October 2021 Newsletter

Faculty Survey

Online Course Attendance

The College of Alameda Distance Education Committee is interested in learning about the diverse ways faculty think about attendance in online courses. We will share the results with you in an upcoming newsletter!
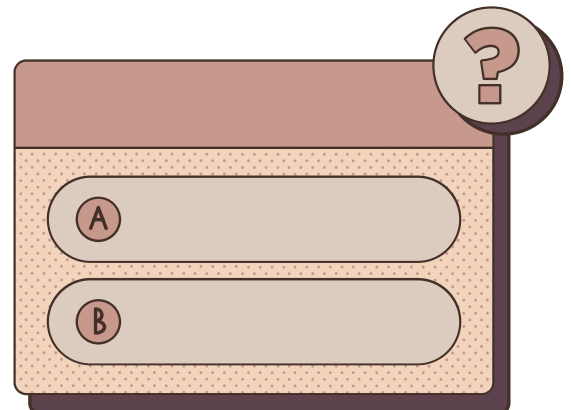
TAKE THE SURVEY HERE!

Midterm Tips

We reached week 8 of Fall semester! As you approach midterms in your classes, you might find the resources below helpful:

- How to Create Quizzes on Canvas
- How to Build Quiz Banks
- Preventing Cheating and Promoting Academic Integrity
- Canvas Guide on the Gradebook
- Best Practices for Grading

Accessibility Office Hours

Need Help Making Your Online Course Accessible?

Peralta Community College District is offering faculty and staff **weekly drop-in office hours with an online accessibility expert**.

Shawn Jordison is an accessibility professional with over a decade of experience working with students with disabilities, assistive technology, and alternate media in the California Community College system. He has reviewed hundreds of online courses for accessibility and remediated tens of thousands of pages for accessibility.

During Shawn's drop-in Zoom office hours you can ask any accessibility questions related to your online courses. You can discuss **images** and **alternate text**, **headers**, **lists**, **video captioning**, and other **Canvas accessibility best practices** - or any other accessibility topic you've got!

Shawn Jordison

Check out a few short videos on Shawn's blog for basics on getting started with accessibility.

Drop-In Office Hours

- WHEN: Fridays from 11:00AM - 12:00PM
- WHERE: https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/98274846282

Recap: October Community of Practice

Eleven faculty members joined our October Community of Practice session for robust discussion about regular substantive interaction (RSI). Highlights of our session appear below.

What is RSI?

In summary, every online instructor is required by law (Chapter 34, §600.2) to meet RSI which stands for:

- **Regular** - instructors communicate with students on a *predictable and scheduled basis*, commensurate with the length of time and the amount of content in the course.
- **Substantive Interaction** - engaging students in teaching, learning, and assessment, consistent with the content under discussion, and also includes *at least two* of the following:
  - Providing direct instruction;
  - Assessing or providing feedback on a student's coursework;
  - Providing information or responding to questions about the content of a course or competency;
  - Facilitating a group discussion regarding the content of a course or competency; or
  - Other instructional activities approved by the institution's or program's accrediting agency.

More RSI Resources

Community of Practice Slide Deck on RSI
RSI General Overview

Join us Next Month!

Our Distance Education Community of Practice meets the first Wednesday of the month from 12:30PM - 1:30PM on Zoom. See the top of the next page for upcoming community practice sessions and topics.

Connect with Us

Community of Practice

Join your Distance Education colleagues in a monthly community of practice session. The goal is to create space for faculty to collaborate regularly, share distance education practices, and advance individual and college goals.

- WHEN: **1st Wednesdays from 12:30PM - 1:30PM.** Remaining Fall dates are:
  - Wed 11/3. Topic: Humanizing the Online Learning Environment
  - Wed 12/1. Topic: Accessibility and Equity
- WHERE: https://cccconfer.zoom.us/my/distance.education

College of Alameda Distance Education Committee

The Distance Education Committee is charged with reviewing and recommending policies, procedures, and practices to achieve academic excellence and success for online students. Learn more on the DE Committee website.

- WHEN: **3rd Wednesdays from 12:30PM - 1:30PM**. Remaining Fall dates are:
  - Wed 10/27*
    - *Note: This meeting was changed to the 4th Wednesday of the month due to the mid-semester flex day on 10/20.
  - Wed 11/17
  - Wed 12/15
- WHERE: https://cccconfer.zoom.us/my/distance.education

Live One-On-One Help

- Call Canvas support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at (844) 592-2199.
- Contact a College of Alameda instructional designer to setup an appointment:
  - Richard Kaeser: Schedule directly through Calendly
  - Nora Mitchell: Schedule directly through Calendly
  - Stefanie Ulrey: Schedule directly through Calendly

Web Resources

- Peralta Faculty Resources Canvas Shell (FRCS)
- College of Alameda DE Faculty Resources
- PeopleSoft User Guides

DE Co-Coordinator Contact Info

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