Newsletter

Special Interest Articles

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- PRISM Online Courses

PRISM will Recognize, Spotlight the Work of, Along with Enable the Sharing of Ideas of Indiana K-12 Teachers

The PRISM team has a desire to make our monthly newsletter more engaging and to get active input from Indiana K-12 teachers that are using our online resources. Beginning in September, the PRISM team would like to begin recognizing the work that many of our faithful Indiana K-12 teachers using our online resources (particularly the Moodle LMS) on a daily basis in their classrooms.

We want to begin spotlighting teachers for doing some of the more advanced features on Moodle including workshops, databases, forums, wikis or the creation of tests, quizzes and test bank questions (particularly if some of the more advanced types of question types like: Cloze questions, drag and drop questions, calculated and calculated simple questions are used). This can also include things like: how a teacher has significantly changed their classroom culture, effectively "flipped" their classes or have realized a significantly greater level of student engagement by using the Moodle LMS.

We also want to garner general feedback from Indiana K-12 teachers and the sharing of ideas that teachers have for unique or highly effective use of Moodle / Moodle activities.

Spotlighting of Teachers in the PRISM Newsletter and on the PRISM Website

If you know of a teacher that you feel is doing exemplary work in his/her classroom and is using the Moodle LMS hosted by PRISM, we invite you to nominate him/her to be spotlighted in one of our monthly newsletters and on the PRISM website. We ask that you please describe the work that he/she is doing. Describe how he/she is using the Moodle LMS and perhaps the particular activities and lessons that they do more effectively by using the LMS. It would be nice to include pictures (please do not include pictures of student faces that are identifiable).

PRISM will Recognize, Spotlight the Work of, Along with Enable the Sharing of Ideas of Indiana K-12 Teachers

Teacher Feedback on PRISM's Moodle

If you are using the Moodle LMS hosted by PRISM, and you feel that it has made a significant difference in your teaching style, pedagogy or has opened your classroom up, and benefitted student engagement, we would like to have feedback from you.   We would then like to have permission to publish your comments and descriptions of your lessons and activities in our monthly newsletter.   We invite you to write a description of how you use the Moodle LMS in your classroom, how it has made a tremendous difference with student engagement or student performance and include pictures of this taking place in your classroom (please do not include pictures of student faces that are identifiable).

Sharing of Ideas

The PRISM team wants to invite teachers to share ideas through our newsletter. In the classroom, what Moodle features work best for you? Are you having greater success with completion of homework by putting all assignments on Moodle? How do you engage students to get them to participate in forums, discussions, group projects or other activities on Moodle? How have you improved your assessment program at your school? How have you provided more practice or mastery exercises and activities to your students using Moodle?

Submission of Information

If you want to submit your feedback and ideas or nominate a teacher to be spotlighted, along with pictures (images), please send to: jackson2@rose-hulman.edu.

Crash Courses on Moodle

The following are "Crash Courses on Moodle" to be offered on PRISM in mid-August. The "Activities & Resources" and "Gradebook" Crash courses are intended to be short courses on these specific topics to assist teachers in setting up their some common activities and resources on their courses and to setup their gradebooks on Moodle. The "Quiz Question Types" Course is more extensive and takes teachers through all the types of questions that they can create for test question banks, quizzes, tests and other assessments on Moodle. Moodle has a very unique and advanced quiz activity tool to create higher level, higher order thinking questions for assessments. Question types include: Calculated questions (random number generators on problems create "different problems" for each attempt on a test question – teacher only makes up one problem though and puts wildcard variables into formula), drag and drop questions (great for life science images, social studies maps, any illustrations), CLOZE questions (unique fill-in-the-blank), multiple choice, matching and essay. Questions can also be imported and edited on Moodle.

Crash Course on Activities & Resources on the Moodle LMS

Crash Course on Activities & Resources for Moodle is a distance education course designed to provide teachers and school administrators the skills necessary to use a basic Moodle course to:

1. Develop quality lessons, activities and educational resources for their students on a platform that can be accessed readily on various devices ranging from PC's to smartphones.
2. Enable teachers to grade assignments and other activities more efficiently and provide feedback to students in a secure online environment.
3. Enable teachers and administrators to create online quizzes, tests and other assessments. The assessments are graded upon completion and a variety of data can be compiled quickly and efficiently to use for various reports.

Activities include:

- Assignments, Chats, Databases
- Feedback, Forums, Questionnaires
- Quizzes and Tests
- Files, Pages, and URLs

Special Note: Crash Course on Activities and Resources for Moodle is meant to be an introduction to the Moodle LMS and these features. By taking this course, a teacher or administrator should obtain the skills to begin adding some quality activities and resources to a basic Moodle course. It is not a comprehensive training for Moodle. Gradebook setup and grading along with more advanced features used in Moodle are not covered in this course.

Professional Growth Points

Eight (8) PGP points can be earned for completion of this course (Indiana participants only). You must be a member of PRISM (free) to register for this course.

Crash Course on the Gradebook & Grading on the Moodle LMS

Crash Course on Gradebook & Grading for Moodle is a distance education course designed to provide teachers the skills necessary to:

1. Setup a gradebook within a Moodle course.
2. Learn to edit and make changes within a gradebook on Moodle.
3. Learn to manually add graded items (i.e.: assignments. labs, projects, term paper grades, quizzes, test, etc...) into the gradebook of a given course.
4. Learn to manually add grades to the gradebook.
5. Learn to export / print gradebook pages.

Special Note: Crash Course on Gradebook & Grading for Moodle is meant to be a course, and guide, on how to setup, organize and edit a gradebook for a class. By taking this course, a teacher or administrator should obtain the skills to begin effectively using the gradebook within a given course. It is not a comprehensive training for Moodle.

Professional Growth Points

Eight (8) PGP points can be earned for completion of this course (Indiana participants only). You must be a member of PRISM (free) to register for this course.

Online Course Availability

This online course will be available to teachers beginning in mid-August 2018. Register for the course by going to www.rose-prism.org. You must sign in to be able to register. If you do not have a PRISM online account, you will have to create an account for yourself on the PRISM website if you have not previously (click on Create an account in the Main Menu). To register for the online course, go to Event Registration in the main menu. In the Event Registration dropdown menu select the name of the course and complete the registration form.

Crash Course on Moodle - Quiz Question Types on the Moodle LMS

Crash Course on Moodle - Quiz Question Types is a distance education course designed to provide teachers the skills necessary to use a basic Moodle course to:

1. Learn to create different types of questions within tests and quizzes these include: true/false, multiple choice, short answer, essay, Cloze, drag and drop into images and text, questions with calculations required within them and others.
2. Learn to develop high level assessments with a variety of question types.
3. Learn to develop assessments that have good feedback to students upon completion.

Special Note: Crash Course on Moodle - Quiz Question Types is meant to be an introduction to the Moodle LMS and some basic tools and resources that can be utilized on LMS platform. By taking this course, a teacher or administrator should obtain the skills to setup a basic Moodle course to provide a platform of resources to students or other course participants. It is not a comprehensive training for Moodle.   Many aspects and features of the Moodle LMS will not be covered in this course.

Professional Growth Points

Ten (10) PGP points can be earned for completion of this course (Indiana participants only). You must be a member of PRISM (free) to register for this course.

Availability of Online Crash Courses on Moodle

These online courses will be available to teachers beginning in mid-August 2018. Register for any of these courses by going to www.rose-prism.org. You must sign in to be able to register. If you do not have a PRISM online account, you will have to create an account for yourself on the PRISM website if you have not previously (click on Create an account in the Main Menu). To register for the online courses, go to Event Registration in the main menu. In the Event Registration dropdown menu select the name of the course(s) that you want to take and complete the registration form and submit.

PRISM Fall Moodle Courses

We are offering six FREE online training courses beginning in September. We offer Professional Growth Plan (PGP) points for each course.

Basic Moodle for Teachers (10 PGP Points)
September 11 - October 9

Intermediate Moodle for Teachers (10 PGP Points)
September 12 - October 10

Advanced Moodle for Teachers (10 PGP Points)
September 12 - October 11

All of the courses are completed online at your-own-pace during your own free time.

If you would like to register for a course, please visit the PRISM website, login, and click the 'Event Registration' link. Use the drop-down menu to select the appropriate course and click the 'Registration Form' button. You will see a complete description of the course. To sign up, scroll down and enter your information. You should receive a confirmation email. If you do not receive a confirmation email, please contact us.

What PRISM Can Do For You!

- Easily find the perfect teaching and learning resources from our library of over 5,000.

- Save a list of your favorite resources for quick retrieval.

- Create and share lesson plans that teach your subjects utilizing your favorite resources.

- Develop online classrooms with interactive assignments, lessons, quizzes and more!

- Store your classroom materials online so that they are available to you from any computer.

- Reach your students more effectively by using web media for the digital age.

- Earn PGP points by completing PRISM led online Moodle course – either Beginning Moodle or Intermediate Moodle courses are available to you at no cost several times throughout the year.

- Select from free learning resources that emphasize visualization, rich context, staged-problem solving, and electronically enabled collaboration / communication.

- Augment your own dynamic presence in the classroom with teaching tools that mirror the skills needed for success in higher education and the 21st Century workplace.

*Through our strong support from the **Lilly Endowment** and others, we are constantly growing and improving. Check our site regularly to see what new resources you can use in your classroom.*

www.rose-prism.org

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