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Two sides of the coin: Preparing students for online learning

Session presentation notes and slides are available at: <http://www.niu.edu/~jrhode>

The following links were provided during this presentation by Jason Rhode at the 2005 SLATE Conference:

Before journeying down the road...

Student success: What makes for a successful online student?

Illinois Online Network - identifies resources to help students self-assess online readiness. Contains articles, a student preparedness survey and additional links to other surveys.

Instructor success: What makes for a successful online facilitator?

Illinois Online Network - identifies basic criteria for a successful online instructor

Predictors of performance in the virtual classroom

Wang and Newlin discuss methods for identifying students who may be at risk in the online learning environment.

Preparing e-learners for online success

Watkins addresses the demands of online learners and instructors lists some important aspects of a successful learner preparation initiative.

Core rules of netiquette

Essential aspects of online communication for learners and instructors to be familiar with

Netiquette home

Links to summary and detailed information pertaining to netiquette

Netiquette book online

Online edition of Virginia Shea's book, *Netiquette*.

Netiquette quiz

Quiz designed to test a user's knowledge of network etiquette, aka "netiquette"

Online readiness quizzes: Students

Three levels of readiness

Three key considerations when assessing the readiness of students for online learning

Self-review for students

A self-review contains questions students should ask themselves before taking an online course. This is one example of a survey an instructor might use.

Example technology checklist

A checklist such as this can be utilized by students to ensure that they have access to the required technology prior to beginning an online course.

Technology skills survey [Word file]

Brief survey that students can complete to self-assess their technology skills (These questions could be presented using a survey within the LMS).

Student self-assessments - NIU

Online readiness and technology requirements surveys for prospective online students.

Online readiness quizzes: Instructors

Is Online Teaching for Me?™ Self-evaluation Quiz

There are many guides to help potential students determine if distance learning is appropriate for them.

OnlineLearning.net has developed this quiz to help potential instructors answer the same question. OnlineLearning.net is an online supplier of professional development courses. After answering the quiz questions, a recommendation and analysis is immediately returned based on the answers submitted.

Does your teaching style suit the online environment?

This self-assessment will help you determine your teaching style and whether or not it is conducive to teaching in the online context.

Supporting documents / materials

Learner support agreement

This PDF document is a sample agreement an instructor might require students to sign before taking an online course. It lays out your expectations and requirements for the course.

Additional links & misc. related resources

Online teaching links: Distance Education Clearinghouse

This collection of resources for online instructors compiled by the University of Wisconsin Extension provides links to a wealth of additional helpful information.