

ISP 1600 for Fall 2007

Web.Edu: How Internet Courses Work

Class #1

<http://www.is.wayne.edu/drbowen/webeduf07>

Class names

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

Class next week

- On September 15, we will meet in the Undergraduate Library, Computer Lab A, Room 1140
- Go over Moodle (a Course management System similar to Blackboard)
- May be other such meetings (unchat?)

Closing the Department

- The University is currently considering closing the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies.
- Currently admitted students would be allowed to finish their degrees.
- An online petition protesting the closing is at <http://www.is.wayne.edu>

Syllabus

- Overview
- My contact information
 - Proving that I don't mind being contacted
- Textbook. Available in bookstore. Can try to get it elsewhere. Danger if you buy it online, or special-order it – it can take awhile before you get it.

Syllabus (continued)

- Course web site
 - This is a face-to-face class with a few meetings online. You *will* get an online experience here.
- How will course grades be calculated?
- Assignment schedule
- Making up a missed class (absence)
- Grade appeals

Syllabus (continued)

- Educational accessibility
- Early assessment grades
- Make-up examination
- Late assignments
- Dropping classes
- Course withdrawal
- Online citizenship

Syllabus (continued)

- Course Management Systems and Moodle
- Registrations and tests
- Assignment: online work schedule
- Online postings
- Class conduct
- Essay assignment
- Final Exam

Syllabus (continued)

- Plagiarism
 - Memo to Department

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)

2. What is different? (continued)

- c. Bowen's one-week/two-week rule

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.

What can be in an online course?

- Fairly common
 - Textbook. Most of your reading is *not* online
 - Web site for course
 - Required class meeting(s), especially WSU
 - Hybrid courses
 - Online discussion forum
 - Synchronous (chat - rare) Vs asynchronous
 - 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
 - Online web tests, reports, forms
 - In-person tests
 - Optional course meetings
 - Student web pages or blogs
 - Online reading
 - Online work groups
 - 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)

About the Internet

- URL – Universal Resource Locator
 - “web address” for a web page
- Home page – designed as beginning web page for a site
- Four ways to get to a web page
 1. Type in the URL
 2. Click on a text or graphical link
 3. History list (only on that computer)
 4. Make a favorite (IE) or bookmark (Netscape, Mozilla, Firefox) (only on that computer)

About the Internet

- It's a jungle out there – more later
 - Don't use easy passwords
 - Keep antivirus software up to date
 - Scams, phishing, hackers
 - Internet security suite – includes firewall, data safekeeping
 - Don't click on free offers that are too 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

- Activate your WSU email (“xxnnnn@wayne.edu”)
- If you do not use it, forward it to an account you do use

For next week

- Web Hub (???)
- Get textbook, read Chapter 1
- Remember where we meet next week
- Be ready for photo
- Read the web page “taking an online course”