Distance Learning Course Approval Process

UFS Policy # 01-2013: UFS Course Approval Process

Effective AY 2013-2014

1. Any faculty member developing a new blended/hybrid or 100% online course OR converting an existing course to a distance learning format must complete the following:

   The appropriate Educational Policy and Curriculum Committee (EPCC) form
   Major Course Change form for a new course
   Minor Course Change form for converting an existing course to a hybrid or 100% online format
   A Course Syllabus utilizing the Distance Learning Committee Syllabus Template
   A Course Outline utilizing the Distance Learning Committee Outline Template
   One functioning Online Module*

2. These materials are initially reviewed by the Departmental Distance Learning Committee utilizing the Quality Matters Rubric.

3. The sponsoring Department reviews the materials and the recommendation from the Departmental Distance Learning Committee and votes to approve or disapprove the distance learning course.

4. The approved course (including all materials listed in item 1, above, and the recommendation from the Departmental Distance Learning Committee) is submitted to the University-Wide Distance Learning Committee (DLC) for full review utilizing the Quality Matters Rubric. The proposer or knowledgeable representative must be present at the DLC meeting to demonstrate the functioning Online Module and answer any questions posed by the committee.

5. Upon approval, the chairperson of the DLC will forward the course to the next appropriate committee:

   Graduate courses are forwarded to the chairperson of the Graduate Council
   GEP courses are forwarded to the chairperson of the General Education
All other courses are forwarded to the chairperson of EPCC

6. Following approval by either Graduate Council (for graduate courses) or GEAC (for GEP courses), the chairperson of the committee will forward the course to the chairperson of EPCC.

   The chairperson of EPCC will hold a 5-day Email open hearing inviting public comment upon the proposal.

   Following the 5-day open hearing, the proposal will be placed on the agenda of the next EPCC meeting. The proposer or knowledgeable representative must be present at the EPCC meeting to answer any questions.

7. Upon EPCC approval, the chairperson of EPCC will forward the course to the President of the University Faculty Senate (UFS).

8. Upon UFS approval, the President of UFS will forward the course to the Provost who will ensure the registrar and other necessary parties receive notification.

   *Note: In cases of new programs/degrees/majors where one or more faculty may need to be hired to teach a new blended/hybrid or 100% online course(s), the initiator of the new program/degree/major may request from the DL Committee an expedited review of a course(s). The expedited review may waive the requirement calling for a demonstration of a functioning online module. Such a request shall not be unduly denied.

**Course Design and Development**

The faculty member or instructor revising or developing a course that will be offered in as a blended/hybrid or 100% online course should use the attached *Online Course Syllabus Template* (Appendix 4) as their guide for constructing their syllabus. There is information relevant to a distance learning delivery mode that is critical for students to know so support their success in the course. Particularly in a blended/hybrid or 100% online course, this document speaks for you as the instructor. Consider tone, word choice, etc.

The faculty member or instructor should attach *Course/Module Outline* (Appendix 2) for each module in their course when seeking departmental approval for their courses. The student
must have a sense of the “sweep” of the entire course and of the expectations of the instructor from the first week to the last.

One working module should be available for review by the departmental distance learning committee three months prior to the first offering of the course.

1. Course Overview and Introduction – what consideration is given to providing essential information to the students about the purpose of the course, prerequisite skills/knowledge (academic and technical), understanding where to click to begin the course and who their professor/instructor is as well as their peers?
   - Be explicit about the purpose of the course as well as prerequisites that should have been completed prior to enrolling. Detail specifically what technical skills they need to have mastered to be successful.
   - Encourage students to complete the Student Online Readiness Survey available as a link on their MySSU page
   - Introductions in any setting are important. Provide a venue for this to occur. Perhaps an informal discussion forum could be created to establish a level of acquaintance.

2. Learning Objectives
   - What are students expected to get out of the course as a whole and each specific learning module?
     i. Objectives must be measurable if they are to assist the committee with evaluation. For instance, stating that “students will understand the functions of illustration” is a fine objective for a course in Children’s Literature, but “understanding” is difficult to predict by simply looking at course content. Instead, something like “students will be able to list and define the functions of illustration” is a bit more measurable.
     ii. Outcomes must align with objectives. The outcomes must indicate to what extent students will be required to meet those objectives. To continue with the above example, an appropriate outcome to fit with the revised objective might be “Students will successfully explain and apply the functions of illustration to their analyses of Hairs/Pelitos by Sandra Cisneros, Leonardo, the Terrible Monster by Mo Willems and The Mysteries of Harris Burdick by Chris Van Allsburg.”
     iii. Rather than simply listing the activities and delivery methods, faculty members should also explain the sequence of those
activities and methods and indicate how these activities and methods work in the service of the objectives and outcomes.

3. **Assessment and Measurement**—how will the instructor determine if the students are demonstrably reaching the standards set by the objectives and measure the abilities mandated by the outcomes (e.g. tests, quizzes, collaborative activities, written assignments, compiled portfolios or other projects)?
   - Like outcomes, assessments must also align with objectives, so that each student’s abilities are demonstrated through some assessment practice that has bearing upon the grade assigned in the course. If there are assessments that do not speak directly to the objectives and outcomes, or if there are objectives and outcomes that are not assessed, the faculty member may be asked to revise his or her Course Plan.

4. **Resources and Materials**—to what materials (e.g. textbooks, software and hardware) will the students be need to be afforded access to as they work toward those outcomes?
   - Resources should, of course, include a list of texts, but should also consider what other materials students might need to complete each module. For instance, in addition to buying Van Allsburg’s book, students will also need to download AdobeFlash in order to watch the video of Van Allsburg’s Caldecott acceptance speech.
   - Check with a university librarian for the best method of linking our databases to your course. Students should not have to pay for downloading or reading articles.

5. **Learner Engagement** – what parameters have been included to promote learner engagement?
   - Students understand connection between activities and course outcomes, activities engage a variety of learning styles and students are apprised of deadlines as well as the manner in which and timeline for receiving instructor feedback

6. **Course Technology** - has consideration of selected course technology tools as well as design and navigation been considered from the learners’ perspective?
   - Selected tools should be engaging however they should support the objectives of the course.
   - Navigation in the course should be consistent, seamless, logical, and efficient. Designing from the perspective of the end-used, our students,
should be forefront in the layout of your course.

7. **Learner Support**
   - What modes of instruction will the instructor use to facilitate learning, including the use of materials not covered by the resources (e.g. on-line articles, podcasts, Echo360 lectures)?
   - What university supports, technical as well as academic, are available (help_desk@shawnee.edu for technical problems, courseinfor@shawnee.edu for issues related to Blackboard, the SSU’s Writing Center, etc.)?

8. **Accessibility** – does this course meet the ADA standards and reflect conformance with institutional policy regarding accessibility in online and hybrid courses?
   - Include a link that directs students to the SSU Office of Disability Services
   - Be aware of and understand the tools and components of our Learning Management System, Blackboard, that are supportive of ADA compliance.

**Note**: Information that pertains to course enrollment, remuneration for blended/hybrid and 100% online course development may be found in the current CBA
### Appendix 1

**An Adaptation of the Quality Matters Rubric Standards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Course Overview and Introduction</th>
<th>Learning Objectives</th>
<th>Assessment and Measurement</th>
<th>Resources and Materials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Instructions make clear how to get started and where to find various course components. (Required)</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>The course learning objectives describe outcomes that can be meaningfully assessed. (Required)</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>A statement introduces the student to the purpose of the course and to its components; in the case of a hybrid course, the statement clarifies the relationship between the face-to-face and online components. (Required)</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>The module/unit learning objectives describe outcomes that can be assessed and are consistent with the course-level objectives. (Required)</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>Etiquette expectations (sometimes called “netiquette” for online discussions, email, and other forms of communication are stated clearly. (Strongly recommended)</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>All learning objectives are stated clearly and written from the students’ perspective. (Required)</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>Course and/or instructional policies with which the students are expected to comply are clearly stated, or a link to current policies is supplied. (Required)</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>Instructions to students on how to meet the learning objectives are adequate and stated clearly. (Required)</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>Prerequisite knowledge in the discipline and/or required competencies are clearly stated. (Required)</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>The learning objectives are appropriately designed for the level of the course. (Required)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>Minimum technical skills expected of the student are clearly stated. (Required and partially determined through a readiness survey)</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>The types of assessments selected measure the stated learning objectives and are consistent with course activities and resources. (Required)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>The self-introduction by the instructor is appropriate and available online. (Required)</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>The course grading policy is stated clearly. (Required)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>Students are asked to introduce themselves to the class. (Required)</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>Specific and descriptive criteria are provided for the evaluation of students’ work and participation. (Required)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>The assessment instruments selected are sequenced, varied, and appropriate to the content being assessed. (Strongly Recommended)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>“Self-check” or practice assignments are provided, with timely feedback to students so that students may measure their own learning. (Strongly suggested)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.5 The instructional materials have appropriate breadth, depth, currency and provide a variety of perspectives for the student to learn the subject. (Required)

4.6 The distinction between required and optional materials is clearly explained. (Required)

Learner Engagement

5.1 The learning activities promote the achievement of the stated learning objectives. (Required)

5.2 Learning activities foster instructor-student, content-student, and if appropriate to the course, student-student interaction. (Required)

5.3 Clear standards are set for instructor responsiveness and availability (turn-around time for email, grade posting, etc.) (Required)

5.4 The requirements for student interaction are clearly articulated. (Required)

Course Technology

6.1 The tools and media support the learning objectives, and are appropriately chosen to deliver the content of the course. (Required)

6.2 The tools and media support student engagement and guide the student to become an active learner. (Required)

6.3 Navigation throughout the online components of the course is logical, consistent, and efficient. (Required)

6.4 Students have ready access to the technologies required in the course. (Required)

6.5 All content pages and web links work properly and course technology is current and able to support the course’s objectives and content. (Strongly recommended)

Learner Support

7.1 The course instructions articulate or link to clear description of the technical support offered. (Required)

7.2 Course instructions articulate or link to an explanation of how the institution’s academic support system can assist the student in effectively using the resources provided. (Required)

7.3 Course instructions articulate or link to an explanation of how the institution’s student support services can help students reach their educational goals. (Required)

7.4 Course instructions answer basic questions related to research, writing, technology, etc., or link to tutorials or other resources that provide the information. (Required)

7.5 Help Desk, Blackboard, and other technical support information is clearly posted on the course homepage or clearly presented in the course syllabus.

Accessibility

8.1 The course incorporates ADA standards and reflect conformance with institutional policy regarding accessibility in blended/hybrid and 100% online courses. (Required)

In order to meet this standard, a course should:

- Include a statement or a web link that tells students how to gain access to SSU’s Office of Disability Services
- Employ an ADA-compliant Learning Management System, such as Blackboard.

8.2 Course design facilitates readability and minimized distractions (Strongly recommended)
Appendix 2

Course / Module Plan Template

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course/Module Plan for: <strong>Course name</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module Name:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time frame for completion: <em>i.e., one week, two weeks, etc.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Course/Module Objectives</strong></th>
<th><strong>Learner Outcomes</strong></th>
<th><strong>Learning Resources</strong></th>
<th><strong>Teaching/Learning Strategies/ Technology Learning Objects</strong></th>
<th><strong>Methods of Student Assessment</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit objectives should be aligned with general course objectives.</td>
<td>Describes what the student will be able to do upon completion of the module (i.e., the student will be able to describe a process or the student will be able to analyze some concept, issue, problem, etc.)</td>
<td>What texts, articles, ancillary materials (other media, etc.) are needed to accomplish the objectives of the unit?</td>
<td>How will learning be facilitated: list podcasts, written assignments, quizzes, discussion boards/groups, face-to-face discussions (for hybrid classes), etc.</td>
<td>Quizzes, tests, written assignments, participation in discussions, etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix 3

Course / Module Plan Template (examples)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course / Module Plan for: IDST 2225 Civilization and Literature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module Name: Renaissance Culture and Literature: The Northern Renaissance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time frame for completion: Two weeks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course / Module Objectives</th>
<th>Learner Outcomes</th>
<th>Learning Resources</th>
<th>Teaching / Learning Strategies / Technology</th>
<th>Learning Objects</th>
<th>Methods of Student Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit objectives should be aligned with general course objectives.</td>
<td>Describes what the student will be able to do upon completion of the module (i.e., the student will be able to describe a process or the student will be able to analyze some concept, issue, problem, etc.)</td>
<td>What texts, articles, ancillary materials (other media, etc.) are needed to accomplish the objectives of the unit?</td>
<td>How will learning be facilitated: list podcasts, written assignments, quizzes, discussion boards/groups, face-to-face discussions (for hybrid classes), etc.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Student will be able to
- Students will be able to
- Norton Anthology of

1. Students will complete
1. Short essay on how
| Describe major characteristics of the Northern Renaissance. | Explain how Hamlet is reflective of Renaissance emphasis upon the psychology of the individual. Students will be able to identify passages in Hamlet that are reflective of Renaissance ideals about humanism. Students will be able to explain how Hamlet differs as a tragedy from Oedipus the King (read earlier in the course). Students will be able to correlate specific scenes from Hamlet with Bradley’s definition of Shakespearean tragedy. | World Literature. Readings from Erasmus, Shakespeare. Film: Olivier’s Hamlet Background notes, including characteristics of Shakespearean tragedy by A.J. Bradley. | Short answer questions dealing with the play. (self-assessment) 2. Students will view film. 3. Students will be divided into groups; each group will be assigned a question related to the film version of Hamlet. They will answer those questions individually and then post responses in their groups. A discussion will follow which will lead to a “best” group response which will be posted to the entire class. | Hamlet is reflective of Northern Renaissance values. 2. Group responses will be graded. 3. There will be a mid-term examination question dealing with Hamlet and the Northern Renaissance. |
Appendix 4

Online Course Syllabus Template

(Approved Distance Learning Committee 2013, Revised 11/2015)

Instructions for using this Course Syllabus Template

The syllabus is broken into discrete sections, which can be rearranged, removed, or modified to best fit your course and teaching style.

The syllabus includes references to, and instructions for accessing, various Blackboard tools commonly used by instructors.

Adjust descriptions of activities and outcomes to fit your course.

- Look for green text used as a placeholder, to indicate information needed, text you should change, or notes. Be sure to delete these notes before finalizing your syllabus and change the text color to black.
- Be sure to remove references to tools, activities, or outcomes that you do not plan to use in your course.
- The syllabus includes common language to describe campus policies and services to serve as a guideline for you. Be sure to read these sections and change language to fit your course needs.

A “Course/Module Plan Template” is included on the last page of the syllabus. This template is provided to assist instructors and is not required in the syllabus or course schedule.

Supplements

In addition to this syllabus template, the following elements should be available either in your syllabus or somewhere else in your Blackboard course environment:

- **Overview of Online Course Activities:** Simple instructions on the use of Blackboard/online activities in your course. Links to more detailed information and support documents.

- **Online Communication Guidelines:** Overview of the role of communication in a hybrid/online course. Includes expectations for using technology tools such as discussion, e-mail, and chat for communication.

- **Discussion Board Guidelines:** Guidelines and grading rubric to support the use of online discussion activities in your course.

- **Campus Resources:** Shawnee State programs and resources that
are available to assist students during their academic studies.
Part 1: Course Information

Instructor Information

- **Instructor:** Name
- **Office:** Location
- **Office Hours:** Times & Days  (*Note: if online, explain how to access*)
- **Office Telephone:** Phone Number
- **E-mail:** E-mail address (*Note: specify your preferred contact*)

Course Description

- Enter catalog description.

Prerequisite

Enter prerequisite information.

Part 2: Course Objectives

List the primary learning objectives for this course. Use action verbs to describe what students and you will accomplish through this course. A bulleted list is a good way to display these objectives as shown below:

Objective

Objective

Objective

You will meet the objectives listed above through a combination of the following activities in this course:

Provide instructions to students on how they are expected to meet the learning objectives for the course. For example: Will most objectives be met through examination? Or through participation? Or through projects?
Attend ...
Complete ...
Participate ...

Part 3: Course Materials and Technology

Textbook & Course Materials

Required Text
List required course textbooks. Include details such as full name of textbook, author, edition, ISBN, description (if desired), and where it can be purchased. If a required text is available online, indicate where it can be accessed.

Recommended Texts and Other Readings

List other readings available and how/where to access them.
Include a general statement such as “Other readings will be made available in the Blackboard (See Course/ Modules).”

Computer Hardware & Software Requirements

If you are working from home, you are responsible for having (or for the duration of the course having continuing access to) and maintaining

- A computer that can access the Internet, load and properly display course resources, and access documents in [specify programs or applications such as Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Adobe Acrobat for PDFs, RealPlayer, Flash, etc.] See http://shawnee.edu/offices/information-technology-services/it-documents/hardware-and-software-standards.aspx for information about computer specifications. FYI, the university offers Microsoft Office at a substantial discount. See http://www.shawnee.edu/offices/information-technology-services/it-documents/ for more information.

An Internet connection (DSL, LAN, or cable connection desirable)

- To access the Internet from off-campus, use a commercial provider such as your telephone company’s DSL or cable company’s Internet service OR a free dial-up access provided by the university. Please be aware that the university dial-up is via a local Portsmouth area phone number and is considerably slower than DSL or cable modem services and therefore will probably be frustrating to use when downloading any large files such as PowerPoint or Flash presentations. If interested in the free dial-up service, go to UIS (Massie 005b) to register for an account.
Access to [other tools, resources, or materials]

- List other tools, resources, and materials needed by the student for success in the course, including materials that may have to be purchased like DVDs, CD’s, etc.

Course Structure

This course will be delivered [partially or entirely] online through SSU’s course management system, Blackboard. You will use your account to login to the course via the MySSU page or directly from http://blackboard.shawnee.edu.

Use this space to describe the types of work your student will do. Add and remove listed activities as appropriate to your course. Example: In Blackboard, you will access online lessons, course materials, and resources. At designated times throughout the semester, we will participate in a blend of self-paced and group-paced activities using Blackboard and alternative Internet-based technologies. Activities will consist of chat, blogs, discussion forums, email, journaling, blogging, wikis, and web posting.

Blackboard Access

To get into this course on Blackboard, you must use a computer that accesses the Internet and that has an appropriate Web browser such as a recent version of Internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari.

- You can access Blackboard by logging into MySSU (your login default page on campus or https://myssu.shawnee.edu/ics/ off campus) and clicking Blackboard. Alternately, you can login by using the address http://blackboard.shawnee.edu and entering your username – your university ID number – and your password – whatever you created for your MySSU account.

Email

- Please make sure that your email address in Blackboard is the email account that you really use. Check it and change it, if needed.
  1. In Blackboard, click the TAB labeled Shawnee State University.
  2. In the Tools menu (on the left), click PERSONAL INFORMATION.
  3. On the Personal Information page, click EDIT PERSONAL INFORMATION.
  4. Enter the email address and phone number that you use most frequently.
Technical Assistance

If you need technical assistance at any time during the course:

For Blackboard, email CourseInfo at courseinfo@shawnee.edu, phone 740-351-3682, or visit the Blackboard office in Library 113 for face-to-face assistance.

For assistance with the SSU Network (MySSU or on-campus network login), contact UIS by emailing Help_desk@shawnee.edu, phoning 740-351-3538, or visiting the UIS office in Massie 005b. If you go in person to the Library Reference Counter with a picture ID (SSU ID or Driver's License), librarians can reset your network password.

Part 4: Topic Outline/Schedule

Important Note: Refer to the course [calendar or schedule] for specific dates and times. Activity and assignment details will be explained in detail within each learning module. If you have any questions, please contact your instructor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week or Module; list dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note about calendar/schedule: while it is important to clearly indicate the schedule for your course, there are many places where you may do this. You may include a topic outline/schedule (like the examples shown above) in your syllabus, make a separate link to a schedule document in your Blackboard course, or use the Blackboard calendar tool.
Regardless of which you choose, be consistent, and keep your calendar up-to-date to help students follow along, reduce confusion, and emphasize time on task.

Part 5: Grading Policy

Graded Course Activities

Explain clearly how students’ work will be graded.

**Example:** Visit the **Assignments** link in Blackboard for details about each assignment listed below. Click on **Assessments** to access quizzes and exams. (See Part 4 for more information about accessing tools and activities).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#</td>
<td>Item 1 (List all activities, tests, etc. that will determine the students’ final grade)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#</td>
<td>Item 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Total Points Possible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Late Work Policy**

**Example:** Be sure to pay close attention to deadlines—there will be no make up assignments or quizzes, or late work accepted without a serious and compelling reason and instructor approval.

**Viewing Grades in Blackboard**

**Example:** Points you receive for graded activities will be posted to the Blackboard Grade Book. In the Tools menu click the My Grades link to view your points.

Include a statement about the timeframe of when to look for grades. **Example:** Your instructor will update the online grades each time a grading session has been complete—typically X days following the completion of an activity.

**Letter Grade Assignment**

Include an explanation between the relationship of points earned and final letter grade. **Example:** Final grades assigned for this course will be based on the percentage of total points earned and are assigned as follows:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100%</td>
<td>Excellent Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92%</td>
<td>Nearly Excellent Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89%</td>
<td>Very Good Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86%</td>
<td>Good Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82%</td>
<td>Mostly Good Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79%</td>
<td>Above Average Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76%</td>
<td>Average Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72%</td>
<td>Mostly Average Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69%</td>
<td>Below Average Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-66%</td>
<td>Poor Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-59%</td>
<td>Failing Work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Part 6: Course Policies

Participation

**Example:** Students are expected to participate in all online activities as listed on the course calendar. Enter specific points regarding attendance policy and/or time commitments here.

If you monitor, track, and/or score student participation, explain how you will keep track and how often students should be accessing the course. If appropriate, mention that you will be using Blackboard tracking tool, discussions, chat sessions, and group work, to monitor their participation in the course.

Communicating with the Instructor

**Example:** If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or other aspects of the course, make sure you let your instructor know as early as possible. As you will find, building rapport and effective relationships are key to becoming an effective
professional. Make sure that you are proactive in informing your instructor when difficulties arise during the semester so that we can help you find a solution.

Completing Assignments

Example: All assignments for this course will be submitted electronically through Blackboard unless otherwise instructed. Assignments must be submitted by the given deadline or special permission must be requested from instructor before the due date. Extensions will not be given beyond the next assignment except under extreme circumstances.

All discussion assignments must be completed by the assignment due date and time. Late or missing discussion assignments will affect the student’s grade.

Understand When You May Drop This Course

You may drop a class online via MySSU or by completing the proper form in the Student Business Center (see Important Dates for deadlines). If class withdrawal affects fees, a refund is possible. Any withdrawal after the 100% refund period will result in a WD being placed on your academic record. Withdrawing from courses may affect Title IV student financial aid funds. Please read the Financial Aid Satisfactory Progress section on pages 35 and 36 of this catalog.

You may withdraw from a class through the withdraw deadline (see Important Dates for deadlines) via MySSU or by completing a blue add/drop registration form obtained from the Student Business Center. The form must be returned and processed by the Student Business Center.

In case of emergency, you may petition to withdraw from a class after the published deadlines by submitting a Registration Appeal Form with required documentation to the Student Business Center.

Incomplete Policy

See Office of Registrar for Incomplete Grade Policy

http://www.shawnee.edu/offices/registration/policies.aspx#incomplete

University Disability Statement

Any student who believes s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a documented disability should first contact a Coordinator in the Office of Disability Services, Student Success Center, Massie Hall, 740-351-3276 to schedule a meeting to identify potential reasonable accommodation(s). Students are strongly encouraged to initiate the accommodation process in the early part of the semester or as soon as the
need is recognized. After meeting with the Coordinator, students are then required to meet with their instructors to discuss the student’s specific needs related to their disability. If a student does not make a timely request for disability accommodations and/or fails to meet with the Coordinator of Disability Services and the instructor, a reasonable accommodation might not be able to be provided.

**SSU’s Academic Honesty Policy & Procedures**

Students at Shawnee State University are required to do their own work on all tests and assignments. Any form of cheating may result in your being withdrawn from a particular course or courses and a failing course grade, as well as possible dismissal from the University. [http://www.shawnee.edu/offices/dean-students/student-conduct-code.aspx](http://www.shawnee.edu/offices/dean-students/student-conduct-code.aspx)
**Course / Module Plan Template**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course/Module Objectives</th>
<th>Learner Outcomes</th>
<th>Learning Resources</th>
<th>Teaching/Learning Strategies/Technology Learning Objects</th>
<th>Methods of Student Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit objectives should be aligned with general course objectives.</td>
<td>Describes what the student will be able to do upon completion of the module (i.e., the student will be able to describe a process or the student will be able to analyze some concept, issue, problem, etc.)</td>
<td>What texts, articles, ancillary materials (other media, etc.) are needed to accomplish the objectives of the unit?</td>
<td>How will learning be facilitated: list podcasts, written assignments, quizzes, discussion boards/groups, face-to-face discussions (for hybrid classes), etc.</td>
<td>Quizzes, tests, written assignments, participation in discussions, etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>