

Website Development for Concurrent Credit: Custom Tools for Added Communication

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Website Development Options

Level 1: Easy

- University Content Management Systems
 - Blackboard
 - Angel
 - CourseWork
 - Other university-wide systems
- CMS options depend on licenses, IT Department:
 - Add instructor content, links, documents to an existing course
 - Create separate course or courses for instructors
 - Work with IT to develop a tailored system that meets your specific needs

Website Development Options

Level 2: Moderate

- Free website development programs (domain and/or hosting *may* cost)
 - Google: <http://sites.google.com/>
 - Yahoo: <http://webhosting.yahoo.com/ps/sb/index.php>
 - Wordpress: <http://wordpress.com/>
 - Weebly: <http://www.weebly.com/>
 - Terapad: <http://www.terapad.com/>
 - Others
- Use software programs & online templates
 - Easy to customize & design
 - No HTML/XML/CSS/CMS/coding necessary in most cases
 - Relatively easy & inexpensive way to create your own site

Website Development Options

Level 3: Difficult

- University-hosted domain, your web pages
- Traditional HTML/XHTML/CSS web site ([sample site](#))
 - For basic content not likely to change frequently
- Content Management System
 - Joomla, Mambo, Wordpress, Typo3, many others
 - My favorite is Joomla; plug-in extensions provide functionality
 - Many web hosting companies provide built-in CMS software with hosting accounts (IX Web Hosting, JustHost.com, etc.)
 - Flexible, expandable, & template-based
 - For a list of 13 free Content Management Systems, visit <http://blog.webdistortion.com/2008/05/17/13-free-cms-options-for-web-design-professionals/>

CULTURA Features and Results

- CULTURA Demonstration
- CULTURA Pages – Pros:
 - User-friendly; more likely to be used as a home page or favorite
 - More creative & flexible
 - Unrestricted *and* restricted content available
 - Comprehensive resources for all course-related projects
- CULTURA Pages – Cons:
 - Unrelated to institutional course pages
 - Development, maintenance, & updates require time
 - Steep learning curve for programming/developing site
 - Cost involved in hosting site + domain registration
 - Potential security breaches

CULTURA Communication

- History of the site – reasons for creation
 - Accessible, user-friendly, fun, and practical
 - If it is not all of the above, no one will ever access the resources without some form of coercion!
 - Need more ways to connect with increasing numbers of teachers
- Application to concurrent credit
 1. Course set-up and evaluation instructions
 2. Online discussion forums
 3. Course content and online resources
- Anecdotal successes and failures

Communication Strategies

- Technical specifications and procedures for Joomla
 - Download, troubleshoot, & work on Joomla:
<http://www.joomla.org/>
 - Extensions Database – apps. for Joomla:
<http://extensions.joomla.org/>
- Techniques for simplification and streamlining
- Add-on software for ease of use and enhanced communication
- Ideas for future development
 - Social networking tools
 - File repository & database

Website Development Resources

- Free-use photos & graphics: <http://www.sxc.hu/>
- Basic instruction in HTML Coding:
<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~html/html3.html>
- Free HTML Templates:
<http://www.templateworld.com/>
- Joomla CMS Documentation:
<http://docs.joomla.org/>
- Inexpensive hosting for Joomla, Wordpress:
<http://www.justhost.com/> (\$3.45/mo.)
- Joomla Templates: www.bestofjoomla.com
- Joomla Extensions: <http://extensions.joomla.org/>

Question & Answer

User Area | Register | Contact Professor Earwicker | A A A

Cultura

Professor Benjamin J. Earwicker

Username... Password... Log in

Remember Me | [Lost my Password or Username](#)

Home frontpage | Students course access | **Instructors course set-up** | Personal Ben's projects | Recommend send site to a friend

search...

Forums



Instructor Discussions About Teaching Language & Culture

Research and Writing | [Home](#) > [Instructors course set-up](#)

News and News Sources

Grammar and Language

Countries and Cultures >

Social Issues >

Instructor Portal

Welcome to my online instructor portal! The instructor pages contain blog discussions related to teaching methodology and content, partner instructor introductions, and my course set-up guide. The step-by-step course set-up guide will help you structure your concurrent credit course and align it with its corresponding on-campus language course.