

Blackboard Quick-Start Guide

How To: Prepare Module Overviews, Course Introduction, and Instructor Introduction

Why: These components help to set expectations for what students will experience during the course.

Steps: Follow the tips and examples, below, for the following:

1. Module Overview
2. Course Introduction
3. Instructor Introduction

1. Module Overview Example:

Tip: For each module, prepare overviews to answer these two questions: (1) Why should students consider the concepts of this module important? (2) How will the activities and course materials in this module be used to achieve the learning goals for the week?

Welcome to Week 1!

The branch of philosophy called 'ethics' is concerned with questions about how human beings ought to live their lives, and about what is 'right' or 'wrong'. In this first week, you will be learning what ethics are and why we study them, the types of ethics and ethical theories, and how religion and secular ethics play a role in how we make decisions. We will also investigate codes of conduct and what it means to make a moral judgment.

There will be quite a bit of information that may be new to you, especially if you do not have any training in ethics. The quiz this week is meant to help you differentiate between the different concepts from this first week. It is important that you do have an understanding of the theories and concepts from this week since they will be the foundation for this course. Don't be discouraged if you find it difficult to apply some of these concepts to real life scenarios. The written assignment is designed to help you learn how to apply some of what you have learned from the reading assignments and the lectures, especially regarding moral judgements based on ethical codes.

2. Course Introduction Example:

Tip: Try to make the course introduction welcoming and inviting.

Welcome to Integrative Health and Wellness Coaching! This course is designed to provide you with an evidence-based and experiential understanding of health and wellness coaching from a holistic health perspective. You will learn the state of the scientific knowledge on health coaching from reading and reviewing empirical research. You will also have the opportunity to practice some of the core coaching competencies through peer coaching sessions.

There will be an ambitious amount of entertaining and informative reading and activities as well as lots of opportunities for class involvement, contribution, and self-development. These activities include website walkabouts, class discussions, podcasts, video demonstrations of coaching skills, and experiential learning and reflection exercises. In contrast, there will be a minimum amount of lecturing, although most modules have a brief PowerPoint presentation to help orient you to the material.

Blackboard Quick-Start Guide

Although this course is not intended to equip you to practice coaching or to call yourself a health and wellness coach, it will provide you with an overview of the major skills and competencies you would cover in detail in a coaching certification training program.

I hope you will find this course informative and enjoyable. I'm looking forward to getting to know each of you and learning about the world of integrative health and wellness coaching together!

3. Faculty Introduction Example:

Tip: Instead of a text introduction like this example, we can help you prepare a video or pod-cast self-introduction. Audio and video can be very engaging and establish a social presence. Also, feel free to include both professional and personal (within limits) highlights in your introduction.

Instructor
Photo

Hello! I'm Dr. John Smith and I'm a Patent Attorney in the Office of Technology Transfer (OTT) of the University of Maryland, Baltimore. I specialize in evaluating, protecting, and commercializing medical devices, emerging technologies, and software developed by researchers and physicians at UMB. Before joining OTT in July 2016, I worked as an engineer and patent attorney in private practice.

After receiving my BS in Engineering in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Michigan, I began a career as a mechanical engineer, developing integrated robotics and material technologies. Subsequently, I earned a JD from Michigan State University. I also serve as a Member of the MSU College of Law IP Advisory Board, and as an Executive Board Member of the University of Michigan Alumni Club.

Outside of the office, I'm an avid cyclist (mountain and road), traveler, and home chef.