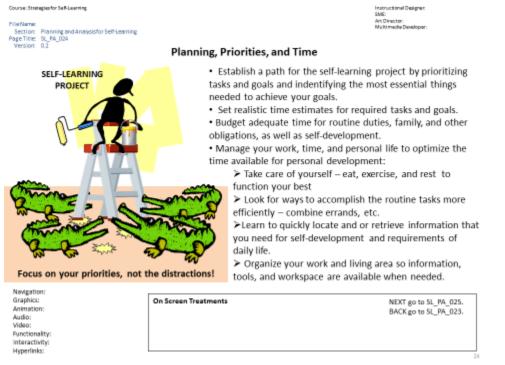


Narration: One reason for taking the time to identify and establish goals is because goals have a powerful effect on your motivation to begin, continue, and complete self-learning projects or efforts. Some goals will be short-term; for example, learning a skill in your new job. At other times, you will have long term goals associated with planning your career, preparing for an assignment, improving chances for promotion, or completing a college degree.

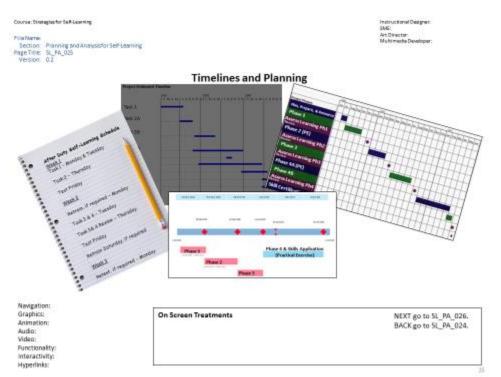


Narration: Having identified what you need to learn and established SMART goals for your self-learning project, it is time to pull together an action plan. Time can be an ally, but it

frequently becomes your greatest enemy in self-learning. Time management is an essential skill, you cannot fight the clock, but you can manage it. Establish deadlines to track progress and a timeline to assure the efficient and effective use of available time.



Narration: For maximum payoff and successful planning you need to set priorities, make realistic estimates of time requirements, and budget your time. There are always competing requirements and potential conflicts. Without prioritization and planning these conflicts may overwhelm or subvert your efforts. You may find that deliberate self-development requires some lifestyle changes. Self-learning may require that you deliberately plan for or deconflict other requirements for your time and energies.



Narration: Your timeline and plan can take many forms. Some may be as simple as notes on the calendar, on your refrigerator at home, or in your pocket notebook. You may use Outlook on your home PC or the My Calendar function in Army Career Tracker. Microsoft Office Tools and other software packages provide other useful tools for planning and time management for long-term or complex efforts. Whatever tools or job aids you use, set a timeline. A timeline should be a defined take-away in planning. Setting a defined schedule helps fight procrastination. A timeline helps impose self-control and management, reducing stress to meet goals. It helps you determine where you are now, where you are going, and supports adjustment of plans when required.

Course: Statisgies for Self-Learning Fille Name: Section: Planning and Analysis for Self-Learning Page Trate: SL_PA_026 Version: 0.2		Instructional Designer: SMS: Ant Director: Multimedie Developer:
Revi	ewing Your Timeline and Plan	
Good leaders help develop their subordinates.	<ul> <li>Once you've completed your plan, commentor, supervisor, or friend for feed following questions together can assign and keeping it on track and moving for track and moving for the learning objectives describilearn?</li> <li>Are the learning objectives clear, relevant?</li> <li>Are there other objectives you must for the learning strategies and remains and remains and estimates?</li> <li>Do the learning strategies and remains and remains and the strategies and strategies and strategies?</li> <li>Are there other resources and strategies?</li> </ul>	back. Reviewing the ist in assessing your plan orward: be what you propose to understandable, and hight consider? realistic and accurate? sources seem cient?
Nextgation: Graphics: On Scree Animation: Audio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Hyperinks:	in Treatments	NEXT go to SL_PA_011. BACK go to SL_PA_025.

Narration: Having a self-learning support network can be extremely helpful. A supervisor, mentor, or experienced friend can not only provide a second set of eyes but can be most helpful when assessing your learning needs, developing goals, writing an action plan, reviewing it, and even keeping you accountable. Good leaders should be interested and involved in the development of their subordinates. Keeping your supervisor aware and involved with your self-learning efforts can help you become more successful. Additionally, take an interest in the self-development plans of your subordinates.

Course: Strategise for SelF-Learning Plile Nerve: Section: Planning and Analysis for Self-Learning Page Trole: SL, PA_027 Version: 0.2		Testhuck and Cealgner: SMS: Ant Director: Multimedia Developer:
Det	ermine Self-Learning Resource Requirement	s
	Self-Learning Resources may include: • <u>People</u> – subject matter experts, skilled tra • <u>Documents, publications, and books</u> – doo tech manuals, procedural manuals, and less publications • <u>Interactive multimedia instruction</u> – web a delivered • <u>Simulations and simulators</u> • <u>College, trade, and technical courses of st</u> certifications, and course completion • <u>Specialty (how-to) courses</u> – mountaineer marksmanship, and law enforcement/emerger • <u>Army Knowledge Online</u> • Other information and research <u>websites</u>	trinal publications, ions learned and CD-ROM <u>udy</u> – degrees, ing, survival,
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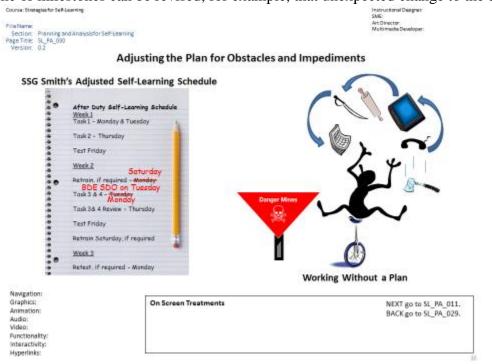
Narration: Learning resources are the people, books, documents, CDs, websites, and other materials and experiences that will help you achieve your learning goals. Most military tasks are documented in doctrinal publications and references. As you determine what to learn, you should also begin to assemble resources such as web sites, documents, e-learning courseware, and lists of contacts or experts that you may use to facilitate your learning. For Soldiers, a golden key to learning resources is available through Army Knowledge Online.

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Narration: A. K. O. provides 24/7 access to army email, directory services, blogs, file storage, instant messenger, and chat as well as links and access to other related army websites such as the Army Training Requirements and Resources System and the Army Learning Management System. We will discuss some of the details concerning finding and accessing learning resources in a later module of this course. However, for now, it is sufficient that you understand that A. K. O. provides access to an extensive network of learning information, tools, and resources.

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	Planning for Obstacles a	nd Impedi	ments
Note	from the First Sergeant	SSG	Smith's Self-Learning Schedule
To: SSG SPR 1. SSG Smith- next Tuesd 2. The duty n Tankin is 3. His wife wa accident y 4. See me for	oster has been adjusted. SSG unavailable for 2 weeks is seriously injured in a car esterday afternoon. details ASAP. BDE CSM is out and wants to pre-brief the		After Duty Self-Learning Schedule <u>Week 1</u> Task 1 – Manday & Tuesday Task 2 – Thuruday Test Friday <u>Week 2</u> Retrain, if required – Manday Task 3 & 4 – Tuesday Task 3 & 4 – Tuesday Task 3 & 4 Review – Thursday Test Friday Retrain Saturday, if required <u>Week 3</u> Retest, if required – Manday
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Narration: You will encounter obstacles and challenges as you execute your self-learning plan. However, be resource and conflict conscious when planning. For example, if you anticipate being deployed within the next 6 months, don't set a milestone that will require attendance of a resident college course. Always build flexibility into your plans so obstacles can more easily be overcome or milestones can be revised, for example, that unexpected change to the duty roster.



Narration: A flexible plan allows you to take actions and make adjustments while remaining focused on your priorities and goals. Self-learning without a plan limits your ability to

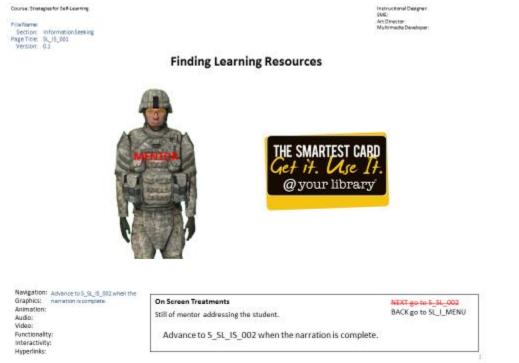
Hyperlinks:

react to changes and obstacles. Without a flexible plan, frustrations may run high, motivation may drop, and attaining desired goals may become too difficult.

	Self-	Learning Planning and Analysis Summary	
1.	Determine what y efforts.	you need to learn and the goal of your self	-learning
2.		you should be able to do, perform, or know	w after
З.		earning task into smaller parts, milestones	s, or subtasks.
		y-step plan to reach the milestones and ul	,
5.	Determine how to obligations.	o pace the learning to minimize conflicts v	vith other
6.	Prioritize the task	ks or topics that need to be covered.	
		ward the milestones and goal.	
		et a deadline to complete learning or deliv	er the product.
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uination	Select NEXT to cor	ntinue or BACK to return to the instructional menu fo	a uns module.
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Narration: Here is a summary of the learning strategies associated with self-learning planning and analysis. Review this list and select NEXT to continue or BACK to return to the instructional menu for this module.

#### APPENDIX J: STORY BOARDS - A LEG UP ON SELF-LEARNING: STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS: MODULE 4: INFORMATION SEEKING



#### Narration:

MENTOR: Good day Sergeant, have you checked the expiration date on your library card lately? You don't have one? Don't remember where it is? When you have to learn a new skill, where do you go to get information or gather the resources to help you? Some self-learners may be completely in the dark, but others may have figured out how to use the wide variety of resources available to them. Let's catch up with Staff Sergeant Foster. Twice recently he was observed by the Battalion Commander doing a great job training his squad. He is being transferred to the S3 shop. Sergeant Foster thinks that he will be the new training NCO, but the Operations Sergeant Major has other ideas. Let's join them at the battalion command post and listen in.

Course: Strategies for Self-Learning Polia Name: Section: Information Seeking Page Trate: SL/S_002 Version: 0.1		Instructional Designen SME: Art Director Meltimedie Developer
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s	SG Foster	A Short
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Animasion Audio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Hyperinks:	Advance to SL_IS_003 when the dialog is complete,	BACK go to SL_IS_001

#### Narration:

SGM Short: Staff Sergeant Foster, welcome to the S 3. I hope you are cleared out of your company and ready to get to work. Let's take a quick ride up the hill and talk about your new assignment. (PAUSE) I want to show you something.

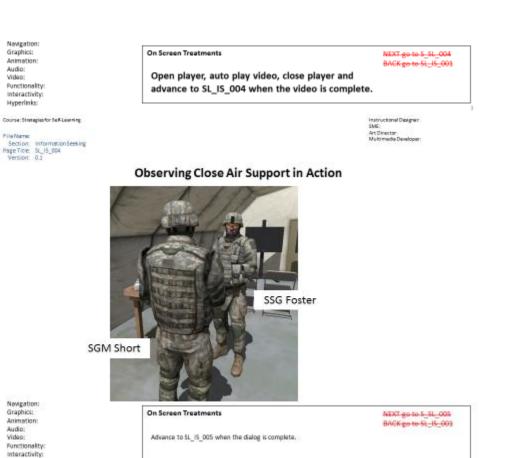
SSG Foster: Sure Sergeant Major, let's go. I understand my new duty will be Training NCO.

SGM Short: Well that was Plan A (PAUSE), but (PAUSE) we just lost Sergeant First Class Earl. He got pulled up to Brigade. Plan B is a little different. You are being assigned to different duties.

Course: Strategies for Self-Learning

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#### Narration:

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SGM Short: Well, Staff Sergeant Foster, what did you think? That was a great example of close air support in action.

SSG Foster: It sure was impressive.

SGM Short: Yes and that will soon be yours. You will be our new S3 Air NCO assisting Captain Dover.

SSG Foster: S3 Air NCO?! Sergeant Major, I'm flattered, but I don't have any experience

. . . .

SGM Short: (Quickly cut in) Experience? Look Sergeant, you will learn all about it. Close Air Support, Army Attack Aviation, air movement, load planning, lift support, it is all about the same. You get started Monday! We won't be able to get you to school for a while, but just jump in with both feet! Captain Dover is new too. You can learn together.

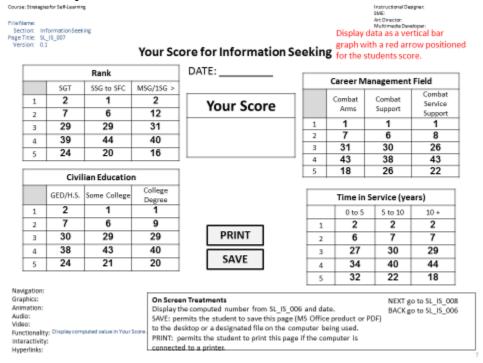


#### Narration:

MENTOR: Well Staff Sergeant Foster was looking for a change of scenery and a way to broaden his experience after being a hard charging squad leader. However, he didn't expect this. He has just become the S3 Air NCO with duties far different than what he expected; duties well outside his comfort zone. If you were in his place, would you know where to find resources to help you learn about a new job or duties? Would you know where to go, what to look for, or who to tap into? Put yourself in this situation. Think about it a minute then select NEXT to begin your self-assessment.

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The table below provides a lis learning strategy listed, pleas submit button when your sele	e rate how relevant it would b						
		Not Relevant	Somewhat Relevant	Relevant	Very Relevant	Essential	SUBMIT
Identifying my most likely source libraries, Google, CALL)	es of good information (e.g.,	o	o	o	0	o	
Collecting examples of complet NCOERs) to use as a model	ed work (e.g., briefings,	o	o	o	o	o	
Thinking about experiences I has about) to help me make sense		o	o	o	o	o	
Seeking opportunities to learn someone to show me.	hings hands-on; getting	o	o	o	o	o	
Supporting my learning with co videos (e.g., language learning		o	0	o	0	0	
Keeping a list, spreadsheet, not resources I have collected and		o	o	o	0	o	
Newigation: Graphics: Animation: Audio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Score/computed meanwise on Hyperinks:	On Screen Treatments Selection of submit will factors and display that Values are: NR=1, SR=2, values ad advance when	cause comput value on SL_IS R=3, VR=4, E= ilue for each (	5_007. :5. row) Learni	Ū		se SL_IS_	en SUBMIT go to 007 go to SL_IS_005

Narration: Consider the situation you observed. Put yourself in Sergeant Foster's place and rate the relevance of each of the Learning Strategies listed. There is no right or wrong selection. Your honest response will provide you with the most accurate self-assessment. After you have determined the relevance of each strategy, click on the submit button to compare your self-assessment to peers and others.

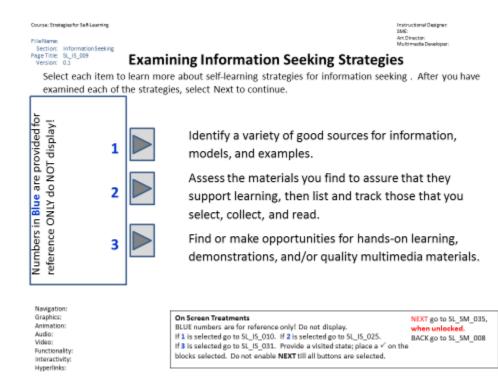


Narration: Now compare your score for the relevance of Information Seeking strategies in self-learning to your peers and others. If your score is equal to or below those of your peers or

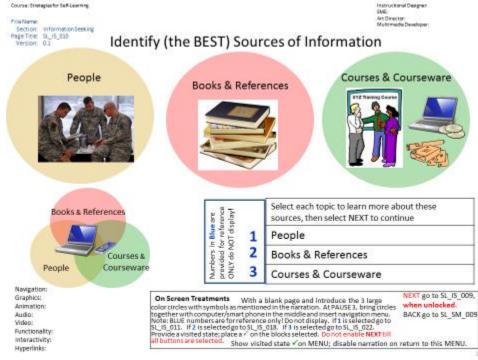
more senior NCOs, you may have some work to do. You may see the impact reflected in incomplete or ineffective learning plans or in your incomplete knowledge on subjects after learning. It may also reflect in the poor problem solving when you encounter an issue related to your new knowledge or skills. Scoring higher than your peers may indicate that your information seeking skills and strategies are a strength that you should build on. Subordinates and peers may look at you as a subject matter expert or the go to guy for a particular skill or knowledge area. You may not always have an answer, but you know where to quickly find the correct answer or additional information. You may print or save this data for future reference.

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Version: 0.1	How Do You Find the Right Resources?	
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	On Screen Treatments Character digs through books, finds	NEXT go to SL_IS_009 BACK go to SL_IS_007

Narration: Perhaps the fundamental question is, "How do you find the right resources and information to support your learning?" This topic will provide you with some tips, considerations, and approaches, (PAUSE) strategies to use when seeking resources for a new self-learning effort.



Narration: Select each item to learn more about information seeking strategies. After you have examined each of the strategies select Next to continue.



Narration: Sources of information that support self-learning fall into three categories: people, (PAUSE) books and references, (PAUSE) and courses and courseware. People include but are not limited to peers, your supervisor and superiors, mentors, and teachers. Books and references include publications such as military field and technical manuals, references written by experts, magazine articles, and volumes from electronic libraries. Courses and courseware

include classes, courses, as well as media structured for learning, distance learning, and correspondence courses. (PAUSE) Far from separate independent categories, they merge, blend, and are sometimes interconnected. You can access many of these sources through your personal computer, iPad, or smart phone. Select each topic to learn more.

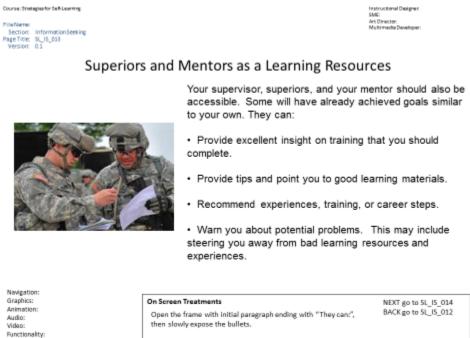


Narration: People can be one of your greatest resources for self-learning, but when you don't manage their time or use their knowledge or experience wisely, people can be a distracter and detriment to learning. In the context of self-learning you must qualify their beneficial talents and expertise, be considerate of their time, and appropriately tap their knowledge, skills, and experiences to advance your learning. Be sure to avoid the temptation to sit around and socialize, or when all is said and done, much more may get said than done. Select NEXT to examine potential benefits, considerations, and best practices when using these various categories of people as learning resources.

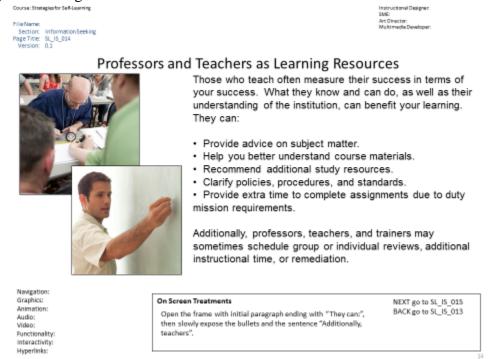
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	Peers as	s a Learning Resources	
Some peers of study or projet		<ul> <li>Peers are accessible and often have training, and experiences. Peers ca</li> <li>Provide insight (though potentially or training that they have completed</li> <li>Provide tips, notes, annotated cou- preparation guidance for courses the</li> <li>Recommend resources, other exp training activities to enhance/improve experiences.</li> <li>Warn you about potential problems</li> </ul>	in; biased) on courses urse materials, or ey attended. veriences, or pre- e your learning
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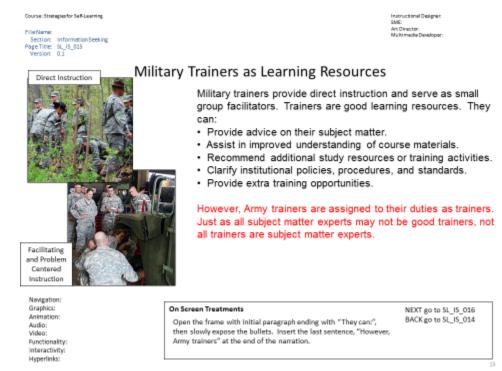
Narration: Peers can provide a great deal of support and knowledge during your selflearning quest. Your peers may have the same or similar learning and development goals. They may face or have faced similar challenges during their learning experiences. Their support is distinct from other forms of social support in that peers offer support by virtue of relevant experience. For example, your peer may have "been there, done that recently" and can relate to others who are now in a similar situation.



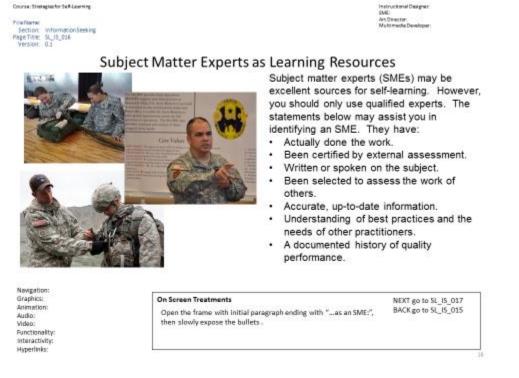
Narration: Supervisors, superiors, and mentors are skilled in areas of their profession. Many have special interests. Over time they have gained experience and may have acquired extensive information and resources throughout their years of service. They have been where you are in your career and have not only survived but advanced, serving in positions of increased authority and responsibility. Most are willing to share their knowledge and skill to improve your performance and promote unit success. Your supervisor has a vested interest in your success. If your supervisor does not have the right information or resources [on hand], he or she can [likely] point you in the right direction.



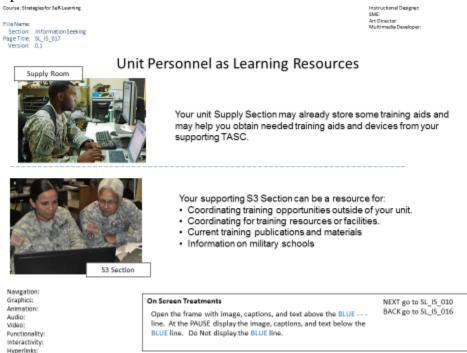
Narration: Teachers, professors, and training professionals in trade schools, adult education programs, and college courses should also be considered learning resources. If your self-learning plans include college or trade courses, your first steps can be intimidating. For example, few students make it through college without seeking assistance from a professor at one time or another. Professors and teachers are often subject matter experts within their area of concentration. They have a wealth of knowledge in their field of expertise, and they are familiar with procedures and policies of their institution. The Army is a big customer for many of these institutions and you may be paying substantial fees; (PAUSE) get your money's worth.



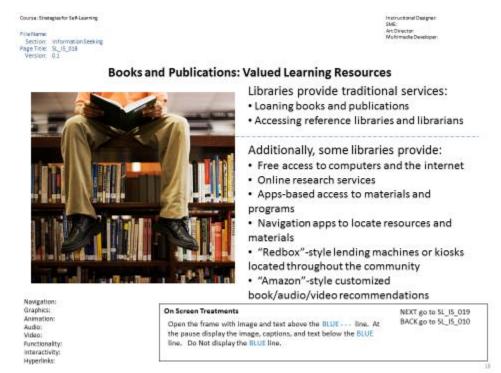
Narration: Army trainers should also be considered as learning resources. If your selflearning plans include subject matter beyond course content or you are preparing for future training, they may be able to assist. Keep in mind that while Army instructors may be competent in the subject matter that they train, they may not be subject matter or domain experts. For example, all drill sergeants should be able to train basic marksmanship skills, but not all drill sergeants fire expert every time they qualify with their individual weapon.



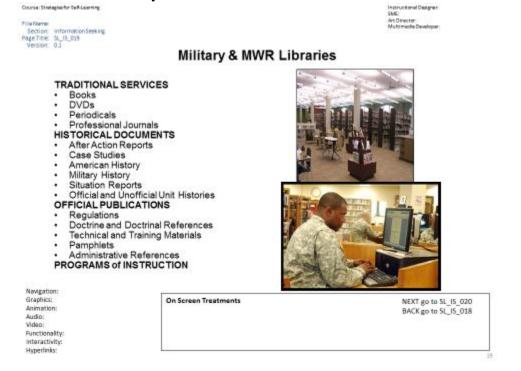
Narration: A subject matter expert can generally be an excellent source for information concerning a specific task or area. True subject matter experts exhibit a high level skill of and performance, and contribute to unit mission accomplishment. Learning from or observing experts may save you time and increase your understanding when learning. They may provide behaviors to model, tips to accomplishing tasks, and may be able to demonstrate aspects of tasks difficult to understand through reading or other media. They may also be a source of finished work, (PAUSE) models you can use as examples. However, keep in mind that not all subject matter experts are effective trainers.



Narration: Staff sections and elements available in units are frequently overlooked as learning resources. Your unit supply section may store some training aids and training devices, and they may manage the unit account with the local Training Audiovisual Support Center. Through your unit supply you may be able to access training devices, aids, and simulators available in the Army. (PAUSE) Your S 3 training staff may be able to coordinate training with other units, forecast and obtain training resources and facilities, and assist in obtaining the most current training publications and requisitions. They may be able to assist you in requesting or preparing for courses. Okay, we have looked at people, now examine other learning resources.



Narration: Books and publications remain valuable resources to support self-learning and self development. Even with the advent of the digital age, the world is by no means paperless. While the less informed may think that libraries are obsolete or out of date, most libraries have updated their services to accommodate new technologies. (PAUSE) While libraries typically offer access to tens of thousands of printed books, periodicals, and other publications, they also provide access to e-books, digital or digitized periodicals, and other services to improve convenience and accessibility to resources.



Narration: Most installations have at least one well resourced library that operates to support the needs of Soldiers, the local community, units, and retiree populations. These libraries are networked world wide. Additionally, military schools have libraries with support services distinctly tailored specifically to the needs of their students, leaders, faculty, and staff of the institution. The services provided are noted on the screen. Both types of libraries are geared to support learning resource needs. Additionally, entrance to Army Knowledge on Line can provide access to a vast warehouse of resources.

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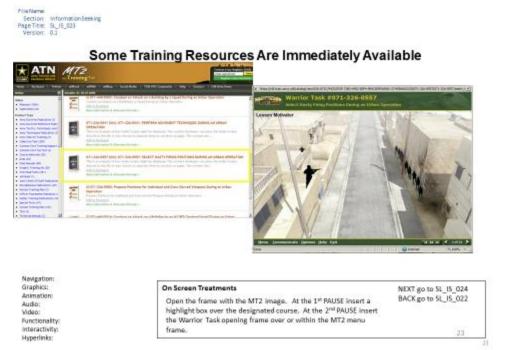
Narration: Army Knowledge on Line provides one of the best digital library resources in the world. Through A. K. O. you can tap into the resources of a worldwide network of over 90 libraries and hundreds of information databases. You can find everything from story hours, to book discussion groups, the latest novels, "how-to" books, encyclopedias, and the latest doctrinal references. Resources are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Assistance is also available to find quick answers or point you to the best sources for more in-depth research.



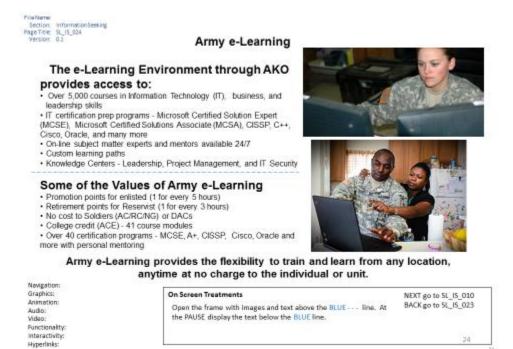
Narration: Commercial outlets, both the brick and mortar type as well as online outlets, can be excellent sources for the latest books and publications on a task or knowledge areas. Additionally, applications for smart phones and tablets are a growing source of free and low cost publications. Commercial outlets also provide services to recommend publications or assist in locating difficult to find publications. Reviews or recommendations by subject matter experts, instructors, and trainers should guide your selection of publications. Spend wisely, remember many items may be available through A. K. O. free of charge. You have examined sources for books and publications, now examine other sources.

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Narration: Your interests or learning needs may guide you to a wide variety of sources for existing courses and courseware. These structured courses have been specifically designed to address learning needs. They are packaged to provide or identify the necessary materials to support your learning. Colleges and schools provide published and on-line listings of both resident and distance learning courses. A.K.O. as well as TRADOC centers of excellence and schools web sites provide extensive listings of distance learning materials, correspondence courses, and downloadable classes or courseware. Many of these courses have flexible schedules, can be provided to you in packages to permit you do complete them in your spare time, or can be accessed at any time to assist in meeting learning needs.



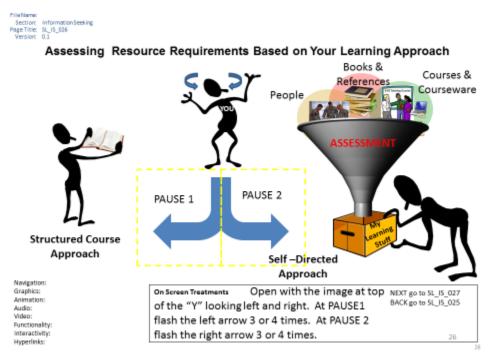
Narration: For example, training for many military subjects is immediately available through A.K.O. on the M. T. 2. site. Interactive multimedia courseware, publications, and structured learning materials can be accessed from the Army Training Network directly through your personal computer. Some can be used immediately or downloaded for use at a later time. (PAUSE) This example shows interactive multimedia training for a Warrior Task accessible for use on any personal computer. (PAUSE) Many other courseware modules are available to increase your knowledge and skills or provide quick refresher training.



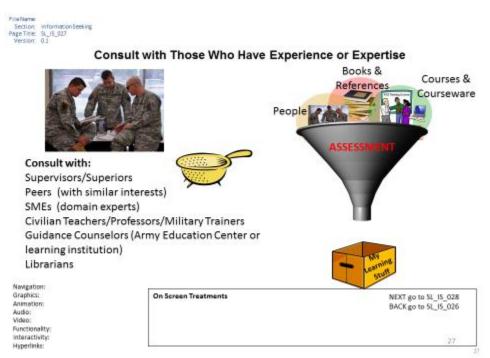
Narration: E-learning is a broadly inclusive term. It includes multiple forms of educational technology, multimedia learning, technology-enhanced learning, computer-based training, online education, and virtual training and education. As we have indicated, state-of-the art e-Learning on many subjects is available at no cost to the individual or organization. It can be accessed and used by all active duty Soldiers, members of the National Guard or Reserves, and Department of the Army civilian employees. (PAUSE) In addition to military subjects, over 5,000 Information Technology, Business, and Interpersonal Skills courses can be accessed around the clock. Completion of some courses results in valuable job certifications, college credit, promotion points, and other benefits. As you plan your learning, keep in mind that as a Soldier you have the opportunity to tap into a wide variety of people, resource materials, and structured courses to support your self-learning.

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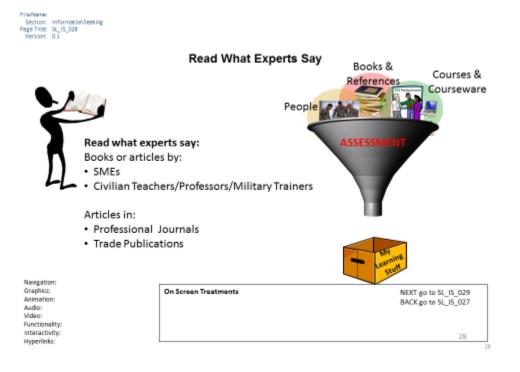
Narration: As discussed earlier, resources are available to match almost every possible learning environment. A wide variety of people, publications, and courses are available. As you perform your initial analysis and planning you will need to consider the learning and study location available to you, and delivery methods. You can then select or match up learning resources with the planned learning, your study environment, and your learning preferences.



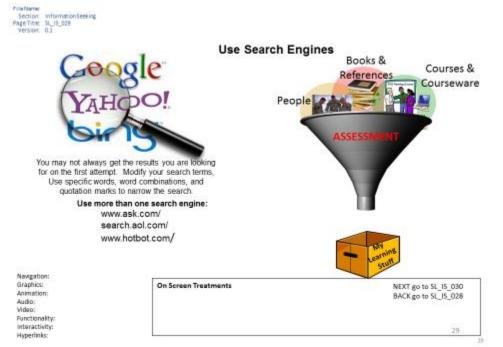
Narration: For example, if your self-learning includes a structured course, (PAUSE 1) the required learning resources may be provided to or identified for you. Additionally, choosing supplemental resources may be guided by the instructor or derived from course materials. For military subjects, the Army has invested heavily in creating courses that guide Soldiers toward success. However, (PAUSE 2) if your learning approach is more self-directed or independent, narrowing down and selecting learning resources may prove a bit more challenging. Let us examine some techniques that may help you assess available resources and determine those that may best suit your learning needs.



Narration: Your first effort at assessing resources should be to solicit advice from some people you use as learning resources. Those who have an interest in your success, have related experiences, have expertise in the subject or domain, or can provide objective advice are the best sources. Be sure you qualify those you consult; you need advice not opinions. Their advice should help trim down the list of possible sources, but it may also add a resource or two that you had not considered.



Narration: Sometimes local expertise may not be available for the subject area or you may desire additional assistance. The next best sources will be books or articles written by recognized subject matter experts. Articles in professional journals and trade publications will have passed the scrutiny of their editorial board. While the writers may not be recognized subject matter experts, their opinions may assist to narrow your search or provide recommendations for alternate materials.



Narration: Using a search engine on the web or in Army Knowledge Online may also assist in narrowing your selection of learning resources. Multiple search techniques and the use of multiple search engines is recommended. There are several types of search engines and searches may cover titles of documents, URL's, headers, or full text. The results you get from one search engine may not match the results you get from another search engine; search engines behave differently. Additionally, not all websites found in the results are appropriate to your search.

Section: InformationSeeking PageTitle: SL\_IS\_030

		Learning Reso	ource Tracking Log	
	Title	Source/URL/ Location/date	Summary or Abstract	
l			"I don't need to know everything, I just need to know where to find it, when I need it."	
Navigation: Graphics: Animation: Audio:	~	On Screen Treatments	NEXT go to SL_I5_009 BACK go to SL_I5_029	
Audio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Hyperlinks:			30	

Narration: As you identify and use good resources, keep track of them. Your tracking method could be a simple database on your home computer or in a note book. While you may desire to obtain and keep frequently used documents, good examples, or difficult to obtain sources in your library, storage space can quickly become an issue. It may be easier to make a note of where to find and retrieve the resources and information. Additionally, a brief two or three sentence summary will help identify the source's value and remind you of specific content. The genius Einstein's quote reminds us that knowing where information can be found may be as important as being able to recall the information. A good tracking log will be beneficial to you as time goes by. Additionally, source information that you have verified may help your subordinates and others as they pursue self-learning opportunities.



Narration: Learning frequently involves doing. You can expand your knowledge while watching demonstrations, reading, and completing multimedia courses. However, most skills require an introduction, gaining expertise and ability through hands-on training and practice, and finally performing the task on your own, (pause) the crawl, walk, run approach. You may be able to expand or master some new skills at schools and during unit training; other skills may require that you train with other units, volunteer yourself or your element for some training opportunities or duties, or train on your own time. Training with others may require permission from your chain of command and coordination with your unit S3 or operations staff. While this process involves some extra effort on your part, the results will pay dividends.



Narration: Additionally, you can coordinate for use of unit training time and resources. Outside resources, training opportunities, or experts from outside your unit may provide increased learning opportunities. These resources may included broadened opportunities for noncommissioned officer professional development and innovative use of Sergeants Time, creating learning opportunities for both you and your unit.



Narration: You can request military schools or training through your unit chain of command and supporting operations staff. Some units may have standing or order of merit lists

for students waiting to attend courses. It is prudent to be aware of course qualifications, prerequisites, and required documentation. Prequalifying and having required documents and certifications completed will avoid last minute problems. Additionally, some installation schools may have provisions for waiting lists or walk-in students when course quotas are not filled. Consult your chain of command for details and requirements.



Narration: There are numerous self-learning opportunities available in most communities, your time and resources permitting. A keen eye on the television schedule may provide some. Colleges, state agencies, trade schools, and professional associations often host adult education opportunities, seminars, and short courses geared toward those with limited time in their schedules. However, their may be a fee for some. School and college web sites, local or installation newspapers, and professional journals may provide details. Some professional and trade associations host special learning opportunities for their members. Soldiers can often participate for a reduced fee. Opportunities are plentiful (PAUSE) duties, schedule, and wallet permitting.

In Name: Section: InformationSeeking approx: 0.1 The "Resources" Tab on the "Navigation Bar"					
RESOURCES	HELP	GETTING A LEG UP ON SELF-LEARNING STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS	BACK	NEXT	
Navigation: Graphics: Animation: Audio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Humerlinks:	On Ser	een Treatments		go to SL_IS_036 go to SL_IS_009 35	

Narration: Many new to this process may not be familiar with some of the sources available to support their self-learning. At the Resources tab on the Navigation Bar there is an extensive table of contents with links to sources. Additionally, some learning resource documents have been embedded in this material. You may view, download, and save these materials. Please understand that we have only listed or made available a small selection of links and sources to help you get started.

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PileNerre:
Section: InformationSeeking
PageTitle: SL_IS_036
Version: 0.1
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#### Information Seeking Strategies Summary

1. Identify likely sources of good information (e.g., libraries, Google, AKO, CALL).

Collect examples of completed work (e.g., briefings, NCOERs, OPORDs) to use as models and examples.

Think about experiences you have had (or examples you know about) to help make sense of what you are learning.

Seek opportunities to learn things hands-on; get someone to demonstrate or show you.

Support learning with computer programs, CDs, videos (e.g., language learning software).

Keep a list, spreadsheet, notebook, etc., to track the resources that you have collected and read.

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Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Hyperlinks:	NEXT goes to the Intro Module Selection Menu SL_1_??	36	
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Narration: Here is a summary of the learning strategies associated with information seeking. Review this list and select NEXT to continue or BACK to return to the instructional menu for this module.

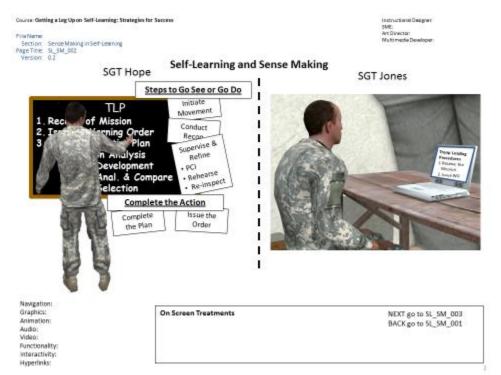
#### APPENDIX K: STORY BOARDS - A LEG UP ON SELF-LEARNING: STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS: MODULE 5: SENSE MAKING STRATEGIES





Executing the Plan: Making the Most Out of Learning Opportunities

MENTOR: Sense making is an important aspect of self- learning. Have you ever trained a formation of new Privates on drills and ceremonies? You tell'em what to do, demonstrate the movements, and ask'em if they got it. Usually, they all respond with a loud and thunderous, "Yes, Sergeant," but when the command, "Column Right, march," is given they step off like you tied their bootlaces together. They really didn't get it. Your sense making techniques should be better than those of new Privates. But, how do you make sense of what you are learning? How do you make the most out of each learning opportunity and make newly acquired knowledge and skills useful? Let's look in on Sergeants Hope and Jones. Both NCOs are in their rooms at their ALC residence course studying troop leading procedures. In tomorrow's class they will be issued a tactical order, be required to produce an order, and explain how they implemented TLP to prepare for the mission.



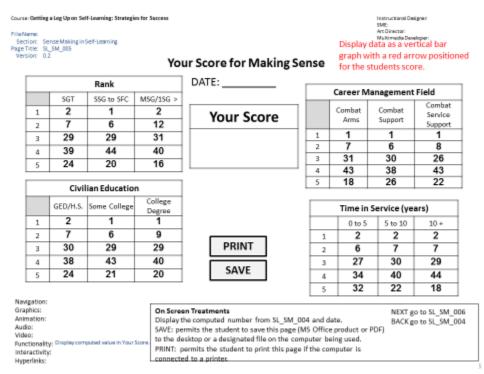
MENTOR: Sergeant Hope is examining the relationships of the steps of troop leading procedures. He is thinking about steps or sub elements of steps that may be omitted, abbreviated, compressed, or modified. He has thought through a couple of tactical scenarios he has experienced and has applied his new understanding of troop leading procedures. (Pause) In his room, Sergeant Jones is reviewing the steps of TLP. He is memorizing their order. Okay now, which one of these young Sergeants is using his study time more effectively? Which Sergeant is using the better technique to enhance his understanding of TLP?

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	Learning and Sense Making	
Nextgation: brackerAct when Nemation en Graphics: Animation: Audio: Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Literactivity:	On Screen Treatments Still of mentor addressing the student. Use mentor identified in the Introduction module.	NEXT go to SL_SM_004 BACK go to SL_SM_002
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MENTOR: Now think about the answers to the questions. To determine the answers you most likely employed a form of analysis and sense making, perhaps briefly examining variations, comparing these two contrasting cases, and briefly examining the learning approaches used by Sergeant Hope and Sergeant Jones. When you apply yourself to learning a new skill, especially one that you don't know very much about, what do you normally do to enhance your learning? Put yourself in the scenario with Sergeants Hope and Jones. Think about it then select NEXT to begin your brief self-assessment.

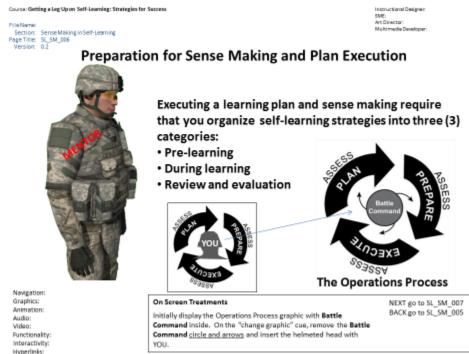
Course-Getting a Leg Up on Self-Learning: Strategien for Se Pille Narre: Section: Sence Making in Self-Learning Page Trice: S., 5M 004 Version: 0.2 NCO Self-Lea	rning Strateg				ense N	-	koper:
The table below provides a list of va learning strategy listed, please rate is submit button when your selections	how relevant it would						
		Not Relevant	Somewhat Relevant	Relevant	Very Relevant	Essential	SUBMIT
Summarizing what I am learning	in my own words	0	o	0	0	0	
Spend extra time focusing on info seems new, unusual, or confusing		o	o	o	o	o	
Diagramming/white-boarding co processes to understand them be		o	o	o	0	o	
Seeking out different alternatives view to help challenge/verify wh		o	o	٥	0	o	
Using mental imagery to play out scenarios and/or to rehearse pro		o	o	٥	0	o	
Animation: S. Audio: fe Video: Fe Punctionality: W Interactivity: Score/computed meanwaive.on005. R	On Screen Treatment election of submit will actors and display that alues are: NR=1, SR=2, equire selection of a v alue and advance whe	cause compu- value on SL_ , R=3, VR=4, E alue for each	SM_005. :=5. (row) Learn	0		BACK	on SUBMIT go to _005 go to SL_SM_002

Narration: Consider the scenario you observed and rate the relevance of each of the Learning Strategies listed. There is no right or wrong selection. Your honest response will provide you with the most accurate self-assessment. After you have determined the relevance of each strategy, click on the submit button to compare your self-assessment to peers and others.



Narration: Now compare your score for the relevance of Sense Making strategies in selflearning to others. If your score is equal to or below those of your peers or more senior NCOs, you have some work to do. You may see the impact reflected in poor execution of your learning plans. It may also reflect in the poor application or use of new knowledge or skills that you thought you had learned or understanding gained. Scoring higher than your peers may indicate that your sense making skills and strategies are a strength, one that you should build on. After reviewing the comparisons, select next to examine ways to improve your self-learning strategies. You may print or save this data for future reference.

Interactivity Hyperlinks:



MENTOR: Executing a self-learning plan requires that you organize and apply appropriate strategies. Much of what occurs in successful self-learning, parallels the tried and true operations process . . . (Pause – change graphic) except instead of a commander and battle command being at the center of the process, it is you. While some tracking of the plan occurs, much of your self-assessment is focused on sense making, assessing your learning. Do you understand what you are learning and are you able to apply the knowledge and skills being gained? Take a closer look at sense making strategies.

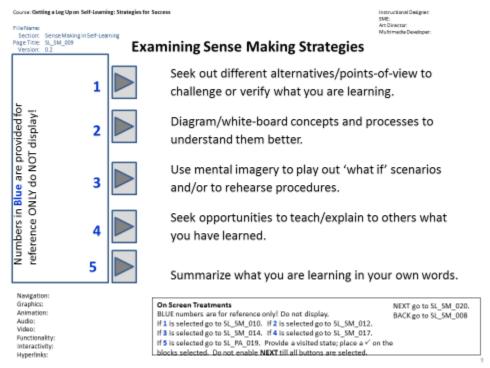
File Name: Section: Sense Making in Self-Learning		Art Divector: Maltimedia Developer:
PageTitle: SL_SM_007 Version: 0.2	Pre-Learning	Strategies
	Strategy Domain	Example Strategies
		Clearly define what you need to learn when
	Diagnosing	beginning the learning process.
SFS5	learning needs	Identify what you desire to be able to do as a
Part of the second seco		result of what you are learning.
a	n n	Break down your overall learning task into smaller,
YOU	0	manageable parts.
ĥ		Plan step-by-step what you need to do in working
		toward your goal.
EXECUTE	Planning and goal-	Plan how to pace your learning to minimize
EXECUT	setting	conflict with other obligations.
RESESS		Prioritize learning tasks and/or topics that need to
		be covered
		Develop a time-line, roadmap, or list of milestones
		and use them to track your progress.
Navigation:		
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Audio: Video:		BACK go to SL_SM_006
Functionality:		

Narration: As a review, let us examine pre-learning strategies, many of these are discussed in detail in the Planning and Analysis Module. These strategies are focused on determining what to learn, establishing priorities, and setting a timeline and milestones focused toward your final goals. These strategies help formulate a meaningful self-learning plan and assist in learning preparation.

Catting a Log Up on Self-Learning: Strats arres low: Sense Making in Self-Learning low: SL_SM_008 low: 0.2	den for Seccess Bill: Art Director: Metimedie Developer: Learning Execution Strategies	
Strategy Domain	Example	
Establishing consequences	Set a deadline to complete my learning task and/or produce a product (e.g., a briefing)	
	Identify my most likely sources of good information (e.g., libraries, Google, CALL)	
Seeking and reviewing	Collect examples of completed work (e.g., briefings, NCOERs) to use as a model	
information	Seek out different alternatives/points-of-view to challenge or verify what you are learnin	
	Diagram/white-board concepts and processes to understand them better	
Seeking social support	Ask trained Cadre/SMEs for advice and feedback on my performance	
	Seek opportunities to learn things hands-on; get someone to show you.	
Modeling and rehearsing	Use mental imagery to play out 'what if' scenarios and/or to rehearse procedures	
	Seek opportunities to teach/explain to others what you have learned	
P	Keep a list, spreadsheet, etc., to track the resources you have collected, read, or used.	
Record keeping	Summarize what you are learning in your own words	

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Narration: Listed are the strategies frequently employed in successful execution of selflearning. While some are focused on assembling and managing learning resources or tracking progress, those highlighted in yellow are focused on sense making. These strategies help you to assess your ability or proficiency in the application or use of knowledge or skills that you focused on learning. They also increase your understanding of the knowledge and skills gained.

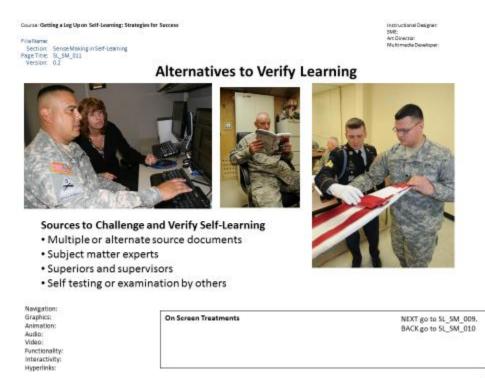


Narration: Select a button to learn more about these sense making strategies. After you have examined each of the strategies select Next to continue.

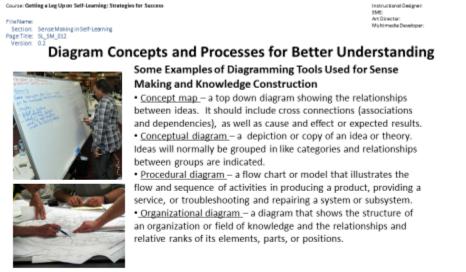
Instructional Designer.



Narration: Army leaders have a unique obligation when learning. Soldiers' lives and safety, critical system operation and maintenance, and the performance of units rely heavily on the knowledge and skills of leaders. Leaders must assure that the knowledge and skills being acquired through self-learning are proper, valid, current, and safe.



Narration: Several avenues and sources are available to assist you in challenging or verifying your learning. Multiple documents or different authors can broaden your understanding. They may explain concepts in varied ways. Subject matter experts, knowledgeable peers, or members of your chain of command can query you, check your work, or explain procedures or concepts. Practical testing provides another tool. Frequent checks can keep you on track and assist in avoiding mistakes, misconceptions, or errors.

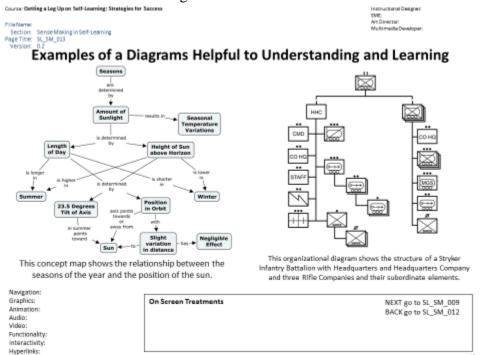


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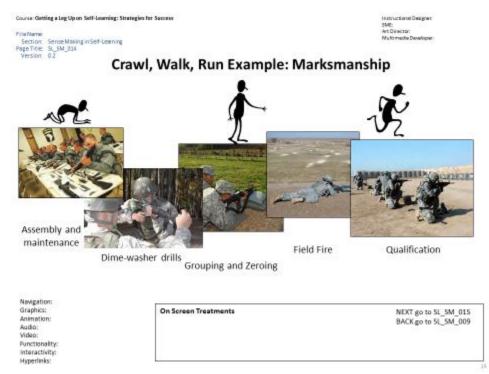
NEXT go to SL\_SM\_013 BACK go to SL\_SM\_009

Narration: Taking notes in class supports recall and learning. Similarly diagramming concepts and processes improves understanding, identifies relationships, and improves knowledge retention. There are several methods or tools, and diagramming can be performed using a white board, a blackboard, or large note pad. A familiar example of a useful diagram is an operations overlays. An operations overlay provides a visual diagram of unit missions and the concept of maneuver. Expressing the ideas of an order in words alone frequently provides insufficient details for understanding or execution.



Narration: Diagrams and maps structure information and ideas visually, usually arranging them in chunks or grouping them in graphic boxes. These chunks, connecting lines, and sequences provide associations and help define relationships, progression or order, as well as structures and subordination. These grouped pieces and relationships simplify complex ideas and processes making them easier to understand and associate.

Video: Functionality: Interactivity: Hyperlinks:



NARRATION: Slow is smooth and smooth is fast. When learning skills or gaining knowledge, it is tempting to hurry, get it done as fast as possible. This is a mistake. It risks learning a skill incorrectly, misunderstanding, or misapplying new knowledge. The Army has a philosophy that applies to all learning, it is the concept of crawl, walk, run. This learning concept can be applied to most every learning situation. Additionally, you should be grounded in the fundamentals before attempting advanced skills or concepts.



Narration: Before assuming that you have it right or employing your new knowledge and skills on the job or in a live environment, you should practice or rehearse. This practice may take place using a desk top or white board problem , a "what if" scenario, or actual equipment. For example, the practice may be a procedural rehearsal using one of the diagrams you created in an associated sense making topic. You should think through the conditions that may be factors such as time, distance, and resources available. The complexity of your rehearsals can be varied. For some procedures and skills the process may be as simple as using mental imagery, just thinking it through.

Course: Gett	ting a Log Up on Self-Learning: Strategies for	Success
	Sense Making in Self-Learning SL_SM_016 0.2	

SME: Art Director: Multimedia Developer:



Demonstrate or Explain It to . . .

Demonstrating a skill to an instructor or SME.

Talking it through with a knowledgeable peer, superior, or a mentor.

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Narration: The last step in using this strategy should be to check or validate your practice or rehearsal. This may be as simple as a self-check or self-examination of the process, steps, and the end result. However, you may want to show it to or talk it through with a knowledgeable peer, a subject matter expert, or a mentor. An over the shoulder check, attentive ear, or second pair of eyes may be most important in the early stages of self-learning. This check will help assure that you achieve the fundamentals and build your subsequent knowledge and skills on a good foundation.



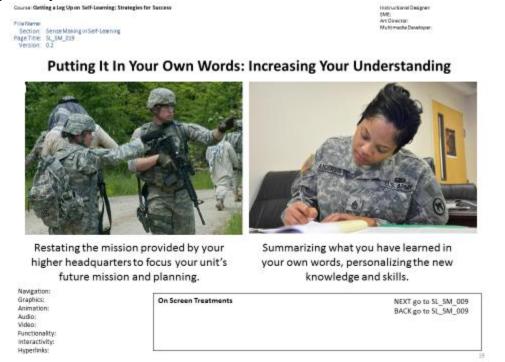
Narration: One of the big draws in video gaming is gratification, advancing to a new level or attaining a high score encourages additional participation. It is human nature to seek recognition. To some extent, the same is true of self-learning. Instructional theories advocate that learning is promoted when the learner integrates or transfers new knowledge and skills into everyday life. One of the ways this can be done is by demonstrating your new skills or teaching them to subordinates, associates, or superiors. This is a proven method of reinforcing learning, improving retention, and increasing self motivation.



Your learning is promoted when you share, discuss, or defend your new concepts and knowledge. Applying your new knowledge and skills to solve problems is another method of demonstration that also promotes learning.

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Narration: Discussing and defending your new knowledge with others, or applying your new knowledge to solve real world problems, improve conditions, or solve issues also promotes learning. Taking opportunities to synthesize and reflect on your knowledge and apply it in collaborative problem solving also promotes your learning. Practical application of your new knowledge and skills demonstrates to others, as well as yourself, the value of the skills and concepts that you have learned.



Narration: An important aspect of mission analysis after receiving an operations order or plan from your higher headquarters is to determine the restated mission. The restated mission becomes the mission for your unit and the focus for further planning. That process is paralleled in self-learning. You should summarize in your own words the new knowledge and skills gained and summarize your learning. This simple process helps you personalize the knowledge and check it against your goals and objectives. The process also helps you determine other ways that you may employ the new knowledge and skills. It also assists in checking for any related deficiencies or problems that you may need to correct or clarify.

#### APPENDIX L: VITA Tammy A. Bankus Darden College of Education 218 Education Building Norfolk, VA 23529

#### **EDUCATION**

Old Dominion University, PhD candidate
Curriculum & Instruction.
Dissertation: Self-Regulation and Cognitive Load as Mediating Factors for Tailored Army NCO Interactive Multimedia Instruction.
University of Georgia, Education Specialist (Ed.S)
Educational Psychology & Instructional Technology (2006)
The Influence of Social Interaction on Gender Differences in Mathematics Strategies; Research Assistantship, Graduate TA.
University of Georgia, M.Ed.
Adult Education (2009)
Thesis: Application of Adult Education Principles into Distance Learning.
Georgia College and State University, M.S.
Psychology (2000)
Thesis: An Evaluation of the Dementia Rating Scale for Assessing Cognitive Abilities in Mentally Retarded Individuals.

#### WORK EXPERIENCE

Department of the Army (9 Years)

Ft. Eustis, VA, GS 12 – 13, 11/2010 – Present, Senior Instructional Systems Specialist, HQ TRADOC, INCOPD, Learning Initiatives Integration Division.

#### PRESENTATIONS/PUBLICATIONS

Cognitive Load and Army DL Design Considerations (submitted for publication Army dL Star FEB 2016);

Tutorial systems for dL (submitted for publication Army dL Star JUN 2016); NCO 2020 Survey Analysis Whitepaper; Military review NCO 2020: A concept for selfpaced learning in NCOES;

Army DL Times: *Multiple-Choice Tests Can Measure More than Knowledge;* Army DL Conference: *Applying Evidence-Based Practices for Army Technology Integration into the Training Environment;* 

Army DL Conference: *Evidence Based Practices in Educational Technology for Army Training;* 

International Conference for Educational Research: *Evidence Based Practices for Technology Integration into Training*