

April 14, 2011

Business Technology – Jason Watts, Luella Middle School

Group Review by Barry Thibault, Hope Via, and David Robertson

Course strengths

Bonus points

Uses the same icons for continuity

Employer – employee relationship

4 discipline steps when points start to fail

He did all the help videos himself (using Jing) if free version then less than 5 min each

Scoring rubric – went over it for discussion posts

Peer grading by rating stars 1 is bad post and 5 stars is a great post

Grading in angel video:

+ Milestones

Saving documents to the X drive – helpful video:

- He went through the steps a bit fast!
- Ended some of his videos abruptly – could throw some encouragement in there

Angel Learning Management System

- + Home button – always available – good
- + Help button - Student Essentials Guide excellent – one click access (questions mark on left navigation bar) provided useful LMS information
- + Logout button – quick and easy exit
- + Preferences button – Customize the student experience
- + LMS was easy to navigate

Course Module LMS

- + Course Tab - Grades / Activities at a glance / Course Mail on dashboard was useful
- + Calendar tab – Great way to keep up with due dates**
- + Lessons tab – All tasks, assignments, dropboxes in logical sequence and easy to follow order**

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+ Resources tab – Great area to organize syllabus, resources, grades, discussion forums, course announcements, course email, Google search, and Merriam-Webster Dictionary, plus a calculator

+ Communicate tab – Logical dashboard for communication including (another) portal to course mail, discussion forums, course roster, course news (including polls) and events and live office hours.

+ Report tab – the Reports Console that organizes reports for grades and milestones plus a variety of other communication reporting.

Task 1: Information Processing

+ Standard.

+ a,b,c, etc. task objectives

+ Standardized icons for continuity

Task 1: Information Processing

Pretest

+ 3 chances to earn best grade

+ Basic vocabulary – alphabetized, simple, not too long, good terms to know.

+ Ask Jeeves for Kids link is a great, safe search engine for minors

Task 2: Computer Maintenance & Safety

- I did not see controls on videos for students to pause Jing videos. I spent time trying to locate these controls and never did. No where I found on the tutorials where it said that there are no controls on the videos and that you have to watch them in their entirety on the spot or start over if interrupted.
- In some of his lesson videos (like this one), the teacher is performing work outside the view of the student.

Task 3: Career Plan

+ Wordle activity – you know the class is engaging when I stopped reviewing the class and did the activity!

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- + Learning Styles Assessment – I saved the doc for future use!
- + Career Plan Worksheet – excellent!

Task 4: Keyboarding Skills

- + Vocabulary blank works well, teaches drop box skills, uploading, editing, saving, etc.
- + Keyboard “games” –
- + Shows errors that can occur during surfing and how to get back to start over
- + Made students find the games on their own instead of assigning a game
- Keybaroding_games_2.swf is misspelled

Task 5: Internet Safety & Security

- There are no lessons, videos, or links on this lesson to evaluate or review

Task 6: Internet as a Resource

- + Scavenger Hunts are a cool tool for learners of any age
- + Useful web sites: Amazon.com, cnn.com, Mapquest.com, www.wal-mart.com,
The SUGGESTION: Have students compare Mapquest again Google maps and submit a comparison minute reflection and vote on their favorite as a class
SUGGESTION: Change the name of the dropbox in this lesson from “Scavenger Hunt” to “Scavenger Hunt Dropbox.”

Task 7: Employment Skills

- + I love the “standard” and the a/b/c lesson objectives
- There are no lessons, videos, or links on this lesson to evaluate or review

Task 8: Word Processing Software

- There are no lessons, videos, or links on this lesson to evaluate or review

Task: 9,10,11

- Tasks 9/10/11 may have been removed for this Angel course review but if not, the lessons should follow in numerical order instead of going from Task 8 to Task 12.

Task 12: Multimedia/Presentation Software

- + The Standard and a-f lesson objectives in this task are very good and appropriate for this level of class and student.
- + Two options are offered and compare and contrast exercise is excellent