Creating Community with Kent State Online
Creating Community

Creating a community of LEARNERS in the ONLINE CLASSROOM

Creating a community of INNOVATORS at our University
“Establish Kent State as a leader in quality online learning”
Where are we now?
Tremendous Growth

Over 30 Online programs and certificates

40% of students take 1 online class each semester

Top 15 of all public university systems for online enrollments

18% of all credit hours taken online

900% increase in student enrollments from spring 2009-spring 2014 (2832-28,306)

600% increase in the number of online instructors from spring 2009-spring 2014 (86-601)
How do we support growth?
Kent State Online:
Creating a Framework for Support of Online Course Development
How do we use the framework?
Tiered Support

**Tier 1**
Self-Serve - Website, tutorials, orientation site

**Tier 2**
Office Hours - Meet with College ID to receive assistance

**Tier 3**
Workshops - OCDE Kent State Online resources

**Tier 4**
Full Suite of Services - ID, Marketing, Retention
Faculty Resource Website

Online Portal for faculty creating courses or teaching online

www.kent.edu/onlineteaching

WHAT IS THE KENT STATE ONLINE FRAMEWORK?

An intuitive framework for designing, building, and teaching your online course. With the Framework you can produce and deploy high-quality courses faster and easier than ever.

DESIGN

Design your course efficiently and effectively using tried and true backwards design concepts specifically tailored to the online learning environment.

BUILD

Build your course faster using the Kent State Online Framework course shell for Blackboard Learn. Access a vast array of how-tos and best practices to develop high-quality media and create stellar course content.

TEACH

Teach any Kent State Online course like a pro with a library of how-tos, strategy documents and best practices. Explore the framework components before ever touching Blackboard Learn.
**DESIGN**

Design your course efficiently and effectively using tried and true instructional design concepts specifically tailored to the online learning environment.

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**BUILD**

Build your course faster and easier using the Kent State Online Framework course shell for Blackboard Learn. Access a vast array of how-to's and best practices to develop high-quality media and create engaging course content.

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**TEACH**

Dive into the pedagogy of online learning and teaching, with resources that help you consider presence, interaction, and effective communication in the online classroom.
Components of a Quality Course

**TEACHING**
- Strong teaching presence
- Quality and timely feedback
- Using tools wisely for “just in time” teaching

**DESIGN**
- Focus on alignment and application
  - Appropriate rigor
  - Clear instructions

**STRUCTURE & CONTENT**
- Engaging content
- Intuitive navigation with a clear learning path
  - Accessibility

**COLLABORATION & INTERACTION**
- Social presence for students
- Interaction between students, instructor, and content
- Ask for student feedback

[www.kent.edu/onlineteaching](http://www.kent.edu/onlineteaching)
Support for Quality Standards
Specifying expectations

- Quality Matters
- Section 508
- WCAG 2.0 Guidelines
- Design-Build-Teach Framework

Design
Iterative Design Process
A Process for Continuous Quality Improvement

- Design & Development
- Evaluation & Revision
- Maintenance and Preparation
- Delivery
Explore the Template

Part of the Kent State Online Framework is the Blackboard Learn course template. The template comes pre-loaded with online teaching necessities and has placeholders for the aspects of the template that you will want to customize. The template is designed to help you build a high-quality online learning experience quickly and efficiently. Start exploring today!

COURSE HOME

Customize & Extend

The course Home page is the entry point to your online course. The Kent State Online template home page is pre-populated with the following placeholder content items:

- Instructor Information content item
- Start Here content folder
- Learning Materials content folder
- Course Announcements tool link
Faculty Guides
Continually updated
www.kent.edu/onlineteaching

Framework Resources

Our Framework Resources are the result of collaboration between the Online Learning and Educational Technology Designers, Instructional Designers, and Information Technologists at Kent State University. We have gathered a collection of strategic documents, how-to guides, and templates to help you as you teach online. If you have questions or need assistance, contact the Faculty Support Team.

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<td>BUILD</td>
<td>Example Course Schedule</td>
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Support Guide
www.kent.edu/onlineteaching/support

SUPPORT

Where do I go for support?
Kent State University has a network of Instructional Designers, Educational Technologists, and Blackboard Learn experts to help you along the way. Explore your support options below.

THE ONLINE LEARNING TEAM
The Online Learning Team is part of the Office of Continuing and Distance Education reporting to the Office of the Provost. The Team is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Online Strategic Initiative; facilitating online planning; creating and providing training and tutorials for online development and teaching; collaborating with course design support people across the university; and collaborating with Information Services to identify technology solutions to enhance online learning.
Where do I go for support?

Kent State University has a network of Instructional Designers, Educational Technologists, and Blackboard Learn experts to help you along the way. Explore your support options below.
Arts & Sciences Online Learning

Email: onlinelearning@kent.edu

- Course development
- Course support
  - Email (M-F 8am-5pm)
  - Office hours (by appointment)
- Scheduled maintenance
Blackboard Support

www.kent.edu/blackboard

TRAINING WORKSHOPS

INFORMATION SERVICES / BLACKBOARD LEARN / RESOURCES FOR FACULTY / TUTORIALS / TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Need a One-on-One Consultation or a Group Training Workshop?

REQUEST TRAINING FORM  SIGN UP FOR CURRENT OFFERINGS

Sign up for one of these Blackboard training workshops:

Collaborate: Learn to use Blackboard Collaborate to deliver a more effective learning experience through online, blended, and mobile learning. You can use Collaborate with your Blackboard course for real time, or anytime, learning to anyplace.
- Collaborate Basics Training
- Collaborate Advanced Training

Request for Blackboard Consultation/Group Workshop

We are available during weekdays from 9 am-5 pm. Please provide us as much detail below as you can so that we can accommodate you and assist you with Blackboard. You can sign up below for an individual consultation or request a group training.

Please keep in mind that group training will require more preparation time than that individual consultation.

We will send you a confirmation once we receive your request based on availability of support staff.

* Required

Your Name *
First and Last Name

Email address *
@kent.edu, email address

Faculty/Staff
- Faculty
- Staff
- Support Staff
- GAZA

Your College, Campus, and Department *

Do you need to make an appointment for *
- Individual consultation
- Department / Group Workshop

Continue »
Your online course is complete, now it's time to focus on teaching methods and strategies that work well in the online classroom. Visit the sections below for an overview of ideas and approaches that will help you and your students have a successful online learning experience.

**ESSENTIAL METHODS & STRATEGIES**

**How is online teaching different?**

In this section, we'll briefly explore how the role of both the student and the instructor can change once we move from the face-to-face to the online classroom. Use the ideas presented here to think through instructional strategies that will help you and your students adjust to the online learning environment.
Faculty Workshops

- Over a dozen different online or face-to-face presentations or workshops
- 440 badges given for training/presentation attendance to over 370 individual faculty members
I WANT TO DESIGN/RE-DESIGN MY ONLINE COURSE...

We recommend you explore the following sessions:

- Best Practices in the Online Classroom (in-person presentation)
- Designing with Quality Matters (in-person presentation)
- Effective Online Discussions (in-person workshop)
- Designing Your Online Course (self-paced online session)
- Applying the Quality Matters Rubric (APPQMR; full-day, in-person workshop)

I WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT COURSE BUILDING AND USING BLACKBOARD LEARN...

We recommend you explore the following sessions:

- Best Practices in the Online Classroom (in-person presentation)
- Kent State Online Template (in-person presentation)
- Preparing an Online Course for Delivery (in-person presentation)
- Building an Accessible Online Course (in-person presentation)
- Building Your Online Course (self-paced online session)
Guide to session types

- **In-person** - these face-to-face sessions are held in a traditional classroom setting and typically run 1.5 to 2 hours in length. Presentations provide detailed information about specific topics while workshops provide an interactive, hands-on experience for a particular concept.

- **Webinars** - these presentations are presented using virtual meeting technology (Blackboard Collaborate) and typically run 1.5 to 2 hours in length. Webinars provide detailed information about specific topics.

- **Online workshops** - these facilitator-led workshops vary in length from 3-5 weeks and are akin to a fully online course. We offer both self-paced and non self-paced options. Participants are immersed in a robust online learning community, and apply their knowledge by completing activities and interacting with faculty colleagues according to a set schedule.

- **On-demand** - provides access to a special Blackboard Learn resource space that provides on-demand videos and related online teaching resources. Participants can access the materials for a 24/7 experience (without earning a badge), or participate in activities or application exercises to earn a Credly badge.

### Session descriptions and registration

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<th>In-person</th>
<th>Webinars</th>
<th>Online workshops</th>
<th>On-demand</th>
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**Spring Semester 2016**
SEMESTER SNAPSHOT

JANUARY 2016
- Grades, Rubrics, and Feedback: Providing accurate assessment and quality feedback (1/29/16)

FEBRUARY 2016
- Online Teaching Orientation and Refresher (starts 2/1/16)
- Designing Your Online Course (starts 2/1/16)
- Best Practices in the Online Classroom (2/5/16)
- Designing with Quality Matters (2/19/16)

MARCH 2016
- Creating Effective and Engaging Online Assignments (3/11/16)
- Effective Online Discussions (3/11/16)

APRIL 2016
Welcome to the Online Teaching Orientation and Refresher!

Welcome to the Online Teaching Orientation and Refresher, created by Kent State's Office of Continuing and Distance Education.

Before you begin, it is important to understand that this Orientation is not an online course, as there are some basic digital literacy skills required. It includes little interaction or collaboration with your fellow participants. This was intentional, so that faculty could engage, however, optional discussion boards are included throughout, so that you can ask questions and share ideas with other faculty.

Most successful online classes move students along as a cohort, with content in the Learning Management System (LMS), but no embedded social learning, and a lack of guidance.

Speaking of guidance, this Orientation is "facilitator enhanced", and staffed with a friendly expert to answer questions and help you get started. To begin the Orientation, please watch the two videos below, then proceed to the "Start Here" for more information.

Welcome, from Kent State Online!

Attached Files: Orientation Welcome Video transcript (230.649 KB)
Kent State University: You Belong Here!

Becoming a part of the Kent State University community is an important part of your online learning experience. This video will give you some insights into the distinctive culture of Kent State.

Introduction to Online

Whether you are planning on taking all of your classes online or just occasionally taking an online class, this student orientation will help you prepare for a successful learning experience.

Kent State is committed to offering quality online courses and access to online resources to help you succeed. This course will introduce you to virtual resources, guidelines for technology, and expectations for digital skills needed for online course work.

Learning Materials

The content of this course is divided into 6 modules covering topics about technology essentials, information about using Blackboard, the learning management system used to deliver online courses, as well as tips and advice about learning online at Kent State from students and faculty.
Kaitlin Grant

Kaitlin is working on her Bachelors in Public Health with a concentration in Health Services Administration. Her advice to students taking classes online:

When taking classes online prioritize all of your time, take classes seriously, always ask questions, and have fun with what you're learning.
Getting Started In Your Online Course

One of the key factors in being successful in Online courses is effectively utilizing resources. Click on the above title, Getting Started In Your Online Course, to visit the web page. There are five tabs across the page which provide a list of comprehensive support services, including:

- Preparing Your Computer for Online Learning
- Being a Successful Online Student
- University Policies
- Online Student Services
- Technical FAQs

Tip
If you are having trouble with procrastination, try this: set a timer for 20 minutes and get started. Since getting started is the hard part, this technique will help you get over the hump.

Workload Expectations
College is a full time job.

When you come to college you will probably be quite surprised when you look at your schedule. In high school, you attended class for about 7–8 hours a day, or 35 to 40 hours per week! In college you may spend only 15 hours in class. Whoa! You think, easy street.

But not so fast... for every 3 hours you spend in class, you should spend 9 hours working outside of class—a minimum of 9–12 hours a week for each course, each week throughout the semester.

For a 15 hour semester class load, that’s 45 hours...which is a full time job.
STUDENTS - GETTING STARTED IN YOUR ONLINE COURSE

One of the key factors in being successful in online courses is effectively utilizing resources. This getting started page provides a list of comprehensive support services, including tips and tricks for getting your computer ready, strategies to be a successful online student, policies, and direct links to student academic services.

View a general walkthrough of a course in Blackboard Learn.

What you need to know in order to keep your computer operating system, software applications, and web browsers up-to-date, as well as how to connect to Kent State University’s online resources such as Blackboard Learn and University Libraries.

Hardware requirements

A laptop or desktop with the following minimum specifications is required:
Advice for Students

Top Tips for Student Success

In this video, Academic Director Steven Antavari
Miriam Matteson

Miriam Matteson, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor in the School of Library Science. She teaches Library Management, Information Literacy, and Academic Librarianship.

Dr. Matteson’s advice for online students:

Part of taking an online class means participating in discussions. My advice is when you are composing your discussion posts, think about what you are writing at at least two levels:
1) what are you saying, and 2) how you are saying it.

Be sure that what you are saying – the content of the post – shows your best, critical thinking. Push yourself to do more than scratch the surface or state the obvious. Explore what you truly think about the topic. Identify places where your thinking might be evolving. Thinking is a dynamic process and the more you can convey your thinking process in your posts, the better your colleagues and instructor will be able to interact with you about something you said.

When you write your posts, use your authentic voice. Be natural and engaging. Write clearly in a simple, conversational style instead of overworked “academese”. Use examples and even humor to convey your thoughts in a way that reflects your personality.
Thank you for attending!