Using Technology for On-Line Discussion and Tutoring

What is this?

Engaging students in discussion does not always have to be done face-to-face. In the challenge to improve contact time with students, it is important to stress that there are many new technologies that can be used by academics (especially within the Exeter Learning Environment (ELE)) to support this aspiration. This course explores how to use on-line technologies to promote discussion among students and academics and how this can enhance tutoring. Having students maintain on-line logs or diaries will also be addressed. The pedagogy of on-line tutoring will also be discussed.

Who's it for?

The session is for academics and administrators who want to know how to use the on-line discussion, wikis and chat tools (especially within ELE) and how these can be utilised to provide enhanced tutorial support.

When and where is it?

To find out the dates of this course (it will be run continuously throughout the year) and to book you will need to log on to the Trent system at :-

http://staff.exeter.ac.uk

Click on the ‘Learning’ tab and then ‘Learning Activity Search’. Type the name of the course into the field (use a ‘*’ at the beginning) and a list of available dates will be made available for you to book.

What will I get from the session?

By the end of the session you should be able to:

1. understand the types of Discussion Forums in ELE and can set one up
2. use Discussion Forums as an optional enhancement within modules
3. understand the facilities within ELE that can be used for learning logs and journals
4. set up WIKIS and BLOGS in ELE and understands the different types available and relevant settings
5. understand how to evaluate contributions to a WIKI
6. set up live chat facilities within ELE

Session content

- The session will concentrate on demonstrations of the items above however as this will be taught in small groups there will be opportunities for participants to get hands-on practice with the technologies.
How do I sign up?

Sign up via the Trent Service System:  http://www.exeter.ac.uk/staff/services/selfservice/ . If you would like additional information, please contact Nick Birbeck (N.Birbeck@exeter.ac.uk)