Linked Courses

Getting the Most out of Your Linked Courses at BGSU

This semester many of you are enrolled in two or more linked courses. What this means is that many students in a class will be taking at least one other course with other students in the same major. In some cases you may find that most of the students taking one class with you are taking another class with you. In other cases, you will recognize only a few students in that other class.

Linking classes in this way is actually a pretty complicated process; the Registrar’s office, faculty, and administrators must all spend a lot of time in scheduling and tracking these classes. This might tell you that the University regards these classes as special and especially important for first-year students.

So why go to all that trouble?

Research shows that when students share social and classroom experience, they do better both socially and academically than do students who don’t have these shared experiences. Linked courses give you the opportunity to hit the ground running both in terms of forming friendships with others in your major or interest area and in terms of academic success. Because you get to know people in your classes, you may find that you learn more and have more fun.

But you can’t take advantage of these opportunities if you are passive. You have to reach out to your instructor and your fellow students to get the most out of your linked courses. Here are some ideas of things you can do to make the most out of this experience.

- Whether online or face-to-face, help one another explore the connections between the classes you are taking. There could be connections in content, assignments, and/or the skills you are developing.
- Find out who might be interested in forming study groups. You can form groups for single tests, assignments or projects, or you can form groups that endure for the entire semester.
- Connect with classmates on social media.
- Take the time to introduce yourself to some (or preferably all) of these individuals.
- Form online discussion groups to help and support one other.
- Look around and identify as many people as possible who are in your other linked classes.
- Make use of your instructor as a resource for making these connections.

Get Involved! You Won’t Regret It

If you and your classmates discover additional ways to get the most out of these courses, share them HERE and we will share them with both current and future students.