



Teaching with Technology

~News and Information for ECU Faculty and Staff~



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~Moodle~



Academic Outreach continues to support Moodle, the Open Source Content Management

System. Moodle's open interface and options assist educators in creating effective online learning communities. You can create a very interactive learning environment that will stimulate your student's learning and imagination. If you would like to teach a course using Moodle – either online or face-to-face, please contact [Sharon Collins](#). We also now have Moodle integrated into Second Life with Moodle!

~Centra~

Centra is a great course tool to enhance your presence with your students but Centra can also be used for things like: departmental meetings; conferences; training; and hosting large events.

Because of the budget crunch and having to rethink the way we do business, consider presenting at your next conference through Centra. This means you don't have to pay for travel, but you can still present at the conference. All you need is someone on the other end to initiate the Centra session. Also, if you need to pull

~Welcome to Another Issue of Teaching with Technology~

Many Students at a Distance Series~

ECU faculty are successfully teaching distance education classes with 75+ students, and they have lives beyond these classes. During the summer of 2009, we interviewed faculty teaching Many Students at a Distance to find out how they manage their classes; including: interaction, teaching tools, and assessment. These recorded conversations are available in PDF and mp3 format, which you can download and listen to at your convenience. Visit the Many Students at a Distance site to access the interviews and a summary of recommendations compiled throughout the summer. <http://ao.ecu.edu/many/>

Continuity of Instruction~

You may have seen the news coverage of the spreading H1N1 flu, and the threats of hurricanes. In order to assist you in being ready to continue instruction in the case of an event that would prevent the meeting of classes on our campus, Academic Outreach has created Continuity of Instruction guidelines. The guidelines provide practical suggestions for individual faculty and departments to use in preparing to continue instruction should the University close during a pandemic (or other) situation. <http://www.ecu.edu/academicoutreach/continuity.cfm>

Below are four steps to immediately consider implementing as we begin the new semester.

Quick Start to Continuity of Instruction

1. Determine how you will communicate with your students (ECU or other email, Blackboard announcements or discussion forum, etc) and how often you will communicate.
2. Include a general Continuity of Instruction statement in your syllabus or Blackboard course that explains how you will continue instruction if face-to-face classes are suspended. A sample is provided below:

In the event that face-to-face classes are suspended due to a pandemic or other catastrophe, I will strive to continue instruction to those that are able to participate. If and when face-to-face classes are suspended, you will receive an email from me and a Blackboard Announcement that will detail how we will communicate, where you can locate course information, and what you can expect during this time period. I realize that some of you may be affected by the event and not able to participate; however, I will continue to provide instruction to those that are able to continue.
3. Have content readily available in Blackboard. Content varies from lecture notes, recorded lectures, PowerPoint presentations, reading assignments, etc.
4. Determine teaching objectives for the time period.
5. Communicate with students.

We would be pleased to meet with you individually or as group within your program to discuss ways to continue instruction. If you have any questions please contact Elmer Poe ([poee](#)) or Ginny Sconiers ([sconiersg](#)).

Upcoming Events and Workshops~ Quick Start to Online Teaching

several committee members together for a meeting, just schedule a Centra session and you don't have to ask people to travel to campus. It saves time and money.

Contact collinss@ecu.edu or southworthj@ecu.edu for more information.

~Contingency Plan~



As with any technology, Blackboard and other internet based course delivery systems have the potential for technical problems. To prepare for potential problems and/or downtime, we strongly advise all instructors using any internet based course delivery system to have a contingency plan when the technology is not available. A contingency plan involves anticipating and planning for an alternate delivery of course material and communication when a service interruption occurs. Please visit the following link for information to help create your contingency plan for Fall 2009. <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/learningplatforms/contingency.cfm>

~Think-In 2009~

Think-In 2009 will be held in November. This event is open to the ECU community and will showcase how faculty are using technology in the classroom – in both face-to-face and distance education courses. Presentations will be made via “laptop” poster sessions. What will you present at this year’s Think-In? It’s not too early to start thinking about submitting a proposal – watch for the call for proposals in September.

D-ECU News

The latest edition of D-ECU News, the newsletter emailed to all DE students is available at: <http://author.ecu.edu/cs-acad/DEOrientation/Newsletter.cfm>
Please contact Carol McLawhorn at mclawhornc@ecu.edu if you have information to contribute to D-ECU News.



Are you new to online teaching? Do you want to learn more about the technologies available to teach either online or face-to-face courses? If your answer is yes, then you will want to hear how other ECU faculty are effectively using Blackboard, Camtasia, Centra, Moodle, Second Life and more. To register for the upcoming presentation, follow this [link to our Registration page](#). September 2, 2009 - 2:00pm - 4:00pm - Austin 309. We hope to see you there!

Tweet Tweet!!

What's the buzz about Twitter? How does it work and how can I use it in an academic setting? Come find out. Check OneStop for training dates and times. Twitter in plain English. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ddO9idmax0o>

Delicious!

How can you more easily manage bookmarks? What is social bookmarking and why is it so powerful? Learn how Delicious can allow you to follow trends in education, research topics, and collaborate with colleagues. Delicious is all about making your life easier. Check OneStop for training dates and times. Training will be held in Austin, Room 309.

Delicious in plain English. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x66lV7GOcNU>
If you have any questions about Twitter or Delicious, contact Matt Long at longm@ecu.edu.

Blogging School is in Session ... Again!

Academic Outreach will be offering a Blog School training session. We invite you to attend! Check OneStop for training dates and times.

This session will feature blogging in an educational setting. The training topics that will be covered include:

- General information about blogging
- Managing the admin panel of your blog
- Communicating to a target audience
- Best practices for blogs in education
- And more!

At the end of the session, you will be well on your way to using a blog to assist your course work or unit. If you don't already have a blog, we will set one up for you. Training will be held in Austin, Room 309. If you have any questions contact James Cook at cookja@ecu.edu.

Ning...What's Ning?

Ning is a free web based social networking software platform that allows anyone to create their own social network. Each social network has file upload and embed, chat, discussion, rss capabilities, images and video upload, and individual pages for each network member.

How could I use Ning?

- Stay connected with your college or units alumni
- Create discussions with faculty to add value to your unit
- Create a site around an academic topic

Come see what Ning is all about. Check OneStop for training dates and times. Contact Matt Long at longm@ecu.edu for more information.

Technology Based Globalization Workshop~

The Global Academic Initiatives teaching team, including Elmer Poe, Rosina Chia, Biwu Yang, Jami Leibowitz, John Southworth and David Clarke, gave the Bi-annual GAI Faculty Workshop in the Global Classroom on May 11-12, 2009. Several Workshop alumni faculty from previous workshops who had successfully incorporated the global component into their classrooms also gave talks and demonstrations. These alumni included Professors Sloan Burke, Patricia Clark, and Brenda Killingsworth. We were grateful to see them stay active and willing to share their experience with the new participants. Invitations were sent to all Deans and Library Directors to nominate two faculty from each unit. In the 2 day workshop, we taught and demonstrated the various formats faculty can use to bring the international experience into their own classrooms. This was very important since globalization and a globalized curriculum are part of the mission of ECU and UNC Tomorrow. Faculty were assured that Academic Outreach would take care of all equipment set up and technical assistance, when they are ready to invite foreign faculty and classes into their own classes. Faculty feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and they especially liked the technology

instructions.

In Fall 2009, we will have 8 sections of the Global Understanding course, in addition to many shared lectures and modules planned by faculty in a wide range of disciplines. We welcome the addition of Dr. Rita Rodabaugh from the Psychology Department to join our teaching team. She has advanced degrees in Psychology and Anthropology, and her expertise will add new perspectives to the course. Even in the days of budget reduction, the GAI team has been able to add two new partners for Fall: UK and Moldova. Partnership discussions are ongoing with Cambodia, Japan, and Macedonia.

Dr. Chia was invited to serve on the American Council on Education (ACE) International Advisory Council. She has helped ACE set up the criteria to launch the ACE awards program titled "*Bringing the World into the Classroom: ACE Award to Recognize Innovative Use of Technology to Promote Internationalization*".

The Early College High School Program~



Remember the Early College High School pilot from the Spring of 2009? This August the ECHS pilot will push forward into its next phase! ECU, Pitt County Schools, and Pitt Community College have been working hard to continue to find funding and resources for this program.

A new fall class of seventeen high school juniors will join ECU's virtual campus in the Teen Second Life. These juniors will take a first level course in both anthropology and information and computer technology. The students from last spring, now high school seniors, will return for a web design course and an English 1100 composition class that will include the required extensive Graduation Project. This Project will be presented virtually in Second Life for these seniors! What an opportunity! It will be done in the Teen Grid Second Life.

This fall ECHS also seeks to improve communications across both worlds. To simplify cross institutional deadlines, the pilot has adopted the ECU academic calendar. The partnership has developed monthly visitation dates to each of the six high schools to show physical support for the students' progress and performance.

The partnership is excited about the next phase and anticipates the full implementation of the program in the fall of 2010. The program has been well received and the students are excited to begin the new year.

University Multimedia Center (UMC)~

The UMC is the office in Academic Outreach that develops content for faculty for online (DE) courses or face-to-face traditional courses with online components. We are located in the Self Help Center Suite 100A.

The UMC develops a range of full-service technology design and consulting solutions for faculty research and instructional use. Our team designs and develops multimedia projects for interactive course content and promotional purposes. We also consult with faculty on the instructional use of creative technologies.

The largest percentage of our work is in web design and development. We develop and deploy web-based project for a variety of instructional, research, and presentation initiatives. Our team works with professors, programs and departments in the development of web projects. Other than web-based projects, we design and produce CD/DVD interactive titles for teaching, instructional support, and information dissemination. User interface, digital video, professional audio, animation, and 3D modeling are combined to create intuitive, engaging environments for learning, research, and presentation. To a lesser extent we assist faculty, programs, and departments in choosing, designing, and developing creative technology solutions and projects. We can provide advice on appropriate hardware and software technologies, project management approaches, and best practices for design, production, and testing.

To initiate a project simply propose your ideas to us by submitting it on our proposal form (www.ecu.edu/umc/). You may also email David Jones (jonesda@ecu.edu) or Laurie Godwin (godwinl@ecu.edu). We look forward to working with you.

