Teaching with Technology

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niu.edu/facdev • niu.edu/blackboard

Agenda, for the Hour

• Why We Use Technology
• Fundamental Tech @ NIU
  – Your Account IDs
  – Office 365
• HANDS-ON: What you need, to get started in Bb
  – Customizing the Course Menu
  – Adding Content, Assignments
  – Grading
  – Communicating with your Students
• Other available tech, resources @ NIU

Why We Use Technology

Increase efficiency
Solve problems
Promote learning

Account IDs

Z-ID
• Students
• Student-related email
  – E.g., Blackboard Announcements, Email

A-ID
• Faculty/Staff (TAs)
• Separate email account!
• Can be used for teaching responsibilities
  – Differs by department, supervisor

Need help accessing? 815-753-8100 • password.niu.edu

Office 365 – Accessing

Access at o365.niu.edu
Office 365 – Web, or Apps

- Work from web, or download apps
  - NIU Outlook Email on Mobile Device

Office 365 – Using Skype?

Provide Guidelines
- Your availability times
- Your response time
- If your calendar is current
- Appropriate topics

Manage Your Presence
- Set availability
- Log out when unavailable
- Keep Calendar permissions at default (availability times only)
- Create Signatures in Outlook for quick email responses

Hands-on w/ Blackboard

For those not attending this session, see Teaching Assistant Quick Guide, available at: facdev.niu.edu/bbtaguide

Other Tech @ NIU – Smart Classrooms

- Computer, projector, document camera
  – Touch-capable monitor, with annotation feature
- Request your own software with AnywhereApps
- List of locations: niu.edu/doit/services/desktop/rooms.shtml

Other Tech @ NIU – Anywhere Apps

- Apps available in the “cloud”
- Course-specific, based on enrollment
  – E.g., SPSS for certain statistics classes
- To request an app for your course:
  Software Installation Request Form
  https://ssl.niu.edu/app/itsforms/
- Log in at: anywhereapps.niu.edu

Other Tech @ NIU - Clickers

- In-class polling
- Instant feedback
- Low-stakes quizzes
- Device… or mobile app
- Training online:
  https://www.turningtechnologies.com/support/turningpoint-cloud
More Resources – Training Workshops

Teaching, Blackboard, Ed-Tech workshops
• E.g., Blackboard I: Intro to Blackboard (Aug. 25th)
  facdev.niu.edu/gtaprograms

BONUS: Graduate Teaching Assistant certificate
• TAO is the first piece! ;)
• More info: niu.edu/facdev/ta/tacert.shtml

More Resources – Teach w/ Bb site

Blackboard tutorials, guides, walkthroughs: niu.edu/blackboard/

Questions?

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