

## Systemic Design Training Intensive Course Syllabus

**Course Facilitators:** CoLab Staff

**Duration:** 6 days (over two weeks) from 8:15 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. every day

**Location:** CoLab | 11th Floor, 108 Street Building | 9942 – 108 Street | Edmonton

**Offered:** 2 times per year

**To Register:** See [MyAgent](#) to register, view fees, and waitlist.

### Participation

- Open to all Government of Alberta staff.
- Full attendance is required. Participants are required to attend all days. Students may be asked to leave the course due to non-attendance at CoLab's discretion.
- While start and end times for each day are set, timing during the day (breaks, lunch, etc.) is flexible. We advise not to schedule plans or appointments over the typical lunch period while you are taking the course.

### Certification

Alberta CoLab's Systemic Design Training Intensive is recognized by the University of Alberta. Intensive graduates receive a certificate dually granted by the University of Alberta Department of Political Science, Faculty of Arts and Alberta CoLab.

### Course Summary

Organizations, globally, deal with increasingly complex situations that are ill-defined, span multiple programs and involve numerous internal and external players. Training for systemic design (SD) introduces the methodology as a unique approach for addressing these 'fuzzy' issues with a view to build practitioner capacity across government ministries. The course covers the core disciplines that feed into the methodology: systems thinking, design thinking, integrative thinking, facilitation, and prototyping. Participants will explore and practice newly learned content by working on a real-life case study for a Government of Alberta client.

### Aim

To provide participants with interactive skill building exercises, dedicated discussion time, and a practical set of tools that can be applied immediately in daily work.

## Learning Objectives

Participants in systemic design training will learn how to:

- Target tools to guide groups towards a different mindset for problem solving
- Combine tools in a time-constrained environment to make sense of ambiguity
- Elicit innovative outcomes
- Manage collaborative group processes

## Required Pre-Reading

- A few articles are required pre-reading for each day of the course. These will be distributed to students in advance. Students are expected to do pre-readings and come prepared to discuss them.
- Depending on the client, there may also be background readings on the case study required prior to the course start.

## Flexible Course Agenda (Subject to Change)

SD Training Course Agenda		
Day One	Day Two	Day Three
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Welcome &amp; Introductions</li> <li>▪ Marshmallow Challenge</li> <li>▪ Ground Rules</li> <li>▪ Introduction to Systemic Design</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reflection</li> <li>▪ Legacy System</li> <li>▪ Theory: Systems Thinking</li> <li>▪ From-To-Shift</li> <li>▪ Leverage Points</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reflection</li> <li>▪ Theory: Design Thinking</li> <li>▪ Interview Preparation</li> </ul>
Lunch (not provided)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Client Brief</li> <li>▪ Current State Mapping</li> <li>▪ Reflection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Future State Mapping</li> <li>▪ Reflection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Interviews</li> <li>▪ Persona Mapping</li> <li>▪ Reflection</li> </ul>
Day Four	Day Five	Day Six
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reflection</li> <li>▪ Reframing</li> <li>▪ Rapid Brainstorming</li> <li>▪ Storyboarding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reflection</li> <li>▪ Leading a Systemic Design Process</li> <li>▪ Co-Design</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reflection</li> <li>▪ Mindset</li> <li>▪ Storytelling for Change</li> <li>▪ Presentation Preparation</li> </ul>
Lunch (not provided)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Co-Design Preparation</li> <li>▪ Reflection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Physical Prototyping: Iteration</li> <li>▪ Reflection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Client Presentation</li> <li>▪ Closing Reflection</li> </ul>