

June 2009 ~ Powered by Academic Outreach Technology Services

~Welcome to Another Issue of Teaching with Technology~



~Summer Training~ Sign up on Onestop Today!

- **Centra - July 14, August 6, and August 18**

Centra is a web conferencing learning management system that provides a virtual classroom using live and recorded sessions. It provides voice and video communication with your students in a structured online learning environment replicating a traditional classroom. This training course is not only designed to help you effectively use the tools available in Centra, but also to help show you how to best integrate Centra in your course. You will learn how to use the whiteboard, load media & presentations, share web sites & applications, as well as survey your students with the click of a mouse. We will discuss best practices for controlling the flow of discussion in the Centra environment, as well as how best to implement Centra for your unique needs.

- **Camtasia – July 14 and July 16**

Camtasia is screen recording software that records your on-screen activity, audio, and web cam video. Camtasia also provides a PowerPoint Add-In so you can easily narrate a PowerPoint file and share it with your students. Camtasia Training Topics will include: Recording, Editing, Producing, and Sharing your video files. In addition to recording class lectures, you can use Camtasia to provide learning resources to students, take your students on a guided tour of your online course environment, provide a “how to” demonstration, and much, much more.

To sign up for any of the AO training classes, log into Onestop and click the “University Training” link under the Employee section of the Tools tab. Then browse the Training Opportunities catalog to locate the class.

~Quick Start to Online Teaching~



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 hear how other ECU faculty are effectively using

Blackboard, Camtasia, Centra, Moodle, Second Life and more. To register for one of the upcoming Quick Start presentations, follow this [link to our Registration page](#).

June 2009 In This Issue

1. Summer Training
2. Quick Start to Online Teaching
3. Many Students at a Distance
4. Pilot-VEHS
5. Moodle / Centra
6. Contingency Plan
7. Think-In 2009

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 collinss@ecu.edu. We also now have Moodle integrated into Second Life with Slooodle!



Centra

Saba Centra is an online learning platform that delivers web conferencing for your

2009 Quick Start Dates

July 15, 2009 - 2:00pm - 4:00pm - Science & Technology Building, Room 144

September 2, 2009 - 2:00pm - 4:00pm - Austin 309

“Many Students at a Distance”

Join us for this Online Summer Series!

This summer we invite you to tune in as we chat with faculty teaching Many Students at a Distance. Academic Outreach is hosting this series to offer faculty some of the best practices in teaching Many Students at a Distance. These recorded conversations will be available in mp3 format which you can download and listen to while you are on the go this summer.

Check out the latest conversations with Robbie Quinn (ART 1910), Jack Karns (FINA 2244) and Mike Dixon (MUSC 2226). Click the Interview tab on the Many Students at a Distance site to access all of the interviews. <http://ao.ecu.edu/many/>



Summing up a Pilot ~ The VEHS Success!

On June 3rd, 2009 the Virtual Early High School program students challenged themselves one more time with the climbing wall at the Student Recreation Center. This marked the end of the program's successful first phase. The program, a pilot designed to help high school students earn high school and college credit, is unique from other higher education and high school bridging programs because these courses are synchronously taught through a virtual world called Second Life. This past semester, 18 students (three students from each local high school) met online in the virtual environment with two ECU professors for four days of a week. Like traditional classes, the students and instructors developed a strong and dynamic learning community that enabled the students to learn the course material and learn about each other. While they all had interacted with each other virtually since January, this event was only the second time they met face-to-face. Students attending the event were able to meet Chancellor Steve Ballard and Provost Marilyn Sheerer. Superintendent Dr. Beverly Reep, also attended the picnic and all three officials, the students, and the VEHS program administrative staff, participated in an introductory ice breaker before the group broke out to tackle rock climbing and to enjoy the facility. A goal of the program is to make the students feel a part of the ECU family and to welcome them to the university. In the Fall of 2009, the program will continue with additional courses for the students, if funding allows. Pilot students will exit the program with 12-18 hours of college credit that can be applied at ECU, or transferred to another UNC institution.

classroom. Centra provides a highly interactive virtual classroom learning environment that integrates voice, video, application sharing, and graphics. Centra is used in almost every college at ECU to create a more social environment for students, as well as a platform for online forums and meetings.

Please look for additional announcements about upcoming Centra training. You may also contact Sharon Collins collinss@ecu.edu and John Southworth southworthj@ecu.edu or go to <http://ecu.centra.com> 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: A Teaching with Technology Showcase

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.

Academic Outreach Technology Services ~ East Carolina University

<http://www.ecu.edu/academicoutreach/> or follow us

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