**Learning Technology Requirement at IU Northwest**

**What is the pedagogical purpose of the Learning Technology requirement?**

The purpose of the Learning Technology (LT) requirement is to provide students with intensive practice using learning technologies, preferably in their major field, with substantive feedback provided by an instructor well-acquainted with the innovative and relevant use of technology in that discipline. Departments and schools/colleges would be allowed considerable latitude in defining what sorts of learning technology experiences are most appropriate for their majors. Consequently the sorts of LT courses offered by different units will vary.

The outcomes for the LT requirement provide that IU Northwest graduates will:

1.  Use appropriate technologies as a tool to solve problems and to accomplish given tasks.
2.  Demonstrate the ability to use and learn new technologies.
3.  Use computer and other technologies effectively and appropriately to communicate information in a variety of formats.
4.  Use appropriate technology resources to identify and evaluate information, create and transfer knowledge.

Instructors will provide a variety of course activities to accomplish these outcomes and to provide opportunities for students to create relevant learning technology artifacts.

**What are the standard guidelines and requirements for LT credit?**

To qualify for LT credit, a course must require that students create an artifact that documents mastery of learning technology outcomes above. Examples of such artifacts may be spreadsheet/data processing files, electronic presentation files, periodic electronic communication that promote collaboration and interaction, published websites, or discipline-specific learning technology artifacts.

The instructor is expected to provide criticism (in the form of written or electronic notes attached to assignments, or through private conferences) on the learning technology aspects of the course assignments.

**What sorts of classes carry LT credit and who teaches them?**

Learning Technologies courses must be taught at the 200-level or above by a qualified instructor. In most cases the instructor will be a regular member of the faculty; under unusual circumstances the instructor may be a visitor or an adjunct faculty with the approval of the department/school.

**How big are LT courses and sections?**

Classes designated for LT credit should **be limited to 30 students whenever possible**.

**Should students take LT courses in their own majors?**

Due to the prevalence of technology in every field, students will have many options for LT courses. Whenever possible, students should take LT courses in their major since these courses will be very relevant to their future work within that field. LT courses are meant to further refine and develop learning technology skills that will have applications across the curriculum, but most specifically in a student's chosen major.

**When should students take LT courses and what are the prerequisites?**

Students are not required to satisfy a prerequisite prior to enrolling in LT courses; however, students are expected to have some technology experience prior to enrolling in LT courses. Students without prior experience are strongly encouraged to take an Introduction to Computers class (for example, CSCI A 106, "Introduction to Computing.")

**When is it appropriate for a student to receive a credit for Learning Technology by Special Arrangement?**

It is appropriate only in exceptional cases and only with departmental and university approval and prior to enrollment. Students may meet the LT requirement in conjunction with individualized readings courses, supervised research, internships, or senior theses, as long as the use of learning technology meets the guidelines for LT credit.

**Can a student earn LT credit for a course taken at another university?**

IUN will not consider coursework taken at another university for LT, unless the chair/dean in the student's major specifically makes such a request in writing. As evidence that a student has successfully completed work comparable to that in the unit's designated LT courses, the request should be accompanied by a copy of the course syllabus and learning technology artifacts with instructor's comments.

**How can faculty develop a new LT class and what do they need to do to get it approved?**

Instructors are strongly encouraged to consult with the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning as they structure learning technology courses for sound pedagogical ideas on how to best meet the requirements of the learning technology outcomes.

Instructors who want to offer LT courses should submit requests for a new course or change to the existing course to their school/college curriculum committee. The committee will verify that the proposed learning technology artifacts meet the general LT guidelines. A signed copy of the form for a new course or change to the existing course with a syllabus must accompany the request.

**Who will approve the LT designation?**

A course will be designated as a LT course after the approval of the course by originating school/college curriculum committee and then by the IU Northwest Curriculum Committee.