



Summer 2008 Schedule

Faculty and Supportive Professional Staff Programs:

Clickers in the Classroom

Tuesday, June 3, 2008 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am – or --

Wednesday, August 13, 2008 from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Now that NIU has adopted the elnstruction CPS personal response system (clickers), faculty can use this technology in conjunction with Blackboard to create an interactive learning experience. Faculty can use CPS in the classroom to engage students and provide them with instant feedback. Student assessment results can then be uploaded to Blackboard. This workshop is designed to explore the instructional possibilities of the CPS clicker system and its integration with Blackboard. Advanced registration is required.

Blackboard I: Introduction to Blackboard

Monday, June 9, 2008 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm – or --

Monday, July 21, 2008 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm,

Learn the basics of creating and developing a course in Blackboard, NIU's Web Course Management System. Participants will get an overview of course layout and navigation and will have an opportunity to place materials in a sample course. We can also assist participants with requesting their own Blackboard courses. Participants who wish to request their courses during the workshop need to have an active NIU Account ID. Advanced registration is required.

Promoting Online Collaboration with Wimba Classroom in Blackboard

Tuesday, June 10, 2008 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Many faculty consider live, personal interaction to be the most valuable element of quality teaching and learning experiences. Wimba Classroom is an online collaboration tool that integrates seamlessly with Blackboard allowing educators and students to engage in meaningful and memorable interactions by combining interactive technologies with instructional best practices. This hands-on workshop will provide an overview of the different features of this collaboration tool and will walk participants through the process of creating and managing Wimba classrooms. Advanced registration is required.

Blackboard II: Building Your Blackboard Course

Wednesday, June 11, 2008 from 9:00 am to 10:30 am – or --

Thursday, July 31, 2008 from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm

This hands-on workshop is a follow-up to the Blackboard I: Introduction to Blackboard workshop; we will cover the specifics of developing a course in Blackboard, including personalizing course navigation, setting up a materials-delivery structure and creating discussion areas. Participants will work in their own Blackboard courses and should bring to the session any course materials they want to upload or work with during the workshop. Files need to be on a flash drive (readable in a USB port) or on CD. Advanced registration is required.

Podcast Series: Audio Podcasting

Tuesday, June 17, 2008 from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm

While the Introduction to Podcasting workshop provided participants with an overview of podcasting technology, the Audio Podcast workshop will be a more thorough hands-on experience for preparing audio content for online distribution. Topics will include a discussion of the pedagogy behind audio podcast, a review of hardware/software necessary for audio capture, editing, and file conversion, and a review of procedures to make content available for students to subscribe. No iPods are necessary to participate. Advanced registration is required.

Creating and Delivering Effective PowerPoint Presentations

Wednesday, June 18, 2008 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

It's not necessary to be a graphic designer or an artist to create great looking PowerPoint slides. However, it helps to know fundamental design and presentation principles to relay your intended message better to your audience. In this interactive workshop we will first evaluate the effectiveness of an existing PowerPoint presentation using a visual design appraisal checklist. Workshop participants will then create their own presentations following robust design and presentation principles. Bring existing work for a friendly critique. Experience using Microsoft PowerPoint is required. Advanced registration is required.

Short Focused Tutorials

Thursday, June 19, 2008 from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm

This hands-on workshop will demonstrate the mechanics of adding voice/video to existing PowerPoint slide presentations that are streamed using broadband connectivity. Faculty may consider using this educational strategy to reinforce a concept presented in their own face-to-face-class session, provide a tutorial on new information, or review material for an upcoming examination. Participants will be using *Articulate Presenter*, a remarkable software that compresses large-size files for more manageable distribution online. Participants should bring existing PowerPoint files to experiment with. Advanced registration is required and seating is very limited.

Introducing Academic Resource Sharing Tools in Blackboard

Tuesday, June 24, 2008 from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Do you struggle to keep track of all your favorite Web sites and other online resources? Would you like to share the links to your favorite online resources with your colleagues or students? A new social bookmarking feature in Blackboard allows for the storing, classifying, sharing and searching of links through the practice of folksonomic tagging. This online session will introduce the social bookmarking capabilities in Blackboard and will explore several practical applications for implementing social bookmarking activities in the classroom. Advanced registration is required.



Concept Mapping for Teaching and Learning
Wednesday, July 2, 2008 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Concept maps are learning tools which represent information visually. These diagrams "visually arrange" concepts and ideas, show connections and relationships among concepts, and help increase understanding of complex information. Concept maps help students see the underlying structure and "big picture" of a concept which can lead to meaningful learning. This hands-on workshop will provide practical and immediate applications in your teaching and your students' learning. Please bring a course syllabus or concepts to the workshop. Advanced registration is required.

Plagiarism Prevention Using Blackboard SafeAssign
Wednesday, July 9, 2008 from 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Despite our efforts to educate students regarding the principles of solid academic writing, students may not always understand how to properly reference source content. The new SafeAssign plagiarism prevention service that is now integrated in Blackboard allows students to protect the originality of their work as well as to have it checked for inadvertent citation errors prior to submitting to the faculty member for credit. This hands-on session will introduce the features of the SafeAssign plagiarism prevention service and its integration with Blackboard and will discuss how to incorporate opportunities for students to self-check their work for citation errors. Advanced registration is required.

Writing Goals and Objectives: There is a Difference
Thursday, July 10, 2008 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Instructional goals are broad, generalized statements about what is to be learned. Instructional objectives, on the other hand, are focused measurable statements which will help you and your students reach your goals. When written well, instructional goals and objectives will assist in identifying course content, help organized your instruction, and best of all, help students achieve your expectations. In this workshop, we will review the characteristics of instructional goals and objectives and practice writing these two important components of successful instruction. Please bring a course syllabus to the workshop. Advanced registration is required.

Using the Blackboard Content Collection to Manage Your Course Content
Monday, July 14, 2008 from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

The Blackboard Content Collection feature provides NIU faculty with an easy and efficient way to store, share, and manage their course content. The Content Collection feature fully integrates with the Blackboard System and provides an easy way for faculty to manage files, grant file permissions, and link the same files to multiple courses and sections without the need for duplication. This session will provide a preview of the Blackboard Content Collection and will walk participants through the process of managing course content using the new features and tools. Advanced registration is required

Short Focused Tutorials with Video
Wednesday, July 16, 2008 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am

This hands-on workshop will demonstrate the mechanics of adding voice/video to existing PowerPoint slide presentations. These presentations can then be streamed online using broadband connectivity. Faculty may consider using this strategy to reinforce a concept presented in face-to-face-class sessions, provide a tutorial on new information, or review material for an upcoming examination. Advanced registration is required and seating is very limited.

Basic Video Editing
Wednesday, July 23, 2008 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am

This hands-on workshop will demonstrate the mechanics of capturing video content from either analogue or digital formats, editing (including arranging video clips to order, adding titles, transition, music, and narration). This workshop will prepare participants to compile video clips from original formats to more efficient CD or DVD formats enhancing usability and transportation. Participants should be familiar with Windows and are recommended to bring video clips they would like to work on. Advanced registration is required and seating is very limited.

Integrating Web 2.0 Tools into Blackboard
Tuesday, July 29, 2008 from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm

Many new, free web tools are emerging that allow for new approaches to fostering interpersonal interaction in the online learning environment. While many of these new Web 2.0 tools are designed for integration within blogs or other social networking applications, they may also be embedded within Blackboard to extend its existing collaborative capabilities. This workshop will explore various free Web 2.0 tools and discuss how these tools can be utilized with Blackboard. Advanced registration is required.



Formative and Summative Feedback for Teaching and Learning
Wednesday, August 6, 2008 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Providing and receiving feedback is known to enhance teaching and learning. But how (and why) do we choose the most appropriate form of feedback for any given situation? We will discuss different forms of feedback, compare formative and summative feedback, and strategize which forms of feedback work best in different learning environments. Advanced registration is required.

New Tools and Features Coming to Blackboard
Wednesday, August 20, 2008 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am

With the upgrade of the Blackboard course management system to version 8.0 anticipated for this summer, NIU faculty can expect to see a number of new and enhanced features when they log in to Blackboard. The new version introduces significant changes in the functionality of the discussion board, transition of the Blackboard Gradebook to the completely redesigned Grade Center, as well as a new Self and Peer Assessment tool that will allow students to review and grade their own work and the work of their peers, among others. This session will highlight these new and enhanced features and tools. In addition, faculty will be introduced to the training opportunities and resources accompanying the new version. Advanced registration is required.



Registration Information: Please email your name, NIU Employee ID, classification, department, email address, phone, and special accommodations (if any), to Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center at facdev@niu.edu, or register online at <http://www.facdev.niu.edu/facdev/forms/fsprogreg.shtml>. Program locations will be made available when you register. After submitting your registration, if you do not receive a response within two working days, please contact the Center. If you register for a program and are unable to attend it, please notify the Center at least two working days in advance so that those on the waiting list can be given the opportunity to attend that program.