

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
Integration of Online Learning in Schools

EDIT 561
Teaching with Telecommunications
(1 credit hour)
NET

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COURSE DESCRIPTION: Explores and develops expertise with the various aspects of telecommunications tools as well as to model the ways in which these tools can be used for personal learning and for integration into the teaching/learning process. The course will address email, the Internet, the World Wide Web, and online databases.

NATURE OF COURSE DELIVERY: This course is delivered online using asynchronous communication tools. The course is structured around class projects, discussions and activities, and participation in a series of model lessons designed to reflect strategies for the integration of telecommunications with the teaching/learning process. Using this collection of activities, the methodology of the course seeks to build clear bridges between technology know how and classroom practice.

LEARNER OUTCOMES

This course is designed to enable students to:

1. Develop comprehensive understanding of the mechanics associated with a series of telecommunications tools including email, listservs, bulletin boards, the World Wide Web, the Internet, uploading and downloading information from a variety of sources, and processes for connecting computers to networks (i.e. LAN's); **I-A, I-B**
2. Use a series of telecommunications tools to support their own learning and their professional development; **I-B, V-A, V-B, V-C, V-D**
3. Understand curricular and instructional models related to telecommunications and student learning; **II-A, II-B, II-C, II-D, II-E, III-A, III-B, III-C, III-D, VI-A, VI-B, VI-C, VI-D, VI-E**
4. Design at least one lesson for their grade and/or subject matter interests for each of the telecommunications tools. **II-A, II-C, IV-A, IV-B, IV-C, VI-A, VI-B, VI-C, VI-D, VI-E**

* Coding in **bold** reflects ISTE NETS Standards for all teachers.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Integration of Technology in Schools Online Certificate program is guided by the International Society for Technology Education's National Educational Technology Standards

for Teachers (NETS for Teachers). These standards are addressed iteratively throughout the 36 credit hour program of which this course is a required component. The NETS for Teachers can be accessed at http://www.iste.org/Content/NavigationMenu/NETS/ForTeachers/2008Standards/NETS_for_Teachers_2008.htm, and a printed version is distributed during the first class of the semester. The NETS for Technology Leaders are added to the professional standards during the final 12 credit hours of the program – again addressed iteratively throughout course assignments, activities, and topics.

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. Norton, P., & Sprague, D. (2001). *Teaching With Technology*. Needham, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS, PERFORMANCE-BASED ASSESSMENTS, AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

A. Requirements

1. Participation is mandatory, as discussions, readings and activities are important parts of the course.
2. Each student is expected to complete all readings and participate in all discussions.
3. Each student is expected to participate in and complete all projects.
4. Students who must miss online activities are responsible for notifying the instructor (preferably in advance) and for completing any revised assignments, readings, and activities.
5. All assignments must be completed electronically. Assignments are to be submitted on the date due. Late assignments will not be accepted without making prior arrangements with the instructor.

B. Performance-based assessments

1. Portfolio (10 points): Throughout the certificate program, students will be required to create and continually revise a professional portfolio. This portfolio should not be a collection of what the student has done, but rather a reflection of what they have learned. A section will be added to the portfolio reflecting student learning related to telecommunications as it relates to the teaching/learning process. **Performance-based outcome for objective 2.**
2. Telecommunications Lesson Plan (20 points): Students will create a lesson plan which includes some aspect or aspects of telecommunications as part of the overall design. A format for the lesson plan will be provided to students in class. **Performance-based outcome for objectives 3 & 4.**
3. WebQuest (10 points): With a partner, students will create a WebQuest, prepare it with Netscape Gold, and place it on the Internet. The WebQuest will follow guidelines presented in students' readings. **Performance-based outcome for objectives 1, 3, & 4.**
4. Class Participation (10 points): The class depends heavily on class participation and completion of in class activities. Points will be awarded for participation and completion of these activities.

5. Mentor-Mentee Discussions (50 points): On-going email discussions with mentor about the activities and connection to professional practice are an integral part of this course.

C. Criteria for evaluation

Since this is a graduate level course, high quality work is expected on all assignments and in class. Points for all graded assignments will be based on the scope, quality, and creativity of the assignments. All assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late assignments will not be accepted without making arrangements with the instructor.

Points will be assigned to all graded assignments using a rubric process. Both class participants and the course instructor will be involved in assessment of graded assignments. Prior to the due date for any assignment, the student will participate in the development of an assessment rubric. This rubric will result from a discussion of applicable course objectives and an elaboration of qualities and components associated with excellence in completion of the assignment.

When assignments are presented on the designated due date, class participants and the instructor will complete an assessment of the assignment using the rubric created in class. Class participants' ratings on the rubric will be averaged. Then the class participants' average will be averaged with the instructor's ratings on the rubric to compute a final point value for assignments. In this way, the development of the rubric will inform the final completion of the assignments as well as serve as the instrument for assessment and determination of points awarded.

WebQuest

Criteria	Well Planned and Articulated 2	Present but Needs Elaboration 1	Unclear or Weak Links 0
1. My WebQuest is clearly linked to curriculum standards.			
2. My WebQuest has a well developed, clearly articulated Introduction, Task, and Process.			
3. My WebQuest has a robust and appropriate set of resources and the links to resources from my web page work.			
4. My WebQuest presents a clear, appealing web page design. My use of color, graphics, and fonts is appropriate and conducive to learning.			
5. My WebQuest is well edited for spelling, grammar, and readability.			

D. Grading scale

Requirements	Percentage
Portfolio	10%
Telecommunications Lesson Plan	10%
WebQuest	20%
Participation	10%
On-Going Discussion with Mentor	50%

Grade	Point Range
A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	86-89
B	80-85
C	70-79
F	69-below

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Student Expectations

1. Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code [See <http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu/honorcode/>].
2. Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester [See <http://ods.gmu.edu/>].
3. Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing [See <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/1301gen.html>].
4. Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
5. Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
6. Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.

Campus Resources

7. The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students' personal experience and academic performance [See <http://caps.gmu.edu/>].

8. The George Mason University Writing Center staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing [See <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>].

The College of Education & Human Development is committed to the following five values: collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles. <http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, Graduate School of Education, please visit our website [See <http://gse.gmu.edu/>]

PROPOSED CLASS SCHEDULE

Class	Class Topics	Weekly Assignments
Week One	An Introduction to the Internet, WWW, etc. The World's Great – an email activity Use Internet to construct an evaluation checklist for Internet sites Using Search Engines – carpet Present the sites you found An Internet Scavenger Hunt	Read Norton & Sprague chapter Bring two blank disks to class each night Internet Assignment: Complete your conversation with the Great Ones from Beyond. Bring a one paragraph summary.
Week Two	Discussion of Readings Finish Scavenger Hunt An Introduction to Townhall Introduction to WebQuests Complete Viajamos WebQuest	Internet Assignment: Sign onto mason.gmu.edu/~pnorton/class.htm Complete assignment for the day.
Week Three	Discussion of Readings Review other online WebQuests Begin working on your own WebQuest Introduction to Netscape Composer	Begin thinking about a WebQuest – Start Writing the Parts Work on lesson plan Internet Assignment: Sign onto mason.gmu.edu/~pnorton/class.htm Complete assignment for the day.
Week Four	Discussion: Design an Evaluation Rubric for WebQuests Work on WebQuest	Work on lesson plan Work on WebQuest Complete Telecommunications section of portfolio Internet Assignment: Sign onto mason.gmu.edu/~pnorton/class.htm Complete assignment for the day.
Week Five	Lesson Plans Due Portfolio Due Finish and Publish WebQuest Use rubric to assess WebQuests Share Portfolios	