New ACT Website – Resource Toolkit

The Creative Course Delivery Focus Group, led by Provost Brien Smith, developed and shared course modalities with campus in June designed to help faculty make course delivery decisions focused on student learning, connectedness, and safety. Many departments across campus used the modalities, along with program and space needs, to inform decisions about the instructional methods for courses this fall. Many faculty will be modifying their course delivery and will need support in their efforts.

Academic Continuity Team (ACT) members have been hard at work reorganizing and augmenting the resources available to faculty. The ACT website has been redesigned around desired teaching outcomes. These outcomes, organized into 6 groups (Getting Started, Instruction Basics, Instruction Advanced, Engaging Students, Supporting Success, and Connecting Students) have been identified as strategies for ensuring courses, regardless of modality, are providing opportunities for students to learn. Each outcome links to a page of best-practices, technology guides, and related modalities.

ACT will communicate soon regarding a July training schedule and opportunities for faculty to find support and assistance in their planning process.

[Click Here for Toolkit](#)

Automatic Blackboard Course Shells

Good news! There is no longer the need to request a Blackboard shell be created for your courses. IT Services will automatically create Blackboard course shells for all classes moving forward. Blackboard shells for fall 2020 should be loaded in the next week. If you need access to a sandbox to begin building a class immediately, please contact Distance Education's Instructional Design and Development Center (IDDC) at iddc@ysu.edu for assistance.

Free Virtual Conference on Hybrid Teaching!

REMOTE: The Connected Faculty Summit provides a forum to identify and promote the best possible pedagogy, techniques and tools by faculty for online and blended learning and to help faculty design the most engaging experience for learners. This free virtual conference will be held July 13th and 14th and is hosted by Arizona State University; you can click here to see the full schedule and register. There will be over 70 sessions, with topics such as:

- promoting student engagement and motivation online
- good online pedagogy and principles
- designing course assessments
- developing online labs
- supporting student project teams
- teaching in the disciplines--mathematics, psychology, chemistry, dance, and more

Technology Training

Instructional Media Webinar: Support for your upcoming courses. Instructional media tools enable you to connect and engage with students. Learn Webex, creating videos, OneDrive, and more with Sharyn Zembower from IT Customer Services. Wednesday, July 15th, 3-5P. More info and RSVP here.

The Academic Continuity Team (ACT) is made up of faculty and staff from the Institute for Teaching and Learning, Office of Distance Education, and Information Technology Customer Services. Our offices have been working together since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in order to coordinate services, provide training and resources, and support faculty teaching. Visit our website for resources, training opportunities, or to contact an ACT member.

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