



TCC Hotline



New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology
Tech Computer Center

August 06, 2010

MSEC 195 Classroom

A new computer classroom is now functional in MSEC room 195. The room is equipped with the normal instructor cluster of a PC, 100MB Ethernet, DVD player, ceiling mounted projector, iClicker®, projector screen, wireless microphone, ELMO® camera, and sound system. The classroom was funded by the Title-V project. Use of this classroom may be scheduled thru the Registrar's Office at x-5133.

Jones Annex 106 Classroom

A new computer classroom is now functional in Jones Annex room 106. The room is equipped with the normal instructor cluster of a PC, 100MB Ethernet, DVD player, ceiling mounted projector, iClicker®, projector screen, ELMO® camera, and sound system. The classroom was funded by the Student's Tuition Fund. Use of this classroom may be scheduled thru the Registrar's Office at x-5133.

Software Upgrades

The following software will be upgraded on all TCC computers for the Fall Semester:

Adobe CS5 Design Premium

Comsol 4.0a

Fedora 13

Hawkes College Algebra 2010

Hawkes Intermediate Algebra 2010

Maple 14

Matlab 2010a

Minitab 16

Visual Studio 2010

New Printers

The following new HP 2025 color printers and associated queues have been installed:

Fidel130-color

Library208-color

Speare23-color

Speare5-color

Course Management Systems

NMT has two Course Management Systems (CMS) available. Both systems are modular, so you can use as many or as few of their parts as you like. Most instructors use these systems to post course notes and to use the integrated grade book, but both systems have huge suites of potentially useful features.

Blackboard is the leading commercial courseware system. Our Blackboard server is remotely hosted in Reston, Virginia, by Blackboard Inc. under contract to IDEAL-NM, a state agency. This server

runs Blackboard Vista 8.0, which is nearly identical to the WebCT releases that preceded it. This server is located at:

<http://nmt.blackboard.com/>

We may move to their next major release, Learn R9.1, but no sooner than the summer of 2011. Blackboard documentation for instructors is located at:

<http://www.nmt.edu/tcc/help/pubs/Bb/Bb8teach/>

Moodle is the leading open-source courseware system. It was designed by educators and has a number of innovative features. Our Moodle site is locally hosted by the Tech Computer Center. This server is located at:

<http://moodle.nmt.edu/>

The instructor documentation is located at:

<http://www.nmt.edu/tcc/help/pubs/moodle/mooteach/>

If you would like to try out either system or both of them, we'll be happy to set up a test course for you; send your request to cms_master@nmt.edu. When you are ready to go live with a production course, send your request to cms_master@nmt.edu and include:

1. Whether you want the course in Blackboard or Moodle.
2. The CRN (Course Reference Number), semester, and year of the course, and the full title.
3. If your course is cross-listed under more than one course number, we need to know all of the section CRNs and the overall course title before we can set up the course. Once a section is created, we cannot change whether it is cross listed!

Phishing and Passwords

In recent weeks, hackers have sent out email claiming to represent NMT departments or US Banks and asked users to provide their passwords or have their accounts terminated. **NEVER** respond to such phishing attempts. No department at NMT would ever request you to email them your password. (In the field of computer security, **phishing** is the criminal process of attempting to acquire sensitive information such as usernames and passwords, by masquerading as a trustworthy entity in an electronic communication.)