



Going Live: Expanding e-Learning & Collaboration with Centra



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Going Live: Expanding e-Learning & Collaboration with Centra

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Agenda

- e-Learning at UNC Charlotte
- How we selected our software
- User profiles
- Promoting synchronous learning
- Faculty training & support
- Student technical support
- Questions



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Where is your institution regarding virtual classroom software?

- A. We're interested and beginning our research.
- B. We've adopted software and are in a pilot.
- C. We're in production and want to expand usage.
- D. Other

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e-Learning at UNC Charlotte



- Research intensive institution - 21,000 students
- 22 Distance Education programs, 550 students, Nine 100% online
- Teachers, nurses, firefighters, electrical engineers

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A Brief History

- Fire Safety Engineering Technology (FSET) program
 - Research began in 1999 (3-4 months)
 - Live two-way audio and video over the Internet
 - Low bandwidth usage
 - Easy to import existing content (PPT, JPEG, HTML, etc)



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A Brief History (continued)


- Fire Safety Engineering Technology (FSET) program
 - Classroom controls, whiteboard, annotation tools
 - Easy to use for both students and professors
 - Record for later playback
 - Selected Centra (25 seat licenses) 
 - Classes started in Fall of 1999

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Synchronous e-Learning Today

- 5 DE programs + on-campus classes
- 16 faculty, 23 classes, 332 students
- Department & committee meetings
- Student advising



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Centra Users

Dr. Brenda Romanoff
Special Education & Child Development





Tools: Breakout Rooms, Whiteboard, Markup

Dr. Romanoff teaches a number of courses in the Academically or Intellectually Gifted Licensure Program for K-12 teachers.


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Centra Users

Kimberly Brooks
Child & Family Development



Tools: Web Safari (with WebCT)


Ms Brooks teaches four courses in the Graduate Certificate in Child and Family Development: Early Intervention program (Birth to Kindergarten). She now teaches from Virginia.

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Centra Users

Jeff Kimble
Fire Safety Engineering Technology



Tools: Whiteboard, Co-Presenter

Prof. Kimble coordinates and teaches in this program in the College of Engineering. He also uses Centra for online Advising.

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Centra Users



John Chesser
UNC Charlotte Urban Institute



Tools: Application Sharing


John trains clients in the Institute's Florida School Redistricting project to use mapping and GIS applications.

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Centra Users

Dr. Boyd Davis
English Department





Tools: Breakout Rooms, Student Presentations

Boyd will be teaching a live course **Language, Aging and Health** from National Kaohsiung Normal University in Taiwan in which the students will partner with her students at UNC Charlotte.

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In The Future . . .



Computer Science – “Introduction to Computer Concepts” online course
Political Science – “Global and Intercultural Connections” course
Languages and Culture Studies – grant collaboration with two other universities and online Portuguese class
FCTeL – WebCT workshops online

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Promoting Synchronous Learning

- Newsletter
- Instructional Technology workshops
- Dept. workshops
- Word of mouth

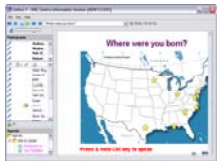


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Faculty Training & Support

- Introduction to Centra online

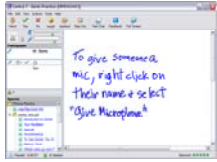


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Faculty Training & Support

- Introduction to Centra online
- One-on-one online trainings




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Faculty Training & Support

- Introduction to Centra online
- One-on-one online trainings
- Web site




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Faculty Training & Support

- Introduction to Centra online
- One-on-one online trainings
- Web site
- Handouts
- Follow-up, as requested




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Faculty Training & Support

- Introduction to Centra online
- One-on-one online trainings
- Web site
- Handouts
- Follow-up, as requested
- Leader workstation



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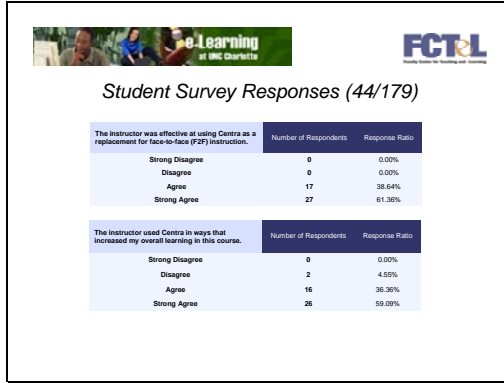


Technical Support

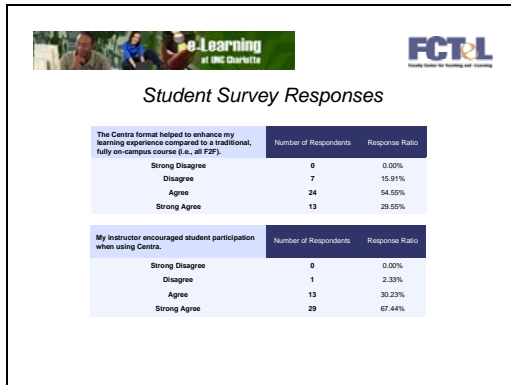
- Monday-Thursday: 8am-8pm
- Friday: 8am-5pm
- Saturday-Sunday: 1-5pm
- Toll-free phone number
- 5 ITCs + 4 student assistants
- Support Web site

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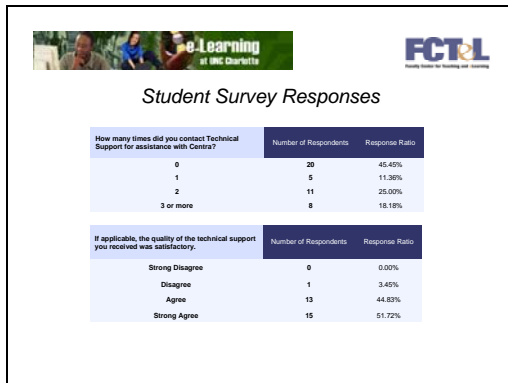
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Student Survey: Overall Impressions

It is great once you learn how to work it and the instructor knows what they are doing.

I am thrilled with this tool. It has enabled me to continue my education at home, with a family and career, in a quality way.



At first I thought I would not like it because I like the interaction of a classroom. However, it worked out better than I hoped. There were two nights where the weather outside was terrible, and I especially appreciated it then!!

I would like to teach a class using this medium and I would definitely register for a class offered through Centra.

We do have some technology glitches, but overall, I have been very pleased with Centra.

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Faculty Survey Responses (13/22)



The Centra format helped to enhance my teaching experience compared to a traditional, fully on-campus course (i.e., all F2F).

	Number of Respondents	Response Ratio
Strong Disagree	0	0.00%
Disagree	1	8.33%
Agree	9	75.00%
Strong Agree	2	16.67%

The training I received in the use of Centra was adequate.

	Number of Respondents	Response Ratio
Strong Disagree	0	0.00%
Disagree	0	0.00%
Agree	6	46.15%
Strong Agree	7	53.85%

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Faculty Survey Responses

I have used Centra at least once for each of the following activities (check all that apply):

	Number of Respondents	Response Ratio
Office hours	7	58.33%
Class discussion	11	91.67%
Recording Lectures	9	75.00%
Student Presentations	5	41.67%
Instructor-led training	5	41.67%
Group work	4	33.33%
Presenting visual aids	6	50.00%

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Faculty Survey: Overall Impressions



It's an easy-to-use tool with many features. I've been impressed by its stability.

Effective means of communication, problem-solving and sharing applications - especially for distance education students.

Good - I like the flexibility and opportunities for student participation.

Neat technology. Great for distance ed, not sure it can be used well for traditional class environments.



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Questions???

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Thank you!

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