Sample Syllabus for Sample Course

Course Description

This Sample Course site has been set up in conjunction with the Student Orientation to Online Learning module. It is a sample course and reflects the interface you, as a student, will see when your course contains a public course web component.

You are welcome to look around, get a feel for the navigation and layout, and become accustomed to using the public course site and MyLutherNet for your online courses.

Objectives

The online orientation is divided into four units

Unit 1 - Your Computer

You will learn what your computer needs to successfully access your online course and utilize Luther Seminary's resources remotely. You will also learn about working with the Luther Seminary network where you will use email and HomeLab, access your campus file storage and transfer files to and from your network drives with SNAP.

Unit 2 - Course Web Sites

You will learn about the two web components of your course - MyLutherNet (Luther Seminary's academic portal system) and the public course web site. You will learn how to access, log in and use MyLutherNet to participate in your online course. You will also learn how and where to access the public course web site and how it works in conjunction with MyLutherNet.

Unit 3 - Library

You will learn how to search for resources in MARTIN (the library's online catalog), how to access materials and books remotely, and how to access, search for and print resources from the databases Luther Seminary subscribes to. You will also become acquainted with two research software tools: BibleWorks and EndNote and how to access them remotely.
Unit 4 - Learning Well

You will learn some key characteristics specific to online learners. Based on these characteristics, you will be able to consider ways you might adapt your learning style, develop new habits and hone existing ones to make your online course a success.

Because taking an online course can, at times, feel isolating, you will also learn about ways you can stay connected to the Luther Seminary community even if you are not on campus.

Texts

Here you would find information about required texts for your course. You would be able to order them directly from the Luther Seminary Bookstore.

If you'd like to learn more about online learning, you may wish to consult the resources found in Unit 4 of the Student Orientation to Online Learning.

Etiquette

Online Communication

Online communication limits the way you can interact with others. Face-to-face, we have the luxury of nonverbal cues to accompany our words. Online, we must communicate without eye contact, hand gestures or voice inflection.

Some simple rules to keep in mind (from Doug Liberati, "Building Successful Online Relationships," in Getting the Most from Online Learning, ed. George Piskurich, pg. 131-144, Pfeiffer, 2004).

1. You are dealing with people. With email, discussion threads, and chat rooms, it's easy to forget this important fact. Personal attacks have no place in a positive learning environment.
2. Communicate. Write clearly and concisely. Say what you mean and then stop.
3. Practice patience. In asynchronous environments, your peers may not be available to respond to your post or question immediately after you submit it.
4. Respect other's time and bandwidth. Be sure that what you are posting or sending is worth the time and consideration of others.

Interacting in MyLutherNet

Threaded Discussion Forums

- Be prepared - do the assigned readings and writing.
- Read your classmates' posts and respond thoughtfully.
- Be willing to share your experiences.
• Be an active participant. Contribute more to the conversation than "I agree" or "Good point."

Live Chat

• Be prepared.
• Think before you type.
• Follow any instructions given by your professor.

Technology

Please visit Unit 1 of the Student Orientation to Online Learning for information about what your computer needs to successfully participate in your online course.

Grading

All courses at Luther Seminary can be taken either for a letter grade (A, B, C, etc.) or on a Pass/Marginal/Fail basis.

Additional grading information can be found on the Registrar's web site.