Greetings...as autumn looms on the horizon

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS

Remember that there are three regular 50 minute faculty development sessions each month! Each includes door prizes and refreshments!

The first was September 6 at 10:00 AM: The Flipped Classroom

The second, Faculty Showcase, will be this week, September 13 at 10:00 AM (CETAL lab). Guest faculty Sharman Russell and Cynthia Coleman will lead a discussion and show examples from their online/hybrid courses. Topic: Online Presence and Community

The third will be on September 27 at 2:30 PM (CETAL lab) on Active Learning.

To see a calendar of all events, go to the WNMU Planner, or the WNMU Faculty Development site.

All the material from sessions will go up on the Faculty Development site.

FREEBIES! I have many handouts from the guest speaker, Dr. Christy Price, from last Friday’s Faculty Development Day. If you want them, I will get you a paper copy or e-mail the digital copy!

WHAT SUCCESSFUL PEOPLE DO WITH THE FIRST HOUR OF THE DAY

1. Don’t Check Your Email for the First Hour. Seriously. Stop That.
2. Gain Awareness, Be Grateful
3. Do the Big, Shoulder-Sagging Stuff First
4. Choose Your Frog
5. Ask Yourself If You’re Doing What You Want to Do
6. “Customer Service” (or Your Own Equivalent)

Yikes! I bet you can guess the hardest “rule” to follow!

Read the rationale in the article here.

PLAGIARISM: INTENT OR IGNORANCE?

Even in Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), cheating crops up (unless you are securely in Camp 2 below, in which case it may not be cheating, just ignorance).

And, where do you draw the line for plagiarism? Even faculty members get caught “copying” work. In this article, would you call the passage the author wrote plagiarism?

Three Camps to Explain Causes of Plagiarism:

1. Students craftily steal others work out of laziness, lack of preparation, or downright rebelliousness to rules and guidelines.
2. Students exist in a “share and share alike” world and are bumfuzzled about rationales and procedures for properly citing work.

3. Both.

Whatever camp you pitch a tent in, you see plagiarism everywhere, not only in courses. Wikipedia didn’t invent plagiarism, but where did all that text come from in articles? (Yes, there are resources at the bottom of the entry, but did actual people actually write all the actual text above those links?)

So, what about # 1?
• Students who purposefully cheat and plagiarize usually have higher GPAs and consider it necessary to success.
• According to a Duke University study, 70% of college students admit serious cheating and 40% have plagiarized from online sites.

# 2? Do students really know the guidelines?
Not according to these articles:
• Rethinking the Plagiarism Problem
• Plagiarism Lines Blur for Students in Digital Age

So, what to do?
• Educate students! Duke University makes every freshman undergo training in plagiarism and contends that cheating has decreased because of educating students.
• Send students to plagiarism.org or an interactive Tutorial on Plagiarism and ask for main points they learned.
• Use a free online plagiarism checker. (Do a Google search and get dozens of possible checkers.)
• Use posters and graphics (like the one here) to get the point across.

Infographic on Avoiding Plagiarism source

BAD NEWS CAN BE GOOD NEWS

Thank goodness for Canvas!
• Purdue Struggles with Blackboard Outages
• Canvas Compares Favorably with Other LMS Providers

ONLINE DISCUSSIONS

Ah, the debate continues! What is the worth of online discussion and how do you grade it (the consensus is that if you don’t grade it, don’t expect much participation). So, consider these articles:

• How to Get Students to Participate in Online Discussion
• How to Facilitate Robust Online Discussions

And, the dreaded grading! Fortunately, Canvas includes fantastic discussion grading and rubric tools!
Tips for discussion grading:

- Provide clear evaluation rubrics or criteria when you require discussion postings in your online or hybrid course. (If students do not know specifically what you are looking for, they rarely give it to you. And if you do not know what you are looking for, you can’t tell students!)
- Use the same criteria throughout the course to familiarize students with your expectations.
- Put your criteria into the Canvas rubric system to allow you to simply click the rubric fields to tabulate grades. (tutorial video here)
- Use the Speed Grader when grading discussion posts: it will only show you one student’s post at a time.

This article, How to Write an A+ Discussion Posting, gives online students some pointers about discussion posts.

Some example Rubrics:

- Six Criteria
- University of Wisconsin

Until next time!

Dabareh

Links:
http://www.wnmu.edu/planner/ WNMU Faculty Calendar
http://www.wnmu.edu/facdev/ WNMU Faculty Development site
http://chronicle.com/article/Dozens-of-Plagiarism- Incidents/133697/ Cheating on Coursera
http://www.katehart.net/2012/06/citing-sources-quick-and-graphic-guide.html Infographic on Preventing Plagiarism
http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2012/05/11/arizona-state-faculty-members-question-handling-plagiarism-allegations Faculty member accused and acquitted of plagiarism
http://uweekly.com/article/college-students-cheat-1318/ Ohio State students survey
http://oedb.org/library/features/8-astonishing-stats-on-academic-cheating Eight Astonishing Stats on Academic Cheating
http://searchenginereports.net/articlecheck.aspx Free online plagiarism checker
http://www.instructure.com/compare-canvas Canvas comparison
http://www.elearners.com/online-education-resources/online-learning/how-to-write-an-a-discussion-posting/ Writing Great Online Discussion Postings
http://www.udel.edu/janet/MARC2006/rubric.html Discussion Rubric 1
http://onlinelearninginsights.wordpress.com/2012/06/22/how-to-get-students-to-participate-in-online-discussions/ Getting Students to Participate
http://onlinelearninginsights.wordpress.com/2012/06/25/how-to-create-robust-discussions-online/ Facilitating Robust Discussions
http://www.wnmuonline.net/vowelld/tutorials/assignmentsrubrics.html Using Rubrics in Canvas to grade