

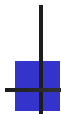


ETOM Presentation: Using Synchronous Tools to Support Asynchronous Courses



Dr. Alan McCord
Lawrence Technological University
October 19, 2006

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Agenda

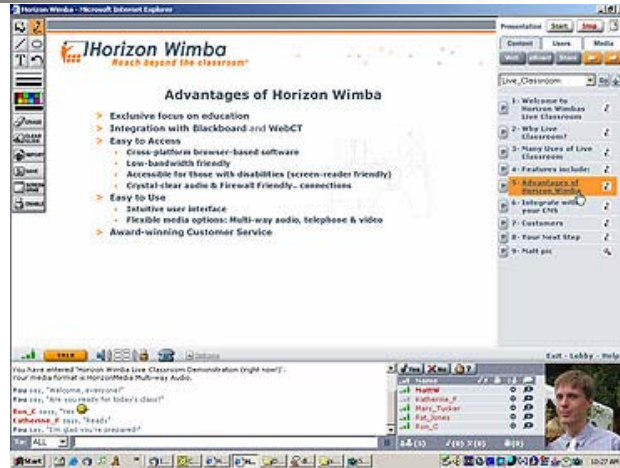
- Topic: “using synchronous collaboration tools to support asynchronous courses”
- Practice using Horizon Wimba
- Review several free synchronous tools
- Exchange information and opinions
- Other topics of interest?

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Horizon Wimba Basics

- Chat
- Talk
- Web
- App Share
- Whiteboard
- Conf Call
- Archiving



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What's Missing from Asynch

- I2S and S2S "connection gap"
- Traditional classroom "comfort"
 - Hearing each others' voices
 - Seeing each others' faces
 - Network effects
- Rapid exchange of ideas
- Other challenges?

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Use of Synchronous Tools

- Mitigate “gaps” between traditional and online experience
- Provide “live” exchange opportunities
- Provide additional learning modalities
- Insure that all students share some common experiences
- Other applications?

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Range of Synchronous Tools

- **Text messaging** – leverages cellular service
- **Telephone conference** – low cost, ubiquitous, scaling issues
- **P2P (IM, VOIP)** – low cost, network-limited, conferencing and video, scaling issues
- **Web conferencing** – moderate cost, shared apps, network-limited, sometimes chat-only
- **Video conferencing** – higher cost, location-limited, sometimes chat-only
- Other tools?

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Current Use at LTU

- **Text messaging** – office hours, quick q's
- **Telephone conference** – orientation, periodic Q&A, group projects
- **P2P (IM, VOIP)** – office hours, group projects, conferencing and video
- **Web conferencing** – office hours, content reinforcement, group projects
- **Video conferencing** – classic multi-site distance learning

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Using Web Collaboration

- Instructor/student presentations
- Q&A sessions
- Shared document development
- Voice and chat
 - Microphone, chat window, "hand raising"
- Archiving and on-demand playback
- Other uses?

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Free Synchronous Tools

- www.aim.com
- www.google.com/talk/
- www.jivesoftware.org/
- www.skype.com
- www.vyew.com
- Other tools that you are using?

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Q&A

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