

Hybrid Course Information

Welcome to all of you. This is a brief, general orientation for students who plan to enroll in Hood hybrid courses. It is intended to help you understand the way our hybrid class will work.

1. What is a hybrid course?

There are several different definitions but to put it simply, it is a combination of traditional face-to-face classroom meetings with online learning. In "hybrid" classes, a significant amount of the course learning activity has been moved on-line, making it possible to reduce the amount of time spent in the classroom. Traditional face-to-face instruction is reduced but not eliminated.

2. Why hybrid?

- a. Less commuting for working adults.
- b. Combine the best elements of traditional, face-to-face instruction with the best aspects of distance education.
- c. With greater flexibility in taking courses, it will assist students in completing their program in a timely manner.
- d. Maximize student learning by promoting self-directed learning, developing time management skills, and enhancing computer skills that increase opportunities for academic and professional success.

3. What do I need to take a hybrid course ?

To participate in a hybrid course via the World Wide Web, you should have:

- a connection to the Internet,
- an active e-mail account, and
- the latest version of your preferred browser.

Some courses require additional software, which will be informed by individual instructors.

4. What should I expect in a hybrid course?

Courses that have been identified as "hybrid" in the schedule of classes are a combination of face-to-face classroom instruction and online learning via the Internet. As a student, you can expect that a portion of your instruction and assignments will be partly presented in a traditional classroom and partly provided online. The division of online and classroom instruction for each hybrid course will vary depending on the course content and the instructor preference.

Your instructor will provide details regarding what class work will be required in class and what work will be required when online. Online course materials and learning activities vary from class to class. However, typical Web-based activities include online discussions, assigned readings, individual and group assignments, online quizzes and examinations, audio- or video-lectures, and tutorials.

While students can generally choose when and where to complete online assignments, there are usually specific deadlines for online discussions, assignments and exams. In addition, students have set days and times for on-campus classes. By learning in both online and face-to-face environments, you can expect to interact with the course content, the instructor, and the students in a variety of ways.

5. How much computer and Internet experience do I need to succeed in a Hybrid course?

You will need some experience navigating and using the Internet. Important skills include knowing how to download files, attach document files to e-mail and use word processing software. Your instructor will provide you with an orientation to the class on the first scheduled class meeting

6. What if I don't have equipment needed at home to access a Hybrid course?

You are welcome to use the computer labs and resource centers on Hood campus.

7. Do students get the same information and content in a Hybrid course that another student would get in an on-campus course?

Hybrid courses are governed by the same academic standards as traditional classroom courses. Course content, texts, requirements, assignments, and class participation are comparable for hybrid and traditional classroom courses.

8. Who do I contact if I need technical assistance in my online course?

For course related issues, you should contact your course instructor. For all other issues you can contact the Hood IT department.

9. Is there an orientation for Hybrid courses?

The Instructor will provide an orientation on the first scheduled day of class.

References (draft):

<http://www.clarke.edu/page.aspx?id=19407>

http://www4.uwm.edu/ltc/hybrid/student_resources/index.cfm