


Personalizing the “Look” of Your Blackboard Course



Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center

www.facdev.niu.edu

Objectives for this Workshop

- Review basic interface design principles
- Personalize the course navigation buttons within Blackboard
- Create a customized course banner for use in Blackboard

Foundational Considerations

- While the visual look of your course is important, content and structure is more important than aesthetics
- Don't begin the interface design until you've built your course structures

Main ID Elements in Blackboard

- Course navigation menu buttons
- Course banner

Course Banner

- What images or “looks” identify with your discipline or particular course?
 - Optimum size
 - Height – 100 pixels or less
 - Width – 700 pixels or less
- Find a banner image you like
 - Online
 - Other sources?

Course Banner – cont.

- Edit an existing banner
 - Microsoft Paint
- Create your own banner
 - <http://www.coolarchiv.com/logogen.cfm>
 - <http://www.cwu.edu/~websolutions/banners/>
- Create your own banner
 - Microsoft Paint
 - Microsoft PowerPoint

Course Buttons

- Match to colors in course banner
- Keep color contrast in mind

Upcoming workshops...

- Log-on to www.facdev.niu.edu for a complete listing and to register online