Information Session
for Potential Online Students

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Online Learning

• What is online learning?
• What does an online course look like?
• How students can be better prepared for learning online?
WHAT IS ONLINE LEARNING?

• 24x7 access
• Anywhere with Internet Connection
• Cover the same materials as those in an on-campus class.
• Scheduled on a semester basis with a beginning date and ending date.
• Within a time block (week/unit), there are reading, homework, project, or exams. You are required to submit the required work by a certain date.
• Guided by your professor, you read textbook or supplemental materials, do homework, and submit your work by a certain time.
Two Most Frequently Asked Questions About Online Learning

- How much time does it take?
  - You may spend more time working on your online classes due to intensive self-driven course work and technological troubleshooting.

- How often do I go online?
  - Your professors will indicate how often they expect you to log-in.
  - Plan on visiting your online class several times a week to check for new emails or new announcements and participate in new discussions.
  - You may read textbook or complete your assignments off line but need to submit assignments online by a deadline.
WHAT DOES AN ONLINE COURSE LOOK LIKE?

- Course Menu
- Links
  - Syllabus
  - Discussions
  - Tests
  - Journal Review
  - Mail
  - Announcement
  - My Grades
- Content
  - Objectives
  - Key Concepts
  - Lecture Notes
An Online Course - Syllabus

- Contact Information
- Objectives
- Outlines/Schedule
- Evaluation
- Grading Range
- Assignments
An Online Course – Course Content

- For each chapter
  - Outlines
  - Objectives
  - Key Concepts
  - Lecture Notes
An Online Course – Weekly Assignments

- Learning Modules
- Week (Unit)
  - Instruction
  - Discussion
  - Exam
  - Project
  - Notes
  - Web Sites

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**Week 1 Assignments**

**Week 1: Assignments**

1. Purchase *textbook* from MxCC bookstore (860-34).
   *Textbook: Essentials of Understanding Psychology, Feldman*

2. Orientation
   - Get familiar with Blackboard interface: Click.
   - For first time online students, you may attend:
     - Online [orientation](#) is also available.

3. SmarterMeasure (READI) Test
   You are to take a self-assessment test, SmarterMeasure [READI](#).
   After taking the test, you will evaluate the results based on your weaknesses (Yellow or Red bar in the test result). In the next class you need to post the summary report on the Discussion.
An Online Course - Discussions

- Discussions
- Forums
- Answer questions
- Respond to students
An Online Course - Discussions

Forum: Week 3 Discussions - Chapter 2

Organize Forum Threads on this page and apply settings to several or all threads. Threads are listed in date order.

Create Thread  Grade Forum
An Online Course - Assignment

- Submit files – project, paper, etc.
An Online Course - Exams

Sample Exam - Not Graded
Use this exam to practice or test your computer before taking an actual exam.

Exam 1 (Chapters 1-4) - Available 10/1 - 10/7
56 multiple choice questions and 4 essay questions. Although you can log out and come back, your test needs to be submitted by midnight today.

Please do not complete this test using a mobile device.

Exam 2 (Chapters 5-8) - Available 10/29 - 11/7
56 multiple choice questions and 2 essay questions. Although you can log out and come back, your test needs to be submitted by midnight today.

Please do not complete this test using a mobile device.
An Online Course – Exams

Question 1

A relatively permanent change in behavior brought about by experience is called

- maturation.
- learning.
- development.
- instinct.

Question 2

1.5 points

Save Answer
An Online Course – Mail

- Private communication with your instructor
An Online Course – Announcement

- Reminders and updates.
An Online Course – My Grades

- Check your grades often to be informed of your performance.

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<th>Alignments</th>
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<th>Time</th>
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<td>Welcome to this class. Should you need help, please let me know.</td>
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<td>Clearly answered the questions by citing textbook discussion. Your response to Jennifer is quite brief. -1</td>
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HOW CAN STUDENTS BE BETTER PREPARED FOR LEARNING ONLINE?

- Registration – self assessment
  - Take a SmarterMeasure test
  - Access to computer and Internet

- Decision making
  - Whether to take an online course
  - The number of courses to take

- Getting ready
  - Go through an online orientation
  - Attend a campus orientation
Registration – Self Assessment

- Take a SmarterMeasure test to assess your readiness
  - [http://www.mxcc.commnet.edu/Content/READI.asp](http://www.mxcc.commnet.edu/Content/READI.asp)
- **Personal Attributes**
  - Self-motivation, self-discipline, time management, study strategies.
  - Availability of time
- **Technology**
  - Internet navigation
  - File management – organize files, upload/download files.
  - Word processor – create/type/save a file.
- **Reading Comprehension**
- **Typing speed and accuracy**
- **Learning style**
- **Access to a computer/Internet**
  - A reliable computer (PC-less than 3 years old)
  - High speed connection
Decision Making

- Whether to take an online course?
- How many online courses to take?
  - Self-check
    - A relatively new computer
    - High speed Internet connection
    - Self-motivated and self disciplined
    - A good reader
  - Availability of time
    - Spring/Fall
      - 10-15 hours/Week - 3-credit course
    - Summer - 6 weeks session
      - 20-30 hours/Week - 3 credit course
    - Winter or Summer - 4 weeks session
      - 5 hours/day - 3 credit courses
Getting Ready

- After registration
  - Go through the online orientation
    - [http://www.mxcc.edu/distance](http://www.mxcc.edu/distance)
      - Click on “Online Orientation”.
        - You will see your course 7 days before the first day of a semester.
        - You may go through parts of the orientation before 7 days in advance.

- Attend a campus orientation
  - If you feel that you need personal assistance in how to navigate your online course and use tools, you may attend a session of campus orientation.
    - [http://www.mxcc.edu/distance](http://www.mxcc.edu/distance)
      - Click on “Campus Orientation”.

Key to Success

- Take a self-assessment test to help you make a wise decision about the number of online courses you will be taking.
- Get prepared before the start of a semester.
- Carefully read all class documents and follow the instructions closely.
- Keep pace with the class reading and assignments.
- Report and resolve technical problems promptly.