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IT 501 Technology in Ministry

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Technology in Ministry

IT 501

Fall 2003

Welcome

It is exciting to see what can be done with technology in ministry. Equipment that used to be too expensive for churches is now affordable for even smaller churches. Using technology to reach people that otherwise may not be reached is another incentive. I look forward to exploring with you the ways we can use technology to further Christ's kingdom.

Gracious God, we thank you for your presence with us during this semester. Help us to see ways that we can use technology to be more effective in our ministries for you. Keep it always before us that technology is not a gimmick, but a way to reach others for you. Be with each of us in our individual walk with you. Help us to remember to seek you when the cares and troubles of this world overwhelm us. Amen.

Personal Introduction

Dr. Kenneth A. Boyd
Professor of Instructional Media
Dean of Information Services

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B.A. Ball State University 1971, M.L.S. Ball State University 1973, M.S. Indiana University 1978, M.A.R. Asbury Theological Seminary 1988, Ph.D. Purdue University 1981.

Technology has changed drastically since my arrival at Asbury Theological Seminary as media librarian in 1981. We have come a long way from thermal transparencies and black and white reel to reel video. However, be assured that since technology is constantly changing, I am always learning as we go through each class. I will work actively with you as we move through this course together.

Course Description

IT501 Technology in Ministry (3 credit hours)

An experienced based course focusing on the production and use of print materials, computer graphics and video materials for use in ministry. Foundational skills will be developed in photographic composition, visual design/layout, and instructional design. The course culminates in the preparation of a worship service utilizing technology.

Course Relationship

IT 501 is the prerequisite for two other courses offered in Information Technology: IT 626 Advanced Video Production (3 credit hours) and IT 674 Technology in Ministry Practicum (3 credit hours). IT 627 Computers in Ministry (3 credit hours) is another course offered through Information Technology.

This course is required for the MA in Youth Ministry.

Course Outcomes (Goals and Objectives)

Apply the design principles to the creation of announcements, congregational singing, Scripture, and message outline using PowerPoint or similar presentation software programs.

Apply the principles of photographic composition to photographs or digital images submitted for grading.

Individually, and as a team, identify visual materials to support a message and either locate or produce the appropriate materials.

As a team, integrate technology into an entire worship service using visual support for announcements, Scripture, choruses, sermon outlines, and sermon illustrations.

Module Agenda

Each module will have a devotional. It is best if you wait to view each devotional during its corresponding module. The same can be said for the video lectures and reading assignments. Of course, your discussion questions may come from any of these sources.

For each module there will be discussion questions posted for your response. You will post a response to each question and then also respond to at least two other responses by your classmates.

Since the modules are two weeks long you will have two weeks to complete your readings, viewings and assignments.

Expectations

What you can expect of me:

1. Prompt replies to questions and postings.
2. Interaction, participation, and direction in the ongoing discussions that will occur over the course of the semester.
3. Prompt feedback and assessment on assignments.
4. Occasional bloopers as I continue to learn this mode of teaching and interact with the class.

What I expect of you:

1. Participation in online discussion both in the Discussion Center and in your Team Folder.
2. On time completion of assignments.
3. Your honest questions when you don't understand the material or the instructions.
4. Your patience as we work together in this medium.

Guidelines

1. Assignments: All assignments are due by the stated due dates. Late assignments will be penalized one letter grade per day late.
2. Postings: Postings in the Discussion Center and in your team folder should be limited to between 50 and 75 words.
3. Discussion: A crucial element of this course is the dialogue that we enter into with each other. All discussions are to be in the vein of encouragement, gentleness, patience, persistence, and hope. This does not mean that we will not challenge, confront, or question each other. It does mean that these things will be undertaken for the purpose of growth and stimulation to think and understand the subject at hand more deeply and more intimately.

How to Submit Your Work

Please submit your responses to the appropriate folder. When you name them be sure to use your last name in the title of your response.

Course Modules

Module 01 Introduction to Technology in Ministry

View Devotional - 1

Colored People, DC Talk - PowerPoint

What are the differences you see in the people as you watch this devotional?

Please respond to the discussion center folder entitled Colored People.

Read the book, Out On the Edge by Michael Slaughter

Did you receive any new insights? Did you disagree with anything? Please respond to the discussion center folder entitled Out on the Edge.

View Lectures, 1. Course Introduction, 2. Why Use Technology? and 3. How Can Technology Be Used?

The total time required for all three lectures is approximately one hour.

PowerPoint handouts for the three video lectures are available.

Assignment 1 - Evaluate Local Worship Service

Attend a church in your area and write a summary of how technology was used. It should be no longer than 500 words. We are most interested in what you liked about the use of technology, and how it could have been improved. Of course you may want to also comment on what you did not like. If your church does not use technology and you are unable to attend another church, indicate how it could have been used effectively in your local church. Post your summary to the discussion center folder entitled Local Worship, and respond to one summary that has not been responded to.

Assignment 2 - Sister Act

Rent or Borrow Sister Act and Respond to the Following Discussion Questions. If you have not already seen the entire movie, you may want to watch it in its entirety. The following question should be based on the section where Sister Mary Clarence (Whoopi Goldberg) first enters the choir room until they go forth to work in the neighborhood.

What do you hear the nuns saying, that you might hear said by a laymember in a local church? Give three examples. Post your responses to the discussion center folder entitled Sister Act and read your classmates responses.

Module 02 Photography

View Devotional - 2

Slip Slidin, Paul Simon - PowerPoint

View Lecture, 4. Photographic Composition

Assignment 3 - Quentin Schultz Lecture

The total time required to listen the lecture is approximately 1 hour. Post to the discussion center what you feel his most important ideas are as they relate to technology.

Assignment 4 - Photography

The subject for your photographic assignment is your geographic location/hometown. Take a minimum of 20 pictures using either a traditional camera with photographic film or a digital camera. Evaluate the pictures based on the principles of photographic composition presented in the video tape on photographic composition. Within your 20 pictures you should have examples of the use of lines, triangles, "s" curve, framing, rule of thirds and informal balance. As part of your evaluation of each photograph you should indicate which of the principles are being used. The two most common problems that our encountered are 1. not being close enough to the subject and 2. distracting backgrounds or not being simple enough.

If you are using a digital camera, submit your pictures as individual attachments on an e-mail message. Be sure they are numbered and that they have the extension .jpg. In the e-mail message evaluate each of the pictures.

If you are using a camera that uses film mail the photographs or slides to me at Asbury Theological Seminary, 204 N. Lexington Avenue, Wilmore, KY 40390. Be sure they are numbered and that you include your evaluation for each picture.

Module 03 Designing Materials

View Devotional - 3

Sounds of Silence, Simon and Garfunkel - PowerPoint

View Video Lecture, 5. How Should We Design Our Materials?

The total time for the lecture is approximately 20 minutes.

PowerPoint handouts for the video lecture are available

Assignment 5 - Create Individual Worship Service

Based on the design principles presented in the video lecture "How Should We Design Our Materials", each student will submit PowerPoint slides for congregational singing, Scripture, and teaching outline incorporated into one slideshow and ready for presentation in a worship service. By ready for presentation, I mean that you should be able to advance through the PowerPoint slide show as though it were an actual worship service. You would want to create "black slides" for the times during the service when you were not projecting anything. "Black slides" are blank slides with a black background. A brief written description of what is taking place during the service, should explain what is taking place during the times that "black slides" are being projected. Submit your individual worship service as an attachment to an e-mail to the 'To Office' icon. Do not include sound files in your worship service.

Minimum Requirements are:

3 choruses for congregational singing

5 verses of Scripture

1 teaching outline with no less than three points also using animation

Module 04 Projection/Production Equipment/Facility Design

View Devotional - 4

Against the Wind, Bob Seger - PowerPoint

Read the book The Wired Church by Len Wilson

View Video Lectures, 6. Projection Technology and 7. Facilities

The total time required for all three lectures is approximately one hour.

Assignment 6 - Book Review

Each student will be assigned one book from the bibliography and required to write a three page paper on how this book relates to the use of technology in the church

today. If you have a preference for one of the books, let me know and if it has not been taken you will be assigned your requested book.

Module 05 Communication Design

View Devotional - 5

Creed, Rich Mullins - PowerPoint

Read Digital Storytellers by Wilson and Moore

Assignment 7 - Write a 3 page paper summarizing how the ideas presented in this book impact the presentation of materials in worship. Post your summary to the discussion center folder entitled Digital Storytellers, and respond to one summary that has not been responded to.

Module 06 Support Resources

View Devotional - 6

Hold Me Jesus, Rich Mullins - PowerPoint

View Video Lecture 8. Support Resources

Tape is approximately one hour in length.

Assignment 8 - Design a Team Worship Service

At the end of the term, students will prepare a complete worship service. Minimum technical requirements include projection of Scripture, congregational singing, and sermon illustrations (video clips (description of clip only), sermon outline, and other appropriate graphics). The most important part of this service will be the metaphor created for the service and how well it communicates the message. Each team will write a brief description of the target congregation. Do not include sound or video files in your worship service.

Online Communication Guidelines

The Course Center will contain a copy of the syllabus as well as all class modules.

The Discussion Center will be used for all public communications. Anytime you have a question or comment about the course, the modules, the assignments, or anything else which would be of interest to your classmates and me you should post to the Discussion Center. You will also post all of your discussion responses here.

Assignment Folder will be where you post your responses for the various discussions.

The Team Folder will contain two group folders. I will put our class into two groups and this is where you will work on your group project.

The IT501X Office is for private correspondence between you and me. This will contain items that you do not want to appear publicly before all of your classmates or items that you think may embarrass me if they were to appear publicly.

The Archives Center will be used for storing correspondence which has already been explored during the course of the semester. This keeps the Discussion Center from becoming too unmanageable.

The Chat Center is intended primarily for real-time interaction among students. You can get together with other members to study, ask questions, or to explore topics. None of the conversations carried on in this location is ever saved.

The Resource Center provides access to a number of specific tools available to all ExL students. These include access to the B.L. Fisher Library, the services in Estes Chapel, ExL Updates, Guidelines for Success, Helpful Hints, Interesting Links, a PowerPoint Viewer (which you can use to view my overheads) as well as a Real Audio player. I encourage you to take advantage of all these resources, and particularly to utilize the chapel access in order to connect with the seminary's on-campus opportunities for spiritual growth.

Support

General Information about ExL: contact Kevin Osborn at exl_director@asburyseminary.edu

For Technical Support with ExL: contact Jared Porter at exl_support@asburyseminary.edu

For Library Assistance: contact Hannah Kirsch at Hannah_Kirsch@asburyseminary.edu

For Interlibrary Loan Assistance: contact Dot James at Dot_James@asburyseminary.edu

Obtaining Library Materials and Reference Assistance

Email: Ats_Reference@asburyseminary.edu

Toll-Free Reference Help Line: 1-866-454-2733

ExL students are encouraged to make use of local libraries, if possible. However, library services are always available to students through Asbury's B. L. Fisher Library. All requests for books and journal articles should be e-mailed to the Reference Desk (ATS_Reference@asburyseminary.edu). The Reference workers (Hannah, Robbie, and Nina) will also assist ExL students with reference requests, using various online databases, or doing research on a specific topic.

To request material from the B.L. Fisher Library, begin by searching the library catalog (for books available in the library) or one of the restricted journal databases available on

the library's website (www.asburyseminary.edu/library - choose "library catalog" or "restricted databases"). Then send an email to the reference desk citing the sources that you would like to request. If you need help searching the databases, do not hesitate to call (1-866-454-2733) or email the reference desk. Students who live within a 50 mile radius of either the Florida or the Wilmore campus should come to campus to obtain their materials.

Please allow 5-10 business days for all requests to be filled. ExL students are billed for the cost of photocopies (5 cents per page); however, shipping via media rate is free. (Media rate normally takes 5 business days for shipping, but it can take two weeks to addresses in the West). Express mail services (prices vary according to weight) and scanning (10 cents per page in pdf format) are also available. Requests generally require 1-2 business days to be processed. Plan ahead and make your requests early enough to allow for shipping and processing!

Grading

40%	Participation in class discussions	
	Devotionals	
	Lectures	
	Readings	
60%	Projects	
	Individual Worship Service	15%
	Book Review	05%
	Review Local Worship Service	05%
	Photographs/Slides/Digital Images	20%
	Team Worship Service	15%

In order to receive credit and a grade for the course, all teaching materials must be returned. I personally would like to give you copies of the materials, but due to copyright restrictions on some of the materials, they must be returned. If there are some materials you would like to have, let me know. If they are copyright free, I will send them to you at no cost.

Readings

Required Texts

Slaughter, Michael. *Out On the Edge*. Nashville, Abingdon Press, 1998.
Wilson, Len. *The Wired Church*. Nashville, Abingdon Press, 1999
Wilson, Len. *Digital Storytellers: The Art of Communicating the Gospel in Worship*. Nashville, Abingdon Press, 2002.

Bibliography

One book from the following list will be assigned each student.

- *Easum, William. Dancing with Dinosaurs. Nashville, Abingdon, 1993.
- *Easum, William. Growing Spiritual Redwoods. Nashville, Abingdon, 1997.
- *Easum, William. Sacred Cows Make Gourmet Burgers. Nashville, Abingdon, 1995.
- *Heinich, Molenda, Russell, and Smaldino. Instructional Media and the New Technologies of Instruction. Englewood Cliffs, Merrill, 1996.
- *Hunter, George G. Church for the Unchurched. Nashville, Abingdon, 1996.
- *Hunter, George G. The Celtic Way of Evangelism. Nashville, Abingdon, 2000
- *Kallestad, Walt. Entertainment Evangelism. Nashville, Abingdon, 1996.
- *Miller, Kim. Handbook for Multi-Sensory Worship. Nashville, Abingdon, 1999.
- *Sample, Tex. The Spectacle of Worship in a Wired World. Nashville, Abingdon, 1998.
- *Schaller, Lyle E. Discontinuity and Hope. Nashville, Abingdon, 1999.
- *Schultz, Quentin J. Dancing in the Dark. Grand Rapids, Eerdmans, 1991.
- *Slaughter, Michael. Unlearning Church. Loveland, Colorado, Group Publishing, 2002.
- *Sweet, Leonard. Aqua Church. Loveland, Colorado, Group Publishing, 1999.
- *Sweet, Leonard. Faithquakes. Nashville, Abingdon, 1994.
- *Sweet, Leonard. Post-Modern Pilgrims. Nashville, Broadman, 2000.
- *Sweet, Leonard. Soul Salsa. Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2000.
- *Sweet, Leonard. Soul Tsunami. Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 1999.

Web Sites

www.ginghamsburg.org Ginghamburg United Methodist Church
www.purposedriven.com Saddleback Community Church
www.willowcreek.com Willow Creek Community Church
www.churchproduction.com Church Production Magazine
www.tfwm.com Technologies for Worship Magazine
www.presentations.com Presentations Magazine
www.gospelcom.net Christian Computing Magazine
www.smartcomputing.com Smart Computing Magazine
www.gospelcom.net/ys Youth Specialties
www.impactprod.org Impact Productions
www.fowlerinc.com Fowler