10 Tips for Students to Succeed in Online Classes Using D2L

1. Familiarize yourself with Desire2Learn (D2L) at http://d2l.sdbor.edu before the actual course begins. D2L is the course management system which BHSU uses to deliver the online courses. To learn more about D2L, watch our training videos or read our PDFs at http://edoutreach.bhsu.edu/ids/students.

2. Print off your syllabus, so you have it to refer back to later. This can help you know when assignments are due, when your quizzes/tests are scheduled, how to contact your instructor, and course requirements and other information.

3. Get your books early, so you don’t fall behind. You can find out the required textbooks for the course by going to the BHSU bookstore homepage (http://www.bhsubookstore.com).

4. Regularly check your D2L account for new e-mails from your instructor, new discussion posts, and to check your grades. In addition, make sure that you check your BHSU email (http://mail.bhsu.edu) for general announcements.

5. If you are required to make a certain number of discussion posts per week, set a schedule. For example, log onto your D2L account every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (if you have to make 3 posts per week) and each day post a new discussion point.

6. Don’t postpone or procrastinate assignments or quizzes until the last minute.

7. Remember that even though you’re not in an actual classroom, class participation still counts.

8. Read and reflect before you submit posts, exams, or assignments. It is also a good idea to make sure you double check everything before you click the “Submit” or “Send” buttons.

9. Think before you write.

10. Remember to communicate with your instructor. Communication is the key to success for any course, and being in an online course you might not have the advantages of meeting with your instructor face to face. Email may be the only way to communicate with the instructor.