Using Auxiliary Software and Resources to Enhance your Course

Several third party software applications and/or resources are available to enhance the tools already available in Blackboard CE 8. Tools managed by the Department of Online Learning are Wimba Live Classroom, Respondus, Turnitin and Quality Matters Rubric. You may also want to contact the NJCU Distance Learning Librarian to find out how to access and use the large variety of research databases available to students and faculty.

Below, you will find a brief overview of the auxiliary resources managed by the Department of Online Learning and information about how to access these resources.

### Wimba Live Classroom

#### What is Wimba?
Wimba allows instructors to provide live, personal interaction between students and the instructor. Participants may engage in verbal and nonverbal communication to increase interaction between students. Advanced features such as polling, whiteboarding, presenter on-the-fly, resizable chat areas and participant lists, usage analytics tools, and session archiving enable dynamic interaction between students and educators.

If you decide to use Wimba in your web-based course, it is important to prepare students in advance. Sessions are synchronous, so it is a good idea to provide them with optional attendance times of their own choosing. If students are not able to make all of the scheduled chats, you can provide them with an archived session so that they can review the video playback and chat transcripts.

The Department of Online Learning created the following handout to help prepare your students to use Wimba: [Live Classroom Handout](#)

#### How do I access Wimba?
Wimba is installed on NJCU’s Blackboard CE 8 server as a Powerlink. You can add the Wimba classroom to your course homepage or to a specific learning module.

1. From the **Build** tab, find the **Add Content Link** in the main content window.
2. Click on **Wimba Classroom** and **Create Wimba Classroom**.
3. Give the Wimba classroom a title, such as “Week One Chat” and click **Continue**.
4. Follow the on-screen prompts and click **Continue**.
5. You will now see an icon for “Week One Chat” on the course homepage or in the learning module.
6. To access the Wimba classroom, you must click on the **Teach** tab and then click on the Wimba classroom link you created.

Visit the Wimba Client Resources site and sign up for the Presenter Training 101 or Advanced Training: [http://horizonwimba.com/liveclassroom/onlinetrainingSeminars.php](http://horizonwimba.com/liveclassroom/onlinetrainingSeminars.php) [Note that the URL for the training is case sensitive and the “S” in seminars is capitalized.]

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**Respondus Software**

**What is Respondus?**
Respondus is a powerful tool for creating and managing exams that can be published directly to Blackboard CE. Exams can be created offline using a familiar Windows environment and then moved to Blackboard CE. Respondus eliminates many of the steps in creating an exam by guiding you through the creation of your exam in a step-by-step process.

- Makes creating exams and entering questions easier.
- Allows importing questions from text based files created in word processing programs.
- Publishes your exam directly to Blackboard CE from the Respondus software.
- Allows you to specify exam settings, such as release time, before importing into Blackboard CE
- Creates questions and question categories for you in Blackboard CE
Allows you to specify correct answers and point values before importing into Blackboard CE.

Whether you are downloading question databases, updating exams or viewing submission statistics, Respondus makes the whole process easier.

Respondus Resources:

Respondus Account Request Form: [http://newlearning.njcu.edu/dl/faculty/forms.htm](http://newlearning.njcu.edu/dl/faculty/forms.htm)

Once you fill out the Respondus request form, you will receive the Respondus software download information by e-mail.

**Need More Information on Respondus?**
Contact an Educational Technologist in the Department of Online Learning for training and support.
What is Turnitin?
Turnitin is a web-based plagiarism detection service designed to detect unoriginal work submitted by students. It identifies textual matches between submitted files and billions of pages from both current and archived instances of the internet, millions of student papers previously submitted to Turnitin, and commercial databases of articles and periodicals.

When a paper is submitted online to Turnitin, an Originality Report is compiled and posted for the instructor. The report highlights any text in the paper that matches sources within the Turnitin database and it provides links to those sources. This can help faculty judge the degree of originality in a student's work and if sources have been cited legitimately.

Please note that while Turnitin is a highly regarded tool for detecting textual similarities between compared works, it is in fact only a tool which should be used in conjunction with the faculty member's professional judgment in determining whether text has been plagiarized.

What are the benefits of using Turnitin?
Turnitin is designed to:

- require less time of faculty to investigate suspect papers;
- increase academic honesty by acting as a powerful deterrent to digital plagiarism;
- Increase awareness and understanding about proper citation and intellectual property.

How do I get a Turnitin account?

Turnitin requires faculty to create a user profile. Under that profile, you are able to create a number of courses with assignments. Faculty may require students to upload their work directly to Turnitin or may submit it on behalf of their students.

Faculty who choose to use Turnitin must inform students of its use and should place the following statement in their course syllabus:

Students agree that by taking this course all assignments are subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com. Assignments submitted to Turnitin.com will be included as source documents in Turnitin.com's restricted access database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism in such documents. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site. For further information about Turnitin, please visit: http://www.turnitin.com.

To request a Turnitin account:
1. Complete the "Turnitin Account Request" form at: http://newlearning.njcu.edu/dl/faculty/forms.htm
2. Once your account request is processed you will receive an email from the Department of Online Learning containing an Account ID and Join Password.
3. Use this information to create your user profile at www.turnitin.com. You will find wizards to guide you through the class and assignment set up process.

How can I receive additional help?
Quality Matters Online Instruction Rubric

What is Quality Matters?

Quality Matters created a set of forty specific elements, distributed across eight broad standards, by which to evaluate the design of online and hybrid courses. The web-based, fully interactive rubric is complete with annotations that explain the application of the standards and relationship between them. The eight broad standards include:

- Course Overview and Introduction
- Learning Objectives
- Assessment and Measurement
- Resources and Materials
- Learner Engagement
- Course Technology
- Learner Support
- Accessibility

One of the benefits of a Quality Matters subscription is access to the fully annotated, web-based QM Rubric. This version includes more detail than the leaflet included in your training folder.

How do I access the Quality Matters fully annotated online instructional rubric?

To access the rubric, please contact the Department of Online Learning at 201-200-2199 and an educational technologist will create an account for you. Once you have an account, you can log-in to the Quality Matters rubric at http://www.qmrubric.org/login.

If you need additional assistance or if you have questions about implementing any of these tools in your course you may also request an appointment with the educational technologist assigned to you in the
Department of Online Learning by calling (201) 200-3449. You can request the above software via electronic form at: http://newlearning.njcu.edu/dl/faculty/forms.htm