Blackboard Orientation Course for first time Online/Hybrid students

INTENDED FOR STUDENTS TAKING AN ONLINE/HYBRID COURSE IN BLACKBOARD FOR THE FIRST TIME

PROJECT 1

Ruben Zamora | EDTC 6325 | JANUARY 22, 2023

Introduction

At the Center for Online Learning & Teaching Technology, we saw a need for an orientation course for those students who have never taken an online/hybrid class before or used the blackboard learning management system. With a self-enrolled blackboard orientation students who want to become familiar with the basics of blackboard can now take part in this course to assist them in learning Blackboard.

This course will guide first time online/hybrid students on how to navigate their blackboard course, communicate with their professor and fellow classmates, use the assignment and test tools as well as locate and seek support for any additional technologies' faculty may use.

It is our expectation that by taking this course, students will be more prepared in taking an online/hybrid course in Blackboard. We hope that by having a more positive experience from the beginning they will not hesitate to take future online/hybrid courses.

Instructional Goal & Objectives

This instructional course will provide students who have never taken an online course in the Blackboard learning management system the necessary skills to navigate and use the more common tools in Blackboard.

Sub Goal 1: Course Content

Students will be able to navigate their blackboard course menu and navigation bar to switch between pages in blackboard.

Completion of this lesson will enable students to:

Objective 1.1: Interpret the Blackboard LMS Course Menu

Objective 1.2: Interpret the Navigation Bar (Course Breadcrumbs)

Objective 1.3: Navigate between courses.

Objective 1.4: Identify commonly used Blackboard Icons

Sub Goal 2: Communication Tools

Students will recognize the different ways to communicate and collaborate in Blackboard by using the different tools Blackboard has.

Completion of this lesson will enable students to:

Objective 2.1: Use the Discussion Board tool.

Objective 2.2: Use the Blogs and Journals tool.

Objective 2.3: Send an email to the Instructors or Students of a course.

Objective 2.4: Use the Wikis Tool

Sub Goal 3: Assignments & Test

Students will experiment with online assignments and tests in Blackboard.

Completion of this lesson will enable students to:

Objective 3.1: Experiment with and complete a test assignment.

Objective 3.2: Examine several types of test questions in Blackboard by taking various practice exams.

Objective 3.3: Take a practice survey.

Objective 3.4: Download and take practice test using the Respondus Lockdown Browser tool.

Sub Goal 4: Other Technologies

Students will learn what other technologies professors may incorporate into their courses and where to go to seek additional help for them.

Completion of this lesson will enable students to:

Objective 4.1: Identify and join a collaborate session as well as navigate their way around a collaborate session and view previous recordings.

Objective 4.2: Operate basic Panopto video recordings.

Objective 4.3: Access zoom sessions and recordings within Blackboard.

Intended Audience

Our learners will be current UTRGV students with various educational levels ranging from freshman to graduate level students. They will have very little knowledge on using a Learning Management System such as Blackboard or little to no knowledge on taking an online course. There is no specific age range for students taking this course as some students may be returning to higher ed after a lengthy time away from school.

Learning Environment

The learning environment for this instructional unit will be taken online in the Canvas learning management system as it is free to use. The course however will go over the usage of the Blackboard Learning Management System which is used at UTRGV. The course will also be asynchronous, and students can self-enroll and take it at their own pace. All that is needed is for the student to have a reliable source of internet and a computer that can handle web-based applications.

Summary

To summarize, this instructional course will teach our students who may not have knowledge in Blackboard to navigate their way around a Blackboard course at UTRGV. Although they may not learn every single tool Blackboard has to offer, it will cover the more crucial tools needed to survive an online/hybrid course.