

Proposal for Section 5b, Web-based Research and Instruction

Proposed Timeline: I will attend the three "virtual workshops" during November, 2004. I will apply innovations to the COSC 100-series courses I teach in the Spring semester of 2005. (For the purpose of assessment, I will specifically address COSC 101, Spreadsheet Applications.)

Course Department: COSC 101, Spreadsheet Applications

Description of Project:

I will "attend" three virtual workshops offered by WebCT. These three workshops, described below, would enable me learn to better administer Augustana's WebCT courses. This expertise would benefit not only my courses, but the courses of other faculty with whom I work.

Following is a description of each of the three workshops:

Fundamentals of WebCT Campus Edition 4 System Integration

(Nov. 10, 12:00 – 3:00 Eastern Time)

This workshop is geared toward systems administrators. It is a 3-hour synchronous workshop. It covers journaling file systems, optimizing performance, monitoring and log analysis, disaster recovery, backup strategies, managing upgrades, patches, and security. This session costs \$525.

Designing with WebCT's Vista 3.0

(Nov. 12-18, Nov. 18, 11:00-1:00 Eastern Time)

This workshop also starts with a 3-hour synchronous session followed by a week-long asynchronous workshop. This workshop is particularly interesting since it explores the WebCT product that is a step beyond the one we are using. It would allow me to explore the possibilities and see if Vista might be of use to us. It deals specifically with storyboards, sub-tabs, discussion forums, chat/whiteboard rooms, learning modules, action menus, selective release, evaluation, and action plans for continued improvement. This workshop costs \$395.

(Update) Evaluation Plan:

- 1) I will provide a written report on what I, personally, learn as a result of the two workshops.
- 2) I will integrate one or more of the things I learn in the workshops into my own WebCT courses, COSC 101 Spreadsheet Applications, and will then assess the impact upon student learning of those new techniques or approaches. (I'm specifically thinking of storyboarding and/or selective release, but I won't know for sure until I actually take the workshops and see what is available.)
- 3) I will provide a written report on information gleaned from the workshops which I share with other WebCT users at Augustana.
- 4) If possible, I will report on *their* integration of the new techniques, approaches, or features *they* integrate into *their* courses, and the impact on student learning.