Technically Speaking 7-9-14

Faculty friends,

**SSW Canvas Trainings/Workshops at 811 Washington**

The Electronic Library will be working with me to host a Canvas Course make-over session just for SSW faculty in room 321 on both (bring your laptop, syllabus, and a few few course documents.):

* Wednesday, July 9th, from 2:00-4:00 pm
* Thursday, July 17th, from 9:00-11:00 am.

I will also host informal brown bag workshop times also in 321 (come-and-go) to be available if you want to come and work on building your courses in Canvas with me and your colleagues:

* Monday, July 21st, from noon-1pm.
* Wednesday, July 30th, from noon-1pm.
* Monday , August 4th, from noon-1pm.
* Wednesday, August 13th, noon-1pm.

**Overcoming**

If any of you have interest in the topic of Overcoming, NPR’s Ted Radio Hour had an interesting program that describe "stories of overcoming a weakness and turning it into a strength:” <http://www.npr.org/programs/ted-radio-hour/?showDate=2014-07-03>



**Open Educational Resources**

Here’s a link to a website (<http://campustechnology.com/articles/2014/07/02/16-oer-sites-every-educator-should-know.aspx>) that lists/describes some resources that you might find useful:

* College Open Textbooks
* Learingpod
* Lumen Learning
* MERLOT II
* MIT Open Courseware Online Textbooks
* OER Commons
* Open Course Library
* Open Education Consortium
* Open Learning Initiative
* OpenStax CNX
* OpenStax College
* OpenTextBookStore
* Saylor.org
* Spiral Physics
* Teach Astronomy
* The Orange Grove

**Video-Conferencing Norms**

On my website Tech4Social (<http://tech4social.weebly.com/norms.html>), I list some basic norms for virtual synchronous learning:

Before a class begins:

        o   Test that needed technology works (especially if using new hardware, software, or location).

        o   Watch video tutorials when available.

        o   Maximize the connection by:

                §  Plugging into a power source.

                §  Plugging into an Ethernet cable (if unable, getting as close to a wireless router as possible).

                §  Closing unneeded programs.

        o   If sharing video:

                §  check self-view by ensuring your face is framed/angled appropriately

                §  and not in shadow (don’t sit with back to sunny window, have a light on in front of you).

        o   If sharing audio:

                §  Minimize extraneous noises.

                §  Use headphones.

                §  Mute when not talking.

Treat the session as much like a normal meeting/class as possible:

        o   Respect start and end times.

        o   Listen, participate, and maintain eye contact.

        o   Avoid unrelated activities (you probably wouldn't iron clothes in a meeting or classroom).

Respect the specific etiquette for each class/instructor.

**Today’s Bitstrip**



Until next week,

Jim Heston

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