

VASSAR moodle

Jeffrey Schneider German Department

What is Moodle?

Moodle is an open source course management system used by an increasing number of higher education institutions around the world and renowned for its flexibility and customizability.

The Syllabus View

Moodle's architecture offers a more flexible design with clear pedagogical advantages, including an interactive syllabus that allows instructors to organize information and activities by days, weeks or units.

Topic outline

LANGUAGE IN MOTION
MR. SCHNEIDER
SPRING 2009

- News Forum
- Office Hours and Contact Information
- Dutchess County School Districts
- Newspaper Articles on Juniata Program
- Calendar Instructions for Google & TimeBridge

1 Thursday, 22 January Introduction

Activities:
What Does Language Learning Mean?

2 Tuesday, 27 January Language and Culture

Readings:
• Claire Kramsch. "The Relationship of Language and Culture." *Language and Culture*. Oxford: Oxford U P, 1998. pp. 3-14. [Moodle]
• Claire Kramsch. "The Privilege of the Nonnative Speaker." *PMLA* 112 (1997): 359-369. [Moodle]

Activities:
What Is Your Favorite Word?

3 Thursday, 29 January Intercultural Learning I

Readings:
• Michael Byram, Bella Gribkova, and Hugh Starkey. *Developing the Intercultural Dimension in Language Teaching*. Languages for Intercultural Communication and Education. Eds. Michael Byram and Alison Phipps. Vol. 1. Strasbourg: Council of Europe, 2002. [Moodle]

Activities:
Intercultural Experiences
Obama Inauguration

Open Source

Moodle is an open-source system, which, among other benefits, enables users like Vassar to tailor it to their own needs by adding and removing specific modules and features or even designing new ones. Blackboard's evolution has been slow to incorporate input from its academic users, and its support team has often been slow to respond to the College's request for assistance. Finally, as an open-source system, Moodle is essentially free, resulting in significant cost savings in the long run, estimated by CIS at least \$40,000 per year and possibly more (based on Blackboard's pricing history).

Moodle at Vassar College

A group of Vassar faculty has been investigating Moodle as an alternative to Blackboard. The faculty pilot testers unanimously found it to be a better alternative to Blackboard and have recommended a campus-wide switch to Moodle.

Ease of Use

Moodle's interface provides better functionality and site management, including adding or removing participants and requiring fewer mouse clicks to execute basic tasks, such as adding readings or modifying a syllabus.

EDUC-296: Language in Motion Program

Moodle • EDUC-296-51-2009B • Forums • First Lesson Plan

Export/Print...

This forum allows everyone to choose whether to subscribe or not
Force everyone to be subscribed
Show/edit current subscribers
Subscribe to this forum

Develop an interactive presentation (either as an individual presenter or with a partner) on a language-culture topic from among the ideas generated (or enthusiastically welcomed) in your discussions with the teachers. You will then present this lesson plan to your language group as a dry-run for a classroom presentation.

Please post your completed worksheet here. If you would like, you can post any materials you would like to use here.

Add a new discussion topic

Discussion	Started by	Replies	Last post
Cumpleanos, Clausuras, y Bodas	Gwen Niekamp	0	Gwen Niekamp Thu, 19 Feb 2009, 09:15 PM
Colonization and North Africa	Alexander Snow	0	Alexander Snow Thu, 19 Feb 2009, 10:15 AM
Gianduiotto di Torino	Gabrielle Kotkov	0	Gabrielle Kotkov Thu, 19 Feb 2009, 04:43 AM
La bise en France	Sara Kemper	0	Sara Kemper Tue, 17 Feb 2009, 08:15 PM
Tango en la Argentina	Lisa Boscov-Ellen	0	Lisa Boscov-Ellen Tue, 17 Feb 2009, 08:09 PM
TV show	Benjamin Creed	0	Benjamin Creed Tue, 17 Feb 2009, 10:17 AM
Election journalism	Benjamin Creed	0	Benjamin Creed Tue, 17 Feb 2009, 10:17 AM
First Lesson - Beijing Photo "Controversy"	Karishma Chanda	0	Karishma Chanda Tue, 17 Feb 2009, 08:30 AM
El Ángel de la Bicicleta	Katherine Jensen	0	Katherine Jensen Tue, 17 Feb 2009, 07:18 AM
first lesson plan-Haitian art	Kayleigh Horn	0	Kayleigh Horn Tue, 17 Feb 2009, 07:18 AM
french pop	Anna Amelia Raff	0	Anna Amelia Raff Tue, 17 Feb 2009, 12:51 AM
Guided Tour of Paris	Estefania Fadul	0	Estefania Fadul Mon, 16 Feb 2009, 09:24 PM

Moodle Docs for this page

Superb Toolsets

Moodle comes with all the same features as Blackboard (e-mail, discussion boards, grading, calendar, ability to post readings) along with several new ones, such as surveys, databases, glossaries, wikis, and blogs. These tools not only give teachers more flexibility, but also allow students to participate more fully on Moodle and in the course.