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Faculty Teaching Certificate Program
Capstone Project
Spring 2005

Project Background

- Each student in my English 448 (Contemporary Literature) class is required to do an oral presentation to the class about one book by a contemporary writer (other than the writers we cover in class). This presentation briefly assesses the writer's strengths and contributions to contemporary literature.
- Students are also required to write a 2-page document that serves as a template for their presentation, going into slightly more detail about the writer's biography/background, place in literature, strengths, and how the book being presented demonstrates those strengths. The document also contains the writer's complete bibliography.

Project Description

- English 448 students post their documents in the class' D2L Dropbox, then I upload them into our Contents page as a topic. Every student is required to look at two (2) documents and then turn in a 1-paragraph response for each document to me.
- Oral presentations and document postings are completed by April 21, giving students the remainder of the semester to review each other's documents.

Project Rationale

- Exposes students to more contemporary writers than the nine required texts.
- Preparing the Contents module requires me to get more familiar with D2L and review material covered in D2L training sessions.
- The more comfortable I am with D2L the more I will use it to teach hybrid classes in the future.
- Requiring students to post their documents in our D2L class will help them get familiar with D2L.