24/7 Access to Course Readings

by Jean Donham

Many faculty members choose to place articles or book chapters on reserve in the library. However, if you want your students to have 24/7 access to your course readings, consider making them accessible via Moodle.

**Option 1.** Provide in Moodle a link to the persistent URL for an article available in full-text from a database the library owns. For assistance in identifying the persistent URL, contact Holly Martin Huffman in the Academic Media Studio (hmartin@cornellcollege.edu). Because the library pays for subscriptions to databases for student access, there is no copyright implication here at all.

**Option 2.** Upload the article or book chapter as a PDF into Moodle to provide direct access to the article. This option requires that you protect the copyrighted information behind a password and allow no guest logins to your course. In a copyright workshop by staff from IUPUI, the following fair use interpretations were suggested for posting text of articles or book chapters in a course management system:

**Purpose of the Use**
- Materials should be posted on Moodle only to serve the needs of the course.
- Access to materials should be limited by password only for students enrolled in the specific course for which the materials are needed.

**Nature of the Work**
- Post on Moodle only those portions of the work relevant to the educational objectives of the course.
- Fair use applies more narrowly to highly creative works; accordingly, avoid substantial excerpts from novels, short stories, poetry, modern art images, and other such materials.
- "Consumable" materials, such as test forms and workbook pages, probably are not covered here.

**Amount of the Work**
- Materials posted on Moodle will generally be limited to brief works or brief excerpts from longer works. Examples: a single chapter from a book, a single article from a journal.
- The amount of the work placed on reserve should be related directly to the educational objectives of the course, i.e., not more than students will be able to use within the term.

**Effect of the Use on the Market for the Original**
- Try to avoid repeated use of the same materials by the same instructor for the same course.
- Materials posted on Moodle should include a citation of the original source of publication and a copyright notice. The instructor should also advise students that the materials are made available exclusively for use by students enrolled in the course and must not be distributed beyond that limited group.
- Access to materials should be limited by password.
- Moodle should not include any material unless the instructor, the library, or another unit of the educational institution possesses a lawfully obtained copy.
- Materials on Moodle should not include works that are reasonably available and affordable for students to purchase.

These same provisions for copyright apply to course reserves. Instructors are ultimately responsible for copyright compliance.

**Permission to Post Materials**
Permission from the copyright owner is an option for posting materials on Moodle when the above guidelines cannot be met. Instructors are responsible for securing permissions. If specific articles are used repeatedly for the same course by the same instructor, obtaining permission is the safest procedure.

**Course Packs**
Course packs provided through the bookstore provide yet another way for students to access course resources. Copyright clearance is included in the service from the bookstore and fees are calculated into the cost of the course pack.
Web 2.0 (or “What in the world can I do with cool new technology?”)

by Holly Martin Huffman

Is the phrase “Web 2.0” an advertising slogan or a meaningful appellation? The buzzwords that accompany the phrase include “participation, not publishing” (=Blogs), “radical trust” (=Wikis) and “remixability” (=Ajax & RSS). It’s been called “an attitude, not a technology,” and it embraces everything from a new way to create and manage copyright to visions of an expanded democracy filled with “citizen journalists.”

Consider one of the more famous manifestations of Web 2.0: the wiki. A wiki is a collaborative writing/editing environment which lets you see the changes made in a document (and who made the changes). The most conspicuous example is Wikipedia, where everyone can contribute to an encyclopedic storehouse. Now, despite the potential for disinformation, Wikipedia has become a pretty useful resource.

A wiki can be used in the classroom. One Boston professor has replaced the textbooks in his computer management course with a wiki. His students also post potential tests questions on the wiki that the professor uses for the final exams.

At Cornell, Professor Shannon Reed is using individual wikis to house the “Commonplace Books” of her students in a course on John Milton. Within a wiki, each student develops a project open to peer and instructor review.

What else can you do with a wiki? Plan something (a trip or a conference), share something (curriculum, class notes, facts about butterflies or political processes), or even have your students write a textbook/dictionary/grammar handbook for a class. For more ideas or help implementing your ideas, contact the Academic Media Center.

Further Reading:
Ways to Use Wiki in Education at http://www.scienceofspectroscopy.info/edit/index.php?title=Using_Wiki_in_education includes examples of courses that have used wikis.

Romantic Audience Project at Bowdoin College (http://ssad.bowdoin.edu:8868/) focuses on poems, poets, and topics related to Romantic literature.


Test Taking in the Writing Studio

by Mariah Steele

Historically, the Writing Studio has provided space and proctoring for students who need special testing accommodations or to take make-up tests. In response to increasing requests to provide a place for students to take tests, we want to remind faculty of the procedures and policies for arranging test taking for students in the Studio.

Because we have limited resources and increased demand for service to documented students, we must give priority to students with documented disabilities who need to take tests in the Writing Studio. For the most part, this means that we can no longer provide spur-of-the-moment test taking nor can we assure proctoring of make-up tests. To ensure that we are best able to serve students who need special arrangements, we encourage you to do the following:

- Please notify Mariah Steele or Nicole Jackson in advance of the test date.
- Please provide the name of the student and a hard copy of the test.
- Please provide specific details about the accommodations the student needs, based on what is on file with the Registrar.
- Please arrange to retrieve the exam when the student is finished.

Questions? Contact Nicole or Mariah.

Mapping Is for Everyone!

Maps are an important means of communicating quantitative information. Trends are often much more apparent when data are presented visually. I have recently begun investing GIS, or Geographic Information Systems, which is used to create maps from data.

If there is a place for maps in any of your classes, or if you would like more information or examples, please contact me at x4222 or by email at Johanningmeier@cornellcollege.edu.