

Using Online, Web-based Resources to Enhance Classroom Teaching: A Tutorial

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M.A.P. for Effective Web Page Elements

**We must consider the following
context for determining whether
a web page element is effective or
not...**

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Basic Rules of Web Page Design

Rule #1:

- The purpose of having your Web site is the foundation for all your design decisions on content and design

Rule #2:

- Your audience's wants and needs come first, your needs come second! Usability is #1!

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Remember to MAP out your Web site

Message

- What is the message you wish to convey through your web page or web site?

Audience

- Who is your intended audience? What are their characteristics — both demographic and psychographic?

Purpose

- What is the purpose of having a web page or a web site?

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10 Steps to Developing Online Courses

**Let's examine the specific steps
you might take in developing
classroom support materials for
online delivery...**

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Before we start...


You have three ways to supplement your classroom instruction with online materials...

- Develop them yourself in HTML and/or using a web page editor like FrontPage or Dreamweaver
- Use some free, web-based utilities online
- Employ a delivery "engine", or "wrapper" program

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
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The Winner is... #3: The Wrapper Program

- **Delivery Engine Options**
 - Blackboard.com (CourseInfo) — our choice for this session
 - eCollege.com
 - WebCT.com
- **Note:**
 - While we are using Blackboard for this presentation, we will also mention some of the free, online systems as we proceed...

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Suggested Tools to Support your Efforts

- **Computer with a "good" browser**
 - Internet Explorer 5+ (recommended)
 - Netscape Navigator 4.7 (for testing)
- **A personal web site**
 - School or other source...
 - Avoid AOL, if possible!
- **A WYSIWYG Web Page Editor**
 - FrontPage 2000/2002 or Dreamweaver 4

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Enter into your Blackboard Course

- **Access Blackboard.com**
 - <http://www.blackboard.com/courses>
 - Provide your username and password
- **Go to your courses**
- **Select the course you are developing, and**
- **Click on the "Control Panel"**

So Let's Go...


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1 Provide Information about YOU...

- **Click on Staff Information**
- **Enter your Basic Information**
- **In the Edit window, enter your personal background information**
 - This may be entered as plain text, or copy/pasted from a word processing application, or
 - This may be copied from an HTML document
- **Insert your photograph**
 - Click on the "Browse" button
 - Locate the photo on your disk
 - Click "Submit"


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2 Post a Welcoming Announcement

- **From the Control Panel...**
 - Click on the Announcements topic
- **Enter the content of your welcoming message to student**
 - Plain text or HTML
 - Select the display options
 - Click on "Submit" button
 - Check the preview of your message
- **Note:**
 - Keep the message relatively short!


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3 Post your Course Syllabus

- **From the Control Panel choose "Course Information"**
- **Create a new entry...**
 - New Course Document
 - Insert text into edit box (as plain text, word processing text, or HTML)
 - If HTML, click on the HTML button
 - If desired, you may post a separate document, such as an Adobe Acrobat PDF, along with (or instead of) the text
 - Select the appropriate display options


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Note on Course Syllabi

- **Your Course Syllabus may be considered a legal document, so...**
 - Be cautious about what you include, especially in terms of your objectives
 - Consider posting a full pdf format document along with your online version
 - Follow your University's guidelines, if any, when preparing the syllabus
 - If produced in a word processor, use tables for formatting, not tabs and other paragraph formats!


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4 Post Course Schedule

- **From the Control Panel, choose "Course Document"**
- **Click on the "New Document" button**
- **Process:**
 - Select the type of document, or enter your own heading
 - Enter your text (plain, WP, or HTML)
 - Choose the appropriate display options
 - Click "Submit" and preview/revise, as necessary


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5 Add Specialty Documents

- **From the Control Panel, choose "Course Documents" again...**
- **Click on the "New Folder" button and enter the name of the folder in which the new documents will be placed...**
- **Submit the request for a folder**
- **Click on the Folder name to enter it...**


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5 Add Specialty Documents

- **Click on "New Document" to create a new course document using the procedure in Step 4**
- **Enter the information:**
 - Text (plain, WP or HTML)
 - Click on appropriate option buttons
 - Upload a file, if desired, of the content
 - Click on "Submit" to preview the entry
 - Revise/Preview until you are satisfied with the document


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6 Create Student Project Groups

- **From the Control Panel, choose "Create Groups"**
- **Enter the Group's Information...**
 - Group Name
 - Group Description
 - Group members (remember, "Control"-Click does multiple selection)
 - Set the group's resources and options
 - Submit the information


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7 Set the Communications Options

- **From the Control Panel, choose "Communications Options"**
- **Select the settings for your course**
 - Email
 - Discussion Board
 - Virtual Chat
 - Student Rosters & Pages
 - Group Pages
- **Each of these may be limited ("secured") from non-class members participation**


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8 Create Assignment Pages

- From the Control Panel, choose "Assignments"
- Determine if you want the assignments organized into folders or maintained as top level documents
- Proceed to post the assignment as you have posted other materials

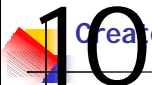
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9 Create External Links

- From the Control Panel, choose "External Links"
- Determine if you want to organize your links into folders (which is highly recommended)
- Within the appropriate item, enter in the information for...
 - External Link Name (to document or web site)
 - URL of the item
 - Brief Description of the item


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10 Create an Online Exam/Quiz

- From the Control Panel, choose "Quiz Generator"
- Select the type of assessment, give a description, and proceed
- Generate the test items...
 - Select type of item
 - Enter in the item stem and choices
 - Mark the correct answer
 - Set the test parameters
- Put the test online


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Contact Information

For more information, and/or to exchange your thoughts and ideas, use the following...


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Using Technology in the Classroom...

The following schemas present a framework for examining the adoption of technology into the Teaching/Learning Process

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Classrooms & Technology

- For sake of discussion, we identify five general types of classrooms as they relate to the use of technology, especially web-based technologies
- For each type of classroom, we will examine the general approach & the types of technologies used...

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The Five Classroom Scenarios

- “Low-Tech”, Traditional Classroom
- Technology-supported Classroom
- Hybrid Classroom
- Web-supported Classroom
- Online, Web-based Classroom

Let's take a closer look...

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Scenario #1

- The “Low Tech”, Traditional Classroom
 - More traditional lecture methods, discussion groups, hard copy handouts, etc. characterize this classroom
- Technologies:
 - In office, materials may be prepared via computer
 - Classroom presentation via overheads
 - TV/VCR and Overhead are “technology”

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Scenario #2

- Technology-based Classroom
 - Technology is used to present classroom materials (PPT, Simulations, etc.)
 - Communication via e-mail
 - Syllabus may be posted on web site, from word processing documents
- Technologies:
 - Computer-based presentations, email, etc.

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Scenario #3

- The Hybrid Classroom
 - Face-to-Face Lectures, Discussion Groups
 - Presentations via Computer, Online, and/or Paper
 - Communication via email, Threaded Discussion Webs, etc.
 - Syllabi AND assignments presented via web pages

(Cont'd)

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Scenario #3 (Cont'd)

- The Hybrid Classroom (Cont'd)
 - Testing from computer-generated tests and delivered either via paper or online
- Technologies:
 - Email and Web Browser essential
 - Some course materials “exported” to HTML format
 - Web becomes essential part of class

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Scenario #4

- **The Web-Supported Classroom**
 - Face-to-Face interactions and information sessions ("Lectures") are used when appropriate
 - Online lecture materials (PPT) and content ("Streaming") used for class preparation
 - Most materials (syllabi, assignments, etc.) delivered via web pages

(Cont'd)

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Scenario #4

- **The Web-Supported Classroom (Cont'd)**
 - Threaded Discussions and Chat-type Sessions are integral
 - A "wrapper" online delivery systems like Blackboard.com or eCollege.com are used to create the web-supported environment
 - HTML-friendly programs are used to prepare materials (MS Office, etc.)

(Cont'd)


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Scenario #4 (Cont'd)

- **The Web-Supported Classroom (Cont'd)**
 - Online assessment, grade book, etc. takes the course outside of the classroom walls
- **Technologies:**
 - "Wrapper" programs for online course management
 - HTML-based materials
 - Email & Web Browsers (with Plug-ins)

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Scenario #5

- **The Online Course**
 - This course is delivered via the web with little or no Face-to-Face contact
 - Online, Course Management Environment is critical
 - Support Essential for developing course, maintaining server hardware & software, and keeping the course up on a 24/7 basis

(Cont'd)

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Scenario #5 (Cont'd)

- **The Online Course**
 - **The Advantages:**
 - "Anytime, Anywhere" Learning
 - Fits into the schedule of the student
 - **The Disadvantages:**
 - High impact on teacher for both preparation and delivery — up to 10 times the work!
 - Lack of personalization for the students AND teacher — Personality Style Interactions

(Cont'd)

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Scenario #5 (Cont'd)

- **Technologies:**
 - Online Delivery Systems
 - Online Communications, Testing, Materials Delivery, etc.
 - Classroom Presentations using both Static (PPT) and Dynamic ("Streaming") media
 - New Teaching/Learning Paradigms

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Some Teacher Characteristics

- **Examine Yourself on these dimensions:**
 - **Structured vs. Unstructured Approach**
 - **Constructivist vs. "By the Book" Approach**
 - **Interactive vs. Lecture Modes**
 - **Textbook-based vs. Discovery -based**
 - **Individual vs. Group Oriented**
- **These teaching styles will determine the most appropriate scenario...**

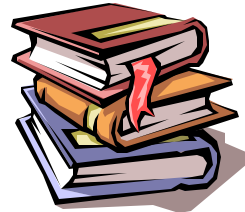
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Questions & Answers



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