Samford University

SAMFORD ONLINE NEWSLETTER

Samford Approved Online Course

RECOGNITIONS

QM TEACHING ONLINE CERTIFICATE

Congratulations to fourteen Samford faculty who dedicated part of their summer to complete seven courses and achieve the QM Teaching Online Certificate! These faculty received a QM Digital Credential after successful completion of each course. Topics included: *Gauging Technology Skills, Evaluating Course Design, Exploring Institutional Policies, Orienting Online Learners, Connecting Learning Theories to Teaching Strategies, Creating Presence in Online Courses*, and *Assessing Online Learners*. After earning all seven QM Digital Credentials, faculty members were awarded the Teaching Online Certificate. Katherine Jarnigan, one of Samford's instructional designers, worked with the cohort along the way and earned the Certificate, as well. Thanks to all for the dedication to quality online instruction!

QM CERTIFIED INSTRUCTORS

Katherine Jarnigan	Geri Beers	Moniaree Jones
Annette Hess	Ashley York	Tameka Pritchett
Pamela Carver	Christa Moore	Sherri Chatman
Tonya Shanahan	Nina Harvey	Brandy Mobley
Maria Ledbetter	Angela Wilson	Ashley Turner

MEET THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF OUR TEAM

Taylor Kendrick, M.S.Ed., M.Div.

Taylor has worked at Samford since 2017 as a graduate assistant and became a full-time instructional designer in 2018. He holds an M.Div. and M.S.Ed. in Instructional Design & Technology from Samford. Previously, he was a pastor and a media consultant. Taylor's three biggest interests are family, international missions, and golf.

Teresa MacBain, B.A.

Teresa has worked at Samford as a graduate assistant instructional designer since Summer of 2018. She is currently pursuing an M.S.Ed. In Instructional Design & Technology at Samford. Previously, she was a nonprofit executive and consultant. Teresa's other interests include playing guitar, writing music, and spending time with family and friends.

Canvas Corner

COURSE MIGRATION

Samford recently migrated 5,000 Spring 2016 through Spring 2018 Moodle courses. Any migrated courses will appear on the Canvas course list. To access these courses, visit canvas.samford.edu, go to the global navigation options on the left side of the Canvas screen, click on Courses > All Courses. Most likely, courses will be listed by the course prefix and number (ex: UCCA101.01) with no course title included. There was a limitation in the number of courses that could be migrated. As a result, all courses prior to Spring 2016 may not be included. If courses do not appear in Canvas, please contact our office at samfordonline@samford.edu for next steps in migrating Moodle content to Canvas prior to the December 31 date.

OUT WITH THE OLD

Samford faculty are jumping right in with Canvas. As of August 31, there are 572 active courses in Canvas! As a reminder, after December 31st, 2018, Moodle will be **unavailable** for access and everyone will need to utilize Canvas as the Learning Management System. During this transition period, we recommend ensuring that you have all your necessary content exported and saved from Moodle. Any saved content can be imported into Canvas at any time in the future.

The Upgraded Canvas Gradebook

By Taylor Kendrick

Canvas upgraded its Gradebook with new and improved features. Two features are the Late Policy and the Submission Status Color Coding. When enabled, the Late Policy feature automatically applies deductions to late submissions according to the parameters established for the course. The Submission Status Color Coding feature applies color coding to a submission indicating if it is late, missing, or excused. While **we do not recommend using the new Gradebook in your fall courses,** instructors should become familiar with it by enabling it in a practice or staging course. **The new Gradebook will be officially TURNED ON the 20th of December after fall grades have been submitted.** Attend the November 9th Canvas Training for training.

SAMFORD ONLINE NEWSLETTER

Quality Matters at Samford

Quality Matters (QM) is a faculty-centered, peer review process intended to certify the design of online courses. QM is a leader in quality assurance for online education and has received national recognition for its peer-based approach and continuous improvement in online education. QM does not interfere with the freedom afforded to faculty members in the selection of academic content within the online course. Rather, QM provides a rubric including 42 standards based on current research and best practice used to improve the design of online courses to optimize student learning. Samford's minimum requirements for online course design ("Samford Approved Online Course") are based upon a general application of the general QM standards.

Did You Know?

- Quality Matters (QM) offers several free webinars to institutional members. Click here for more information.
- Is your department or school planning to develop new online courses? Consider a department-wide QM certification in "Applying the Rubric." Contact samfordonline@samford.edu for scheduling.
- All faculty and staff have access to the QM Research Library. The library contains literature that supports each of the eight general QM standards and is searchable by keyword or QM standard.
- Samford's commitment to excellence and faculty professional development was highlighted in the September 2018 edition of the Quality Matters Higher Ed Newsletter! Check it out here!

SAVE THE DATES

10/2/18 Tuesday
Coffee Talk: Quality Matters
8:30 – 9:30 – DBH 416

10/12/18 Friday
Canvas 101
9:00–10:00 – DBH 416
10:00–11:00 – DBH 423

10/24/18 Wednesday
Lunch & Learn: Beyond the Discussion Board
11:30 – 1:00 – DBH 416

10/26/18 Friday
Conceptualizing your Online Course
9:00–10:00 – DBH 416
10:00–11:00 – DBH 423

Seating is limited for each session. Click the dates to register!

COMING SOON!

January 15-18, 2019

INNOVATE 2.0

Application coming soon!

CUP OF JOE

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TO ENHANCE YOUR ONLINE CLASSROOM

By Joe Zellner

Quality Matters General Standard 8 highlights the importance of Universal Design for Learning and accessibility for learners with diverse special needs. Use of high-contrast sans-serif fonts, hierarchical and consistent heading and body text styles, inclusion of closed captions and/or transcripts for multimedia content, and alt-tags or descriptions for images and graphs are among these elements.

Several technological tools are available to assist instructors in meeting these needs. In *Canvas*, the Accessibility Checker included in the Rich Content Editor allows one to automatically check any content pages for accessibility issues, offering detailed information and tips for addressing them. The Accessibility Checker in *Microsoft Word* offers similar functionality. It can be accessed from the Review pane in modern versions of Word. One more tool for the Universal Design toolbox is *Arc's* built in captioning functionality. It allows instructors to automatically generate synchronized text captions with greater than 85% accuracy for media contained in Canvas. Once generated, the captions may be edited manually to correct spelling, transcription, and punctuation errors.