

Creating a Writing Course with Blackboard

Yuji Abe
NorQuest College

Pros and Cons of Blackboard

- ▶ Gives assignments/quizzes to everyone in class and marks
- ▶ Keeps track of students' progress
- ▶ Once you create a Blackboard course, you can reuse/recycle materials
- ▶ Great preparation for students to go to post secondary institutions
- ▶ Not intuitive/ learning curve: need to “teach” Blackboard before you can teach English
- ▶ Requires learner autonomy
- ▶ Need to offer support
- ▶ Students might not use Blackboard after ESL

Pros

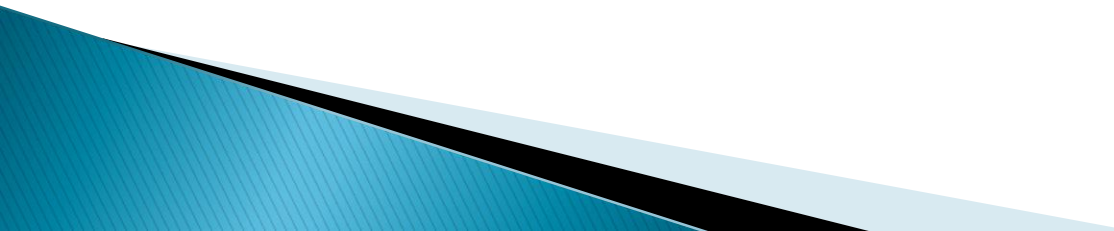
Cons

Why Blackboard?

- ▶ Blackboard might be the only option (LMS) for creating an online (standalone/supplemental) course

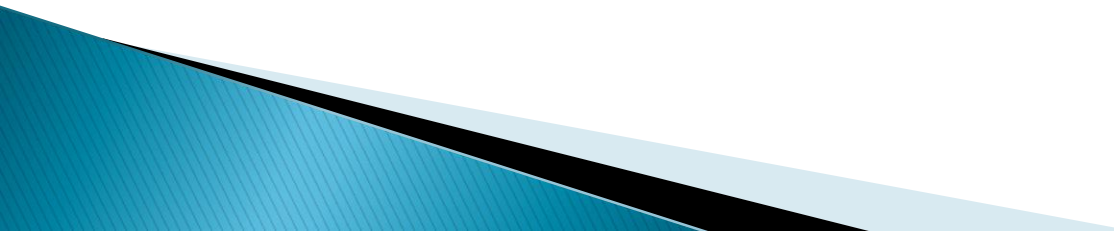
What to Do?

- ▶ Make your Blackboard user friendly
 - Fewer icons/navigation guide
 - ▶ Use audio and video (PowerPoint) to meet different learner needs
 - ▶ Use software available for Blackboard and create interactive activities

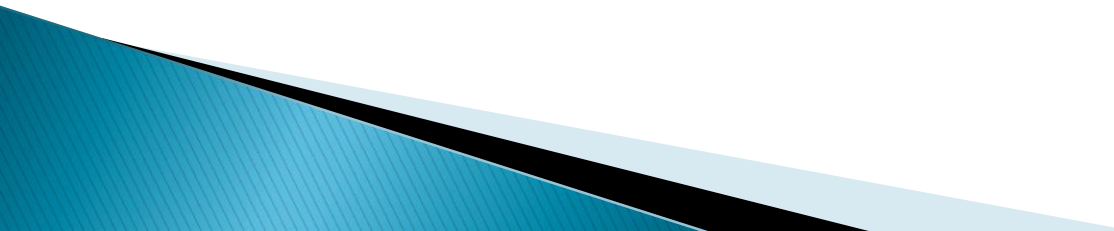
 - ▶ Go with other LMSs
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Before you begin...

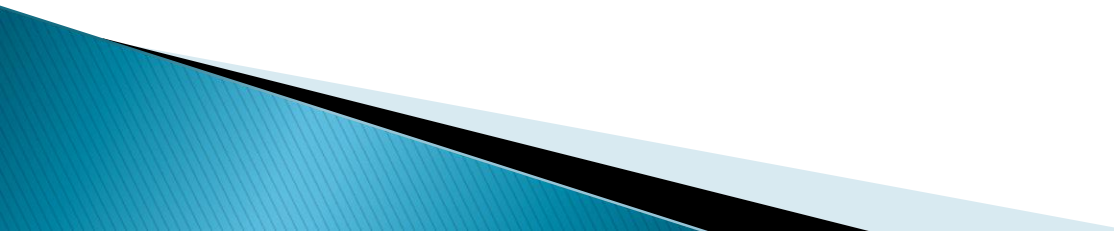
If you work with your IT department...

- ▶ Have a clear procedure
 - ▶ Understand your IT department's expectations
 - ▶ Learn the limitations of Blackboard
 - ▶ Consider Universal design
 - ▶ Get copyright permission
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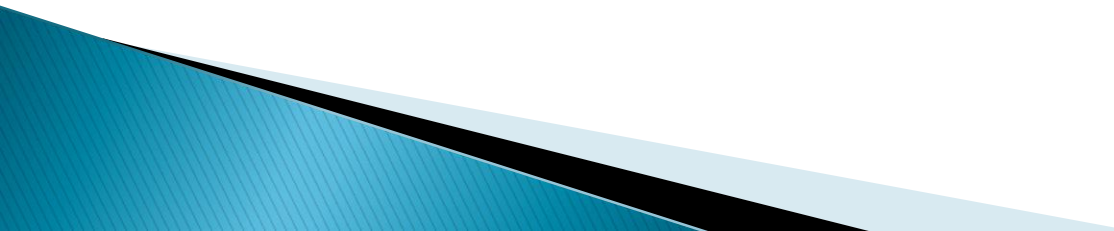
When Creating a Blackboard Course

- ▶ Conceptualize your course
 - ▶ Make your units consistent
 - ▶ Don't put too much text (split pages)
 - ▶ Consider Universal Design
 - ▶ Don't use textboxes (rtf)
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Ex) Effective Writing for Nursing IEN

- ▶ 4 units (modules)
 - ▶ What you Learn:
 - Write nursing reports
 - Incorporate information from your readings into your writing
 - Write compositions on health-care topics
 - Write business correspondence in a healthcare context
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Ex) Effective Writing for Nursing IEN Components

- ▶ Introduction
 - ▶ Quiz/ pre-writing activity
 - ▶ Learning modules which covers important issues
 - ▶ Grammar and punctuation modules
 - ▶ Opportunities to compose and write
 - ▶ Opportunities to edit
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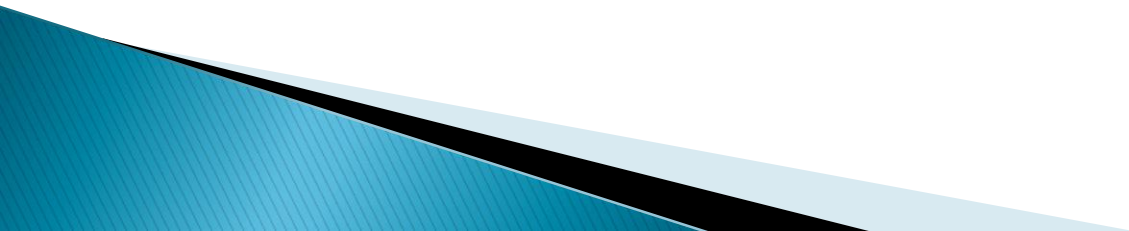
Software

- ▶ Respondus
- ▶ StudyMate
- ▶ Hot Potatoes (free)

Software

Respondus	StudyMate	HotPotatoes	RTF
•Quizzes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•True/False•Multiple choice (only one answer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Yes/No•Change order•Short answer•Multiple choice (more than one answer)•Hybrid	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Note taking•Paragraph writing

Let's Take a Look!



Questions?

Yuji Abe

Yuji.abe@norquest.ca