### Authentic Task Approach Characteristics

http://www.wested.org/online_pubs/l-9818.old.pdf

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Less emphasis on…</th>
<th><strong>MORE</strong> emphasis on…</th>
<th>Course Features</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conference planner/funder needs</td>
<td>Participants' needs</td>
<td>Participants define beforehand what they will work on in the context of their own work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-determined general topic with the hope that everyone &quot;gets what they need&quot;</td>
<td>Content sessions determined by specific participant tasks</td>
<td>Course planners analyze tasks to determine specific concurrent and general sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Sit and get” presentations</td>
<td>Active engagement and learning while doing</td>
<td>Team time to work on tasks and develop strategies for implementation at work site</td>
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<tr>
<td>Looking for answers and solutions from others</td>
<td>Discovering and creating solutions with others</td>
<td>Reflective partners (structured opportunities for participants to provide feedback to one another) Appointment cards (structure to provide participants with opportunities to schedule time with resource experts)</td>
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<tr>
<td>National and state perspectives</td>
<td>Local context, challenges and critical issues</td>
<td>Teams clarify tasks and define criteria for success</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generic understanding of existing knowledge</td>
<td>Application of existing knowledge</td>
<td>Development of Action Plans Providing adequate time to reflect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concerns about Information (how much, what level, etc)</td>
<td>Concerns about how to use the information and skills learned</td>
<td>Creating a product that focuses on implementation at work site</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shallow treatment of a lot of information</td>
<td>Intensive study of information that focuses on specific tasks</td>
<td>Customized course design Resource-rich environment (materials and subject matter experts)</td>
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