ISP 1600 for Fall 2005
Web.Edu: How Internet Courses Work

Third meeting
September 24, 2005
http://www.is.wayne.edu/drbowen/WebEduF05
Class names

- Initial the signin sheet
- Review of names
- Pictures (not a requirement but you may not like the alternative, will be repeated for next two weeks)
Course Web Sites

• “Web Browser” means any one of Internet Explorer, Netscape, Mozilla, Firefox, AOL, Opera, plus about fifty others
  o Some web sites (not these) work better with IE
• “The Course Web Site”
  http://www.is.wayne.edu/drbowen/WebEduF05
  o The central place for an online course
• Moodle (or link from the course web site:)
  o General: techtools.culma.wayne.edu/moodle
Moodle (cont’d)

• Creating a Moodle account
  o Done last week in class
  o Otherwise, do this on your own
  o Directions: Notes for Class 2, Slides 3 – 7

• “Subscribing” to a Moodle Forum
  o Means you get emails of posts
    • Set “Email digest type” in “Edit profile”
  o You are already a member of all class Forums
Moodle

• What is there:
  o Participants (list of class)
  o Online users (class members online now)
  o Chat
  o Edit Profile
  o Forums
    • Introduce yourself! (do this now)
    • Starting out
    • Course discussion – ongoing during the semester
Moodle

• What is there:
  o Study Schedule
  o Recent activity (everyone, since the last time)
  o Under Administration, Activity report (yours)
  o Link back to course web site
  o More coming (grades)
Course Overview

1. What is in an online course?
   a. Almost always
   b. Sometimes

2. What is different about online courses?
   “Autonomy and Responsibility”
   a. The online discussion is the star
   b. If you start to feel you are out there all alone, and you run into any trouble, then you will probably do badly or drop out
Overview (continued)

3. Technical issues for online students
   a. This is what concerns most students (is my computer good enough, are my Internet skills good enough?) but…
   b. There are a lot of things that might go wrong. Each one is rare.
      i. Example: Need help from a Geek? Learn Geekspeak
What can be in an online course?

• Fairly common
  o Textbook. Most of your reading is *not* online
  o Web site for course
  o Required class meeting(s), especially WSU
    • Hybrid courses
  o Online discussion forum
    • Synchronous (chat - rare) Vs asynchronous
  o Online way to turn work in & get it back
    • Can make you nervous, but actually more secure
What can be in an online course?

• Maybe yes, maybe no
  o Online web tests, reports, forms
  o In-person tests
  o Optional course meetings
  o Student web pages or blogs
  o Online reading
  o Online work groups
  o Online audio and video (multimedia)
What can be in an online course?

- Maybe yes, maybe no (continued)
  - Special software (rare in DIS)
    - Spreadsheet, database
    - Lotus Notes for Business
    - Graphics
  - Guests
  - Assigned outside links
  - PDA use (WSU Medical School)
  - Online evaluation (SET at WSU)
Chapter 13
Working the System

• Online courses can be more personal
• Use technology to interact
• Technical concerns disappear quickly
• Should know technology requirements early
• Do the same things with different tools
• More in-depth, but responses are delayed
• Netiquette
Chapter 14
Getting a Grip

• Work schedule up to you – manage yourself
• Good indications – high need for course, enjoy topic, regular schedule
• Set aside four hours per week per credit
• Organize time – big chunks better
• Advice from students: do not fall behind
• Positive attitude helps
• Identify problems, get them solved
About the Internet

• Four ways to get to a web page
  o Type in the URL
  o Click on a text or graphical link
  o History list (only on that computer)
  o Make a favorite (IE) or bookmark (Netscape, Mozilla, Firefox) (only on that computer)
About the Internet

• It’s a jungle out there – protect yourself
  o Don’t use easy passwords
  o Keep antivirus software up to date
  o Scams, phishing, hackers
  o Internet security suite – includes firewall, data safekeeping
  o Don’t click on free offers that are to good to be true
About the Internet

• It’s a jungle out there – more later
  - Don’t open email attachments from someone you don’t know
  - In a lab, log out whenever you can
Online life at WSU

• Check your WSU email ("xxnnnen@wayne.edu")

• If you do not use it, forward it to an account you do use
  o Your Instructors expect to be able to reach you, especially for online courses
  o Check the forwarding – send yourself an email to your WSU email address, check forwarding
For next week

• Web Hub?
  o Download it to your desktop – it will remind you, and has all of the links you need.

• In textbook, read Chapter 15

• Be ready for photo if you put it off tonight

• One or two posts to “Course discussion”
Done!