



COLLEGE OF  
MARIN

DE@COM

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Ali Klinger offers Bb training on Friday afternoons throughout the semester in LC 121.

### Got something to share?

Send best practices, suggestions, and web links for inclusion in DE@COM to [alisa.klinger@marin.edu](mailto:alisa.klinger@marin.edu)

## Three-Year Development Plan Launched

There is a three-year plan to develop Distance Education (DE) at the College of Marin. The plan has two intended outcomes: to increase our online course offerings and to improve our rate of student success in DE courses. The role of the faculty resource instructor is to attend training on emerging technologies that improve student success in online courses, to provide training for faculty teaching new DE courses, to provide support for faculty teaching existing DE courses in the area of student success, to encourage faculty from a variety of disciplines to develop alternative student-success-oriented modalities for teaching new DE courses, and to gather feedback from DE students and faculty concerning support services that should be implemented.

## Dr. Alisa (“Ali”) Klinger Named Online Learning Faculty Resource Person for Spring ‘10

Ali has been pursuing her passion for texts, technology, and teaching for over twenty years, working in computer-assisted classrooms and online at colleges and universities in Canada and the U.S. She teaches part-time in the COM English Department, where she has taught 5 transfer-level online classes since Summer 09. She received her doctorate in English from UC Berkeley in 1995 and her Teaching English As A Second Language (TESL) Certificate from UC Santa Barbara Extension in 2002. She has earned numerous certificates related to online teaching from the California Virtual Campus and @ONE.

In Ali’s words, “It is my attentiveness to building a vibrant online community of learners that most accounts for my DE students’ success. My insight into how course design and embedded forms of support promote learning and my penchant for calm problem resolution in stressful situations best enable me to effectively work with other faculty members to help them develop online courses that enhance community and ensure student success, retention, and persistence.”

## The COM-5 Train in the Rain

COM was well represented at the @ONE Winter Institute at Cosumnes River College, Sacramento, earlier this year when five COM faculty and staff members interested in hybrid and online teaching attended the “Introduction to Online Teaching & Learning” intensive three-day training together. Kudos to Peggy Dodge, Faye Mueller-Delia, Ross Goodwin, Win Cottle, and Ali Klinger for braving the stormy weather to hone their online instruction skills! They have screenfuls to share, so ask them about what they learned.

## FLEX Workshops

Win Cottle, Ingrid Kelly, Kathleen Smyth, and Ali Klinger presented to current and future Blackboard users on Jan. 21, uncovering their Bb tricks of the trade and opening up their Bb shells for everyone to see. If you would like a copy of Ali's PowerPoint presentation, send her an email: [alisa.klinger@marin.edu](mailto:alisa.klinger@marin.edu)

Steve Dodson presented twice, introducing Edustream to faculty and staff. He is hoping you will take advantage of the technology (with a repository of instructional materials and with the capacity for creating audiovisual course content) to better accommodate your students' multiple learning styles. Media Services staff and Steve are happy to assist you, so contact them for information and assistance: [steve.dodson@marin.edu](mailto:steve.dodson@marin.edu)  
[media.services@marin.edu](mailto:media.services@marin.edu)

## Bb Training @ COM

Is there something about Blackboard that confuses or confounds you? If so, why not suggest a training topic? Ali Klinger offers Bb training on Friday afternoons throughout the semester in LC 121. By keeping the training limited to a few people at a time, Ali can share a brief training module with the group, as well as provide some one-on-one customized support.

To suggest a training topic or to RSVP for a Friday in March training, please e-mail [alisa.klinger@marin.edu](mailto:alisa.klinger@marin.edu).

If you are new to Blackboard, please request a demo shell from Steve Dodson (7473) before attending training, and be sure to bring your Blackboard log-on information with you: [steve.dodson@marin.edu](mailto:steve.dodson@marin.edu)

### How to use Blackboard's Grade Book Friday, Jan 29, from 1 pm to 2 pm in LC 121

The training module covers the following items:

- Using the grade book for assignments, assessments, and discussions
- Creating grade book columns and settings
- Editing column formula (calculating grades)
- Exporting students' grades

### How to Create Assignments in Blackboard Friday, Feb 5, from 1 pm to 2:30 pm in LC 121

The training module covers the following items:

- Creating Assignments in Bb
- Managing Submissions and Notifications
- Creating a Corresponding Grade Book Column
- Creating a Corresponding Calendar Entry
- Assessing in the Assignment Dropbox

### How to Create and Sustain Communities Online

#### Friday, March 26, from 1 pm to 2 pm in LC 121

The training module covers the following items:

- Synchronous and Asynchronous Communication
- Communication Guidelines
- The Welcome Letter
- Announcements, Discussions, Chat, IM, and E-mail
- Fostering Interactivity – Peer Exchanges & Group Work

### Seeking More Comprehensive Training?

The @ONE Project is where you can get affordable training at a time that works with your schedule.

"The @ONE Project makes it easy for California Community College faculty and staff to learn about technology that will enhance student learning and success. @ONE's programs provide training, online resources and research for free - or at a very low cost - thanks to funding from the California Community College Chancellor's Office Telecommunication and Technology Infrastructure Program (TTIP).

"Each year, @ONE offers over 100 training, drawing more than 8,500 registrations. Workshops are taught by knowledgeable instructors who tailor their content to the specifics of the community college setting. The programs are also structured to fit a busy faculty or staff member's schedule."

Check out @ONE for the spring training schedule and consider learning more about Bb 9 at a forthcoming training: <http://www.onefortraining.org/home>

## Must See, Must Read

- YouTube: "A Vision of Today's Students"
- YouTube: "Medieval Helpdesk with English Subtitles"
- Video: "Your Printer Is A Brat:"
- Article: "Defining 'Creepy Treehouse'" by Jared Stein
- Site: [Corrupted-Files.com](http://Corrupted-Files.com)

## Looking for Online Learning Objects?

- Try a little MERLOT to create learning materials with MERLOT's content builder:  
<http://www.merlot.org/merlot/index.htm>

## Timeline

Do you want to go hybrid or take your course online?

- Contact your chair and dean to express your interest. Because your department is working with a limited number of units to cover all instruction, discuss with them the best semester in which to offer an online section of the course you have in mind.
- Register for training so that you can learn how to create your course: <http://www.onefortraining.org/home>
- Ask Steve Dodson for a Blackboard demo shell, username, and password.
- Begin developing and designing your course in Blackboard.
- Fulfill the Curriculum Committee requirements for online course approval and meet its deadlines.
- Remind your department chair to get your course into the schedule, when the appropriate time approaches for its launch.

## Conference, Program, and Publication Calls

- "The Blackboard Exemplary Course Program was born with the goal of identifying and disseminating effective practices for designing engaging online courses. Using a rubric, instructors and course designers can evaluate how well their own course conforms to effective

practices for Course Design, Interaction & Collaboration, Assessment and Learner Support." Deadline to enter your course or judge others' courses is approaching: <http://www.blackboard.com/communities/exemplary-courses.aspx>

- Call for Presentation Proposals for The Online Teaching Conference 2010 - "This conference focuses on K-20 faculty, staff, and administrators engaged (or interested) in online education including delivery of online services such as student, faculty, library, and technical support." <http://otc10.org/>
- "Emerging Technologies for Online Learning Symposium, a joint Symposium of Sloan Consortium and MERLOT with MoodleMoot, is designed to bring together individuals interested in the technological aspects of online learning. The symposium, focusing on the technologies that drive online learning effectiveness, will continue to highlight research, applications, and best practices of important emerging technological tools. Experts, intermediate users and novices are welcome to participate in Symposium activities that will include face-to-face and virtual components. Symposium tracks highlight and demonstrate research, application and best practices of important emerging technological tools related to social networking, assessment, open educational resources, new media and support services. Call for Presentations is Now Open!" <http://www.sloan-c.org/et4online>

## DE in the News

- US News & World Report summarizes a few key points from the recently released Sloan-C survey: <http://tinyurl.com/yldfu4p>
- "Online Education Continues Its Meteoric Growth" by Jeff Greer
- "Colleges See 17 Percent Increase in Online Enrollment" by Marc Parry
- The Sloan-C report home page
- "Grant Writers, Get Ready -- Bill Gates Is Fired Up About Online Learning" by Marc Parry
- "2010 Annual Letter from Bill Gates: Online Learning"