FCLD’s Jumpstart Seminars (August & September)

The Faculty Center for Learning Development (FCLD) offers ongoing seminars and instruction on a variety of instructional technology, including Blackboard, the University’s learning management system (LMS). FCLD will be offering the following seminars during the month of August and early September. Unless otherwise indicated, all seminars are held in the Woods Classroom in Harrison University Libraries. Faculty interested in attending should register by emailing fcld@hartford.edu or calling (860) 768-4661.

Getting Started with Blackboard/Blackboard Drop-in
Tuesdays, 12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Woods Classroom or FCLD Lab

Every Tuesday, we offer an orientation and drop-in clinic for Blackboard, the application used to put courses online. If you’re new to Blackboard, you’ll learn strategies for organizing your Blackboard course, review the many tools and features available in Blackboard, and start adding course content items like your syllabus and web links to your course. Be sure to bring a digital version of your syllabus and/or other course materials; this is designed as a hands-on seminar. If you’re using Blackboard already, feel free to drop by with a question or for troubleshooting.

SafeAssign/Assignment Tool Integration
Friday, September 14, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

In this session, we will discuss how to use the integrated SafeAssign (plagiarism detection) tool that is embedded into Blackboard Assignments. This integration makes life simpler for students and faculty to view SafeAssign reports, to use them as a learning tool, and makes grading much easier for faculty. Also, learn about Designated and Anonymous grading options that are embedded into the Blackboard Assignments tool.

Grade Center: Do It Now!
Thursday, September 6, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Come and learn how setting up your Blackboard Grade Center early in the semester has numerous advantages. Doing so earlier means you can:

- Have course grades calculated automatically throughout the course.
- Help students keep track of their own progress throughout the course.
- Have information ready at your fingertips when it's time to submit mid-semester or final grades.
- Weight grades and drop lowest scores quickly and easily.
**Going Mobile with Blackboard**  
Friday, September 7, 12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Blackboard has its own suite of applications for the Learn experience: the “Blackboard” app (for students) and the “Blackboard Instructor” app. The Blackboard app grants instant mobile access to course content, discussions, etc. and enables students to access their online classes in a simple, easy to use app. The Blackboard Instructor app allows instructors to access their grade centers anywhere, streamlining workflows and making their time more productive. Please join us and explore these Blackboard apps.

**Skype for Business**  
Wednesday, September 12, 2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Included in the recent upgrade to Office365 for all faculty, staff, and students, is the application Skype for Business. Skype is an easy-to-use collaboration tool that provides instant messaging and the ability to do person-to-person and person-to-group calls with audio and/or video free of charge. Instructors and students can connect with others around the world for office hours, collaborative projects, presentations, or to practice speaking foreign languages. In this session, we will show you how to get started with Skype for Business, how to add people, create groups and how to start a conference call.

**Ensemble Next Steps: Captions, Student Submissions & Playlists**  
Wednesday, September 12, 2:30 – 3:00 p.m.

*Prerequisites: Getting Started with Ensemble Session or prior use of Ensemble. Ensemble account is required.*

Did you know that you can upload videos to Ensemble from your phone, or have your students submit video and audio files to stream via Ensemble? In this session, we will demonstrate how to upload videos on mobile devices; create playlists and stream them in Blackboard; create digital dropboxes for students to send instructors their videos for grading and/or to share their videos with the class; as well as how to caption videos uploaded to Ensemble. This session is for Faculty or Staff who are already using Ensemble.