Ways to Use the Etudes Site to Complement a Classroom Class

Katherine Boutry

Using the Etudes shell can help in the following ways:

**Efficient Classroom Management**

1. **Announcements** (clarifications, reminders of work due or library sessions, FAQs, encouragement and praise)
2. **Private Messaging** (allows another point of access for students)
3. **Question Threads** (students can help each other and answer simple questions; encourages shy students to ask questions they might not otherwise ask).
4. **Activity Meter** (optional, but can let you know if a student is logging on regularly and engaged. You can also see which modules are opened and how many).
5. **Syllabus**
   - Revisions immediate and accessible
6. Dramatically reduces photocopying.

**Enabling Reticent Students**

7. **Discussion Threads**
   - No time constraints. Students and you can log on at midnight. (Office hours are vastly expanded)
   - Gives students time to consider how they feel about an issue and develop an informed opinion. Students are not pressured or “on the spot.” (qualitative)
   - Gives more students “air time” because not limited by the class period. (quantitative)
   - This keeps students engaged in your course and thinking about it throughout the week.
   - Interaction with BOTH instructor and other students. Dialogue enabled and expanded.
8. **Student Introductions** (beneficial both for the instructor and for the students)

**Furthering and Deepening the Classroom Discussion**

9. **Modules**
    a. Audio-visual links to materials presented in class for review (film clips, Youtube videos, etc)
    b. AV links to additional materials not presented in class (expands material for review)
    c. Lecture recordings for review
    d. Library research instructional video for review
e. Illustrations and photographs to explain key concepts and create a shared frame of reference (ideographs, Chinese landscape painting of cranes)

f. Supplementary biographical material on authors, author interviews

g. Clarifications of difficult material that might not have been fully understood in class. (Further lecture notes expanded upon by instructor, or for example, lyrics to the songs in a film shown in class.)

h. Context and Historical Background for Authors or Issues (through primary and secondary sources)

i. Critical Sources for use in papers and exams

j. Practice Exams, Tips, and Strategies

k. “Writing the Essay” Flowchart

l. Model Papers

m. Model Exam Answers

n. Honors Student Powerpoints (class presentations become more useful and usable by other students).

**How do I do it?**

Request a shell by email from Rita Shemwell (ShemweR@wlac.edu) or Eric Ichon (ichone@wlac.edu) in Distance Learning.