Blackboard Spring 2017

At the start of the semester remember you can request a course through Faculty Center at:

http://facultycenter.cornell.edu/

For information on setting up a course site visit:

http://bbhelp.cit.cornell.edu/course-site-creation/

You can also copy content from a previous course site, instructions available at:

http://bbhelp.cit.cornell.edu/copy-reuse-content/

Student access to courses is available the week instruction starts. View dates at:

http://bbhelp.cit.cornell.edu/course-site-creation/#bbdates

New Academic Unit, the Center for Teaching Innovation

Over the summer, the new Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education, Rebecca Stoltzfus, and the Provost’s Fellow for Pedagogical Innovation, Julia Thom-Levy, were announced.

One of the first priorities was the creation of a new academic unit, comprised of all staff from the current Center for Teaching Excellence and those within Academic Technologies who focus primarily on pedagogy. This decision was made with input from faculty and staff from across the University. Over the next few months, this new unit, the Center for Teaching Innovation (CTI) will be formed, under the direction of Thom-Levy.

With the creation of the new Center, Cornell’s faculty and instructional professionals will have a single point of entry to receive support and discuss ideas concerning instructional design and course production, teaching excellence and assessment, and instructional technology.

Critically important to the success of the new Center will be the leadership of an Executive Director. A national search is underway for this position, to be filled in spring 2017. Until then, both Academic Technologies and the Center for Teaching Excellence will continue in their existing capacities.

We are looking forward to continuing existing projects, and building new collaborations!
Web Conferencing in the Classroom

Cornell hosts several tools that can provide on-demand collaborative web meetings and conferences. Learn these tools and how they can help you hold class online, present webinars, or provide online office hours.

Friday, January 20, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Classroom Technologies

This training aims to give the Cornell community a broad awareness of classroom technologies. We will demonstrate general hardware and software tools.

Monday, January 23, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Zoom online web conferencing tool

Zoom is a full-featured online web and video conferencing service. Like WebEx, it offers online meetings and webinars. Features include polling, breakout rooms, and a wide variety of audio options, including unlimited toll calling and toll-free dialing options.

Free for students, faculty, and staff.

Learn more and activate your account today.

http://www.it.cornell.edu/services/zoom
Establishing Quality Review Process for Online Courses

Academic Technologies and the Center for Teaching Excellence have partnered with the School of Continuing Education and Summer Sessions (SCE) to develop a quality review process for online courses offered by SCE during the Cornell Summer and Winter sessions. Associate Professor and Acting Dean of the University Faculty Michael Fontaine was one of the first to complete a review and adjust his course to meet accessibility requirements. “It went very smoothly, and I appreciated that no one made me feel like the content or approach of my course was being questioned,” said Fontaine.

“Academic Technologies has spearheaded the updating of the School of Continuing Education and Summer Sessions’ online course offerings to make certain we are complying with ADA requirements,” said Associate Dean Charles W. Jermy of the School of Continuing Education and Summer Sessions. “SCE has been offering credit and non-credit online learning options for more than 20 years as part of its mission to offer students the chance to study any subject from any place at any time. These online courses are an increasingly popular option for students and SCE truly appreciates this most collegial of partnerships with Academic Technologies.”

For this effort the nationally-recognized Quality Matters (QM) Rubric (https://www.qualitymatters.org/qa-resources/rubric-standards) was used to assess how well existing SCE online courses met specific metrics such as usability, accessibility, and level of student-student and student-instructor interaction. An instructional designer worked in partnership with the instructor to review their online course and provide feedback and suggestions for how it can be enhanced.

Cornell Disability Services was also consulted to ensure that accessibility standards are being met. AT has also assisted faculty in captioning course videos, and consulted with them to convert documents to an accessible version, and update other items based on feedback provided. To date, 40 courses have gone through the review process.

“I found it useful,” said Associate Professor of Psychology Vivian Zayas. “It’s important to get feedback from a more objective perspective. I also felt that the review process was a two-way street, and allowed for discussion.”

The review included areas of focus such as accessibility and usability; course activities and learner interaction; as well as overall course organization.

Visit the Cornell University School of Continuing Education and Summer Sessions website for more information:

http://www.sce.cornell.edu/ol

Classroom Technologies

Embed Quiz Questions with Panopto

Panopto, Cornell’s self-service lecture capture tool that is integrated with Blackboard, now includes the ability to embed quiz questions into any recording created with Panopto. This gives instructors the ability to have students answer questions at any point during a recorded lecture.

Question types include true/false, multiple choice, and multiple answer.

Although the quiz results are not automatically placed into Blackboard’s Grade Center, they can be accessed in the Panopto settings panel through the web interface and then entered into the Grade Center manually. Panopto plans to give instructors the ability to download quiz results in a future update. Panopto’s quiz tool also collects some basic data on each question, so instructors can get an idea about which concepts students are having trouble understanding.

More information can be found at:

https://support.panopto.com/articles/Documentation/Quizzing-Feature

Note: It is important to note that you cannot create quizzes for older recordings.

Blackboard Updates

Academic LMS Evaluation

The contract with Cornell’s learning management system (LMS), Blackboard, will be up for renewal on July 1, 2018. This gives Cornell the opportunity to re-assess its learning management needs and evaluate a range of commercial solutions in order to determine the appropriate direction for the academic LMS at Cornell.

The discovery process will involve faculty and stakeholder participation. Interested faculty members are encouraged to get in touch with their associate deans to get involved.

For more information visit:

https://blogs.cornell.edu/lmseval/
Academic Technologies offers many services and resources to support your teaching and learning needs.

**Supported Services**

- Manage your courses online (Blackboard)
- Connect online with webconferencing (Zoom, Blackboard Collaborate)
- Check originality of student work (Turnitin)
- Record and share lectures (Panopto, others)
- Collect data using surveys (Qualtrics)
- Get immediate class feedback with classroom polling (>clicker)
- Use the teaching tools available at our Computing Labs and Academic Technology Center
- Assess student work and grade online (Blackboard, Digication ePortfolios)

**Getting Help**

**Self Help:**
Visit our help sites for how-tos and answers to frequently asked questions!

- pollinghelp.cit.cornell.edu
- bbhelp.cit.cornell.edu
- eportfoliohelp.cit.cornell.edu
- videohelp.cit.cornell.edu
- collabhelp.cit.cornell.edu

**Set up a consultation with an Academic Technologist:**
We provide academic technology consultations to assist in selecting the best technologies to support instructional goals, engage students, enhance lectures, collaborate, and manage large courses.

**Contact the Academic Technology Center.**

- **Web**  atc.cit.cornell.edu
- **Email** acadtech@cornell.edu
- **Call** 607-255-9760, 9am - 5pm, Monday through Friday
- **Walk in** 123 CCC, 9am - 5pm, Monday through Friday

**Sign up for Teach with Tech eNews:**