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Cheryl Brown: Welcome to the C-DELTA training of trainers’ online course. Let’s make a start and begin with an overview of what C-DELTA is all about.

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Cheryl Brown: C-DELTA was established by the Commonwealth of Learning (COL) in 2016 and what’s really important about this program is that it’s not just about promoting digital education, although that’s certainly one aspect of what it’s about, it’s also about producing leaders in the field of digital education. You’re here because your role as a leader of digital education has already been acknowledged. The goal of the next few weeks is going to be to introduce you to the program, develop your personal digital literacy and practices and provide you with some tools and strategies to enhance your digital education leadership capability.

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Cheryl Brown: When C-DELTA started, COL commissioned a team based at the Centre for Innovation in Teaching and Learning at the university of Cape Town to develop a concept paper with the aim of theorising a curriculum framework for digital education leadership. In April 2016, at the start of the program, a group of experts and thought leaders from across the commonwealth came together to conceptualise C-DELTA.

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Cheryl Brown: This resulted in the development of a concept paper, and if you’re interested in finding out more about what’s behind the curriculum, you can read a bit more about it on OAsis (COL’s open access repository). Just go to oasis.col.org and type in C-DELTA in the search bar.

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Cheryl Brown: The paper then drew on extensive literature around digital literacy, digital education, and digital education leadership and then outlined the motivation for the conceptualisation of a proposed curriculum framework for digital education leadership. This then resulted in seven modules, which were originally written in a document format. You can view these on the OAsis platform as well. One of the principles underlying the program was for the resources to be accessible to and applicable to people in all education sectors in all countries of the commonwealth.

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Cheryl Brown: As you probably are aware as well, the modules were then developed into a self-paced online course and they're accessible on the website as well. If you go to cdelta.col.org you will be able to sign in and sign up for the C-DELTA resources.

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Cheryl Brown: So, how does one go about producing leaders in digital education?

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Cheryl Brown: Well, the philosophy of the program is that digital education leadership/leaders need to not just understand how to use technology, but you should be able to develop your own set of digital education practices. That way you're able to walk the talk and lead others in developing learning and teaching opportunities using digital technologies that are appropriate for their given contexts.

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Cheryl Brown: So, what should you expect over the next few weeks? The aim of the program is to give you an introduction to and experience of the C-DELTA modules activities. We are going to engage you in discussion and activities to help you grow and develop as a digital education leader,give you opportunities to reflect and plan on how you are going to move forward as a digital educational leader yourself.

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Cheryl Brown: We start off in week one with introductions both asynchronously and synchronously so we can become familiar with the platform and get to know each other. We then explore the concept of digital identity, searching online, issues of privacy and ownership, and reflect on our own information-seeking approaches and behaviours.

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Cheryl Brown: In week two we move towards improving our ability to identify, analyse, and assess online resources. We explore the permissible use of online resources and how to use them responsibly as well as how to create open educational resources. We also use the case study approach to work through two examples of how people approach change in different organisations.

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Cheryl Brown: Then in week three, we draw on some of the later modules from the C-DELTA curriculum to look at how we develop networks, how we design open and inclusive learning resources. We think about our own context and the educational challenges and opportunities that we face as future digital education leaders and begin to plan how we will contribute and become an online content creator. Then we end by reflecting on how we, you and the group can mobilize your own networks.

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Cheryl Brown: I hope you find the course enjoyable and worthwhile. Thank you.