Ready, AIM, Teach—Using Quality Matters to Apply Technology to Our Courses

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Symposium Outline

- Introduction to AIM and Quality Matters (QM)
- Quality Matters Technology Standards
- Applying QM Technology Standards to Online and F2F Courses
- Q&A with Linda Summers
What is AIM?

• AIM = Align, Improve, Meet expectations for high quality online courses
• Peer review of online and hybrid courses using QM standards
• Detailed feedback on course from the student perspective
• Focus on aligning course objectives with course components
What is QM?

- QM = Quality Matters (6th ed) = rubric for high quality online/hybrid courses
- Peer-developed standards by which courses are evaluated
- Standards are periodically evaluated and revised based on user recommendations and current research in teaching and learning
What is QM?

• 8 standards (with multiple sub-items) for higher ed courses:
  • Overview/Introduction, LOs, Assessment, Instructional Materials, Activities/Interaction, Technologies, Support, Accessibility

• Courses earn points based on peer-evaluations with constructive feedback to guide revisions

• Points from 0 to 100, minimum score of 85 meets the standards
What is QM?

- Focus on alignment
- Alignment = connection between: (1) goals & objectives, (2) instructional activities, and (3) assessment of learning
Multiple standards reference technological aspects of effective course design

- S 1.5 Clearly state minimal tech requirements
- S 1.6 Clearly state expected computer skills/digital literacy
- S 8.6 Provide accessibility statements for all required technologies
Standard 6 focuses on Course Technology

- 4 specific review standards to consider
- Aim is for course technologies to help *facilitate*—rather than *impede*—learning
- Not technology for its own sake!
Tools are used to support learning objectives/competencies

How?
Align w/course & unit objectives by supporting assessments, materials, activities

What?
Software/apps for content delivery/feedback
- discussion boards, gradebooks
- assignment/quiz tools
- social media, announcements
- etc.
Tools promote learner engagement/active learning

How?
Facilitate ongoing interactions with instructor, other learners, course materials

What?
- webinars for real-time interaction
- shared documents/wiki for asynchronous
- automated self-check exercises
- simulations for input & feedback
QM Technology Standard 6.3

Variety of technology used in course

How?
Ensure course is not text-based only

What?
• instructor-created videos
• wikis for group collaboration
• blogs for student journals
• animations
• web-based voice tools to practice pronunciation, vocabulary
Info on data and privacy protection provided

How?
Course design, tool usage, settings can enhance student privacy

What?
- links to privacy policies
- permission for pseudonyms for non-ISU tools
- create closed groups on social media sites
- etc.
Applying QM Technology Standards to Online and F2F Courses
Quality Matters (QM)

Q & A