



September Update

Greetings and welcome back for Fall semester.

A great deal has been happening in Distance Education at CR the past many months, and we wish to update you on new faces, new plans and continuing efforts in Distance Education (DE).

Some introductions: For the fall semester we are very fortunate to have Reno Giovannetti in the crucial role as Instructional Technologist. Reno is the person to contact with questions or concerns about instructional technology at CR, including the technologies used for DE courses. Mark Winter is serving this academic year as the DE Faculty Coordinator, responsible for deploying trainings and much more. Mark Renner is serving this academic year as the DE Director, responsible for oversight of the entire DE program. Please feel free to call upon us with your questions, issues and concerns. We are here to help.

We will be sending many updates this year, especially regarding training and support opportunities for Canvas...

Canvas LMS probable MyCR successor in S15

The LMS Task Force concluded its work this past May, selecting Canvas™ for a rigorous pilot program this fall. As a result of that work, over 25 faculty members across many disciplines are using Canvas this fall – in face-to-face, hybrid and online sections. As reported to the Academic Senate on Sep. 5, the preliminary results are promising. The Canvas Advisory Group is now defining and planning training sessions for both the pilot faculty and faculty who may wish to begin this fall to prepare their courses in Canvas prior to the anticipated January 2015 Canvas rollout to the entire district.

We will provide much more information about Canvas, and the trainings for it, in coming weeks.

Some resources for Canvas are here:
<http://www.redwoods.edu/departments/distance/#resources>
but much more will be available soon.



Canvas Learning Management system
login page:
<https://redwoods.instructure.com>

DE Substantive Change Proposal for ACCJC

Throughout the spring and summer various individuals have worked on a comprehensive substantive change proposal for distance education, to be submitted to the ACCJC later this fall. The document is a crucial part of the planning process for distance education at CR, and is currently being reviewed by various constituent groups. It was presented to the Academic Senate on Sep. 5 and will be presented again on Sep. 19.

If you wish to review this document and provide feedback, you can find it at:
<http://inside.redwoods.edu/Senate/documents/5.2CRDESubChange9-11-2014-AMH-.pdf> We invite your input and feedback.

Once the proposal has been accepted by the ACCJC, CR will be able to offer specific degrees and certificates in which more than 50% of the units are obtained in hybrid and/or online courses.

Future newsletters will focus on online ADT development and other ways to use distance education to enhance student access and success.