

LECTURE NOTES ONLINE?

Placing lecture notes online may not be the best practice --- first, it superimposes on a medium that can be so effective in many diverse ways a practice whose effectiveness can be questioned even in the face-to-face environment; and second, it is not a 'safe' environment in which to display any materials one would consider intellectual property. Placing such notes online in a web-assisted course can be for one of two purposes: To help students who missed a session 'catch up', or to help those who attended a session review the material. In a course that is totally online, the purpose may be to replace the lecture of a face-to-face course. In either case, the possibilities offered by the online environment may not be best utilized. The following are suggestions for ways to include important course content in the online environment:

Teacher Generated Materials

- **Themes.** Place online the important themes of a unit or a session, not the detailed notes.
- **Outlines.** Place the outline of a unit, chapter, or session.
- **Key Terminology.** Place a list of key terms, names, and other items that will help students review and/or study course material.
- **Research Venues.** Place suggestions for accessing quality printed materials/information online or elsewhere.
- **Links.** Place links (or suggestions for types of links) for students to pursue
 - Journals, reports, studies
 - Primary sources
 - Professional web sites
 - Commercial web sites

Student Generated Materials

- All of the above resources can also be generated by students, depending on the course's level and the students' information literacy capabilities.
- Create a class database of resources
 - by topic
 - By author
 - By type

Advantages of this strategy:

1. It moves learning from passive to active;
2. It expands the scope of 'authorities' of information beyond the instructor;
3. It protects intellectual property;
4. It helps students develop information literacy skills.

