

Transforming the Way We Teach Through E-learning

- Do you want to discover and discuss the latest movements and directions in online course development and see how it can enhance teaching and learning?
- Would you like to learn more about how to create an online learning environment for your students and perhaps put valuable course content online?
- Have you developed online materials, but want to update them to take advantage of our new portal?

If you answered “yes” to any of the above, or have other questions about teaching and learning in an electronic environment, please visit our Center in 201 University Hall and take advantage of the many services that we provide faculty and graduate student instructors.

Increasingly, today’s teaching faculty are relying on e-learning environments as spaces to engage their students in wonderful learning experiences. CTLT staff see this movement of faculty and students to embrace the e-learning environment as a very positive opportunity for us to support faculty in developing and delivering course content that is technology enriched and transformational in nature. Thus, CTLT seminars and consultations cover both the use of development software and “tools” as well as the philosophy behind the use of web materials and components and how they can be used to enhance the teaching and learning process.

With the implementation of the Blackboard portal at BGSU, Blackboard’s course management system has become the software tool of choice for the development of online course materials at the university. The CTLT has prepared over the summer for the following two initiatives to assist faculty with Blackboard:

1. Support for faculty using Blackboard to develop online course materials.
2. Support for faculty in transitioning WebCT courses to the Blackboard platform.

Other tools and software may be used in tandem with Blackboard for development of online course components. Examples include MS Word, MS PowerPoint, Dreamweaver, Photoshop, HTML, digital video and audio, Adobe Acrobat, scanning, CD burning, and image manipulation. Support for the learning of these tools as well as support for learning how to successfully integrate tools, strategies, and hardware into your e-learning strategy can be found within the workshops, seminars and consultations that CTLT offers throughout the year.

Whether you are just getting started in the world of e-learning or are a veteran online course instructor, the CTLT is available to assist you.

Three easy ways to schedule a consultation and/or register for a CTLT seminar:

1. Call the Center at (419) 372-6898.
2. Send an email message to Kris Sautter at ksautte@bgsu.edu.
3. Register online for a seminar at: www.bgsu.edu/offices/ctlct/workshopreg.html.

For additional information about e-learning offerings and other workshops, visit our website at www.bgsu.edu/offices/ctlct.

Workshops

Online Tools

Using Blackboard to Develop Online Courses

Th	August 29	9:00-11:00
T	September 10	9:00-11:00
W	September 18	9:00-11:00
W	October 30	9:00-11:00

Creating and Moderating an Online Quiz

T	October 8	9:00-11:00
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Effective Use of Online Communication Tools

Th	October 24	9:00-11:00
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Creating Online Course Materials with Dreamweaver

W	September 25	9:00-11:00
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Introduction to HTML

W	October 2	9:00-11:00
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Presentation

Using Powerpoint for Effective Classroom Presentation I

Th	September 12	9:00-11:00
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Using Powerpoint for Effective Classroom Presentation II

F	September 27	9:00-11:00
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Rich Media

Introduction to Digital Photography

M	September 9	10:30-11:30
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Making Screen Movies using SnapzPro

Th	September 12	1:30-3:00
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Introduction to Slide/Negative and Flatbed Scanning

M	September 16	1:30-2:30
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Making a DVD using iDVD

Th	September 19	10:00-11:30
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Navigating the Information World

F	September 13	9:00-12:00
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Th	October 10	1:00-4:00
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W	November 13	11:00-2:00
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Tenure and Promotion Portfolios

F	September 27	11:30-1:00
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W	October 9	11:30-1:00
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Th	October 24	10:30-12:00
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Notes & News

E-learning: Transforming the Way We Learn

The New Academic Year

Welcome to the Fall semester at BGSU! CTLT is looking forward to working with you in a myriad of ways during the semester. Drop in and visit us at your convenience or register for one of our many workshops and events. You will find that our Center has grown to reflect the kinds of support faculty have asked for in the area of teaching and learning. Each year, we start out with a new theme that helps guide one of our major initiatives. This year that theme is about e-learning and faculty learning communities. We will write more about the learning communities in upcoming editions. For this newsletter, we would like to focus on the issue of e-learning.

E-learning Impacts How We Teach

E-learning does not necessarily represent a new way of learning. Nor should faculty and administrators worry that e-learning will replace effective methods of learning in the more traditional sense. Instead, we can think of the term e-learning as representing a wide range of learning issues within an electronic, and in most cases digital, environment. At CTLT, e-learning by itself is meaningless unless it is directly associated with issues concerning content and methodology. Perhaps the most common question that we ask ourselves at CTLT about e-learning is how does the electronic environment, and information we share within that environment impact us as both teachers and learners. E-learning for us is also connected to issues regarding information technology, most notably the vast amounts of information being created for and delivered in our ever-expanding electronic environment. In general, we believe that as information technology is transforming the way our university community members think about knowledge and information, so too will our e-learning initiatives at CTLT and BGSU transform how faculty will teach and learn in the future. In this regard, CTLT has been engaged in the design of an e-learning strategic plan that is specifically aligned with the growing informational needs of faculty, and with the informational needs of BGSU community members.

Although our mission at CTLT covers all areas of faculty development, and especially any issue regarding the practice of teaching, we also recognize the impact that technology has on faculty who engage in the art of teaching. As part of our mission at CTLT, we associate e-learning with a teaching/learning environment where faculty discover, analyze, synthesize, contextualize and theorize about information technology as it relates to their teaching.

At the heart of CTLT's e-learning initiative, we have developed a plan to assist faculty in becoming effective developers and users of content that they can deliver in an electronic environment. This includes the blending of strategies and tools used to deliver content to students. For example, we work with faculty to blend resources such as rich media, asynchronous discussion boards, the web, and shared documents within a particular course. We also encourage faculty to blend activities such as online mentoring, scenario-based exercises (SBE's), consulting and case study within an electronic environment. We understand that "blended" approaches yield better learning for students than more traditional e-learning models that rely more readily on self-paced and self taught activities.

Featured Staff Member:

Kris Sautter

Administrative Assistant



CTLT is excited to announce a new addition, Kris Sautter, to our dynamic staff at CTLT. Kris previously worked for the MOD Program and the Dean's Office in the College of Business. She is multitalented and has experience in scheduling events, classes, assisting students with their college schedules, and in a variety of support software. As an administrative assistant at CTLT, Kris will be the first point of contact for all visitors to CTLT. She is responsible for such duties as managing the front office, working with vendors, budget support, scheduling events and consultations, student employment, the CTLT newsletter, and secretary for the Advisory Board.

