

Workshops

VSpace Advanced Course Development

Technical and pedagogical issues

Tuesday, August 4, 10-11:30, Z302

Zimbra Email

Manage messages, calendar, address book

Friday, August 7, 1-2:30, C141

VSpace Testing 1,2,3

Online testing methodologies

Monday, August 10, 10-noon, Z302

VSpace Advanced Course Development

Technical and pedagogical issues

Friday, August 14, 1:30-4, Z302

Fall Technology Institute

All day workshop. VSpace and Zimbra Email

Saturday, August 15, 9-3, SE206

VSpace Introduction

For new users

Friday, August 21, 1-3:30, Z302

Course Design: From Course Description to Assessment

Saturday, August 22, 9-3, Emeriti Room

Adjunct Faculty Orientation

Classroom, general education, and assessment

Tuesday, August 25, 5-9, Emeriti Room

Zimbra Email

Manage messages, calendar, address book

Monday August 24, 2:30-4, C141

Zimbra Email

Manage messages, calendar, address book

Wednesday, August 26, 2:30-4, C141

To register: www.svsu.edu/workshops

Upcoming Fall Orientation

The staff in the Office of Adjunct Faculty Support Programs is gearing up for the Adjunct Faculty Orientation on August 25 from 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. The orientation, which will be held in the Regional Education Center (ES202), will include activities for new and experienced adjunct faculty. The new adjunct faculty will learn about support services and other necessary information. The experienced adjunct faculty will attend two workshops. During the first workshop session, the faculty will choose between Hybrid/Online Teaching or a Rap Session, allowing faculty to share their experiences. The second session will feature a workshop on Infusing Sustainability into Your Course Curriculum or Creating Interesting Writing Assignments That Can't be Plagiarized. The evening will end with a session how to approach the first day of class. Deans and Department Chairs have been invited to be a part of the festivities and discuss matters related to the respective departments and colleges. Please RSVP for this orientation by registering at www.svsu.edu/workshops or calling the office at 989-964-4050.

Summer Hours:
Monday - Thursday 8 A.M. to 7:30 P.M.
Friday 8 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.



Did You Know?

All faculty, full or part time, are able to participate in Commencement. The ceremony is held at the end of the Fall, Winter, and Spring/Summer semesters. All faculty receive an email invitation from the SVSU Foundation. The University also pays for regalia. So keep an eye out for the email, order regalia through the bookstore, and attend on August 17, 2009.

The Millennial Generation

Adjunct Faculty in our office often claim they do not understand today's students; those between 18-29 years old that are referred to as the Millennial Generation. These are students whose lives have been structured and scheduled. Their lives have been shaped by such issues as terrorism, multiculturalism, patriotism, globalism, and parent advocacy. The body of research about millennials concludes that millennials are conventional (identifies with their parent's values), sheltered (parents are over protective), special (central to their parents' sense of purpose), confident (raised by parents believing in the importance of self-esteem), team-oriented (working in or learning in group situations), goal-oriented, and pressured (pushed to study, succeed, attend college, and make money). This generation is also technologically savvy, able to multi-task, and racially and ethnically diverse. They respond to bright colors and flashing lights and are very intolerant of delays yet tolerant of differences.

How do we better understand these students? By reconsidering the ways we teach them. Some educators propose that to reach the Millennials, faculty must use applied academics (students design a real life advertising campaign), offer more multidisciplinary courses and programs (i.e. sustainable practices), create service learning projects (students work in a shelter or soup kitchen), use project-based learning (cooperatively create documentaries which dramatize a theory), and use problem-based learning (use course content to solve real problems).

If you would like more information, a workshop is being offered in November (two sessions on campus and one session for those teaching at Macomb). Register for this workshop by going to www.svsu.edu/workshops

Cook Francis, L. & Ramos, S. "The Millennial Student Project: First Year Findings." Paper presented at the Nineteenth International Conference on The First-Year Experience, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, July 2006
Howe, Neil and Strauss, William. 2000. *Millennials Rising: The Next Great Generation*. New York: Vintage Books.

Responsible Thinking Process

While touring Bay County Schools this winter, I learned about the Responsible Thinking Process (RTP), which attempts to make students responsible for their behavior by asking them to become more mindful of their behaviors. As with any process there are stages that must occur to obtain results. In practice, I found that the first two stages of the process were all I needed to get results in my Introduction to Sociology class.

When a student was disruptive, I simply asked, "What are you doing?" This question was asked without judgment and with respect, but it made the student mindful that their behavior was not appropriate. If the student continued to be disruptive, I followed-up with a second question, "What are the rules?" All students are aware of the rules of the classroom and they also know that if they violate these rules there might be consequences.

By asking these two questions, I received remarkable results. The students who disrupted at the beginning of the semester began to understand that when confronted with their behavioral issues they needed to become more responsible for their own actions and consider how their actions affected others. For more information, visit www.responsiblethinking.com.

TECHNOLOGY WIDGET

Q. What is Wi-Fi?

A. Wi-Fi is trademarked by Wi-Fi Alliance. It signifies that products are certified for interoperability of wireless devices. Wi-Fi is not short for anything, but it may be derived from "Wireless Fidelity." Generally speaking, Wi-Fi refers to any wireless Local Area Network (WLAN), which allows users of computers, game consoles, cell phones, MP3 players, and other mobile devices to connect to the Internet. SVSU has several wireless "hotspots." Information regarding SVSU's wireless network can be found at www.svsu.edu/its.

