

*Developed by the Educational Technology Center at Northeastern University, 2007*

## **I WANT TO USE BLACKBOARD SO THAT MY STUDENTS...**

- can access class handouts, assignments, my slide presentations, and multimedia class materials on their computers.
- can engage in learning activities online, extending the classroom's temporal and spatial boundaries.
- can quickly link to external websites that I select based on the sites' intellectual value and relevance to class issues.
- can use asynchronous online discussion to develop initial thoughts on a topic, prior to more rigorous discussion in the face-to-face classroom.
- will learn to work collaboratively, in an environment that requires active learning and group exchange. They should learn by problem-solving together, in small groups, rather than only asking the instructor for the answers.
- can attend "office hours" with me regardless of weather, location, or mobility constraints.
- will always know of changes to a course schedule, sudden class cancellations, and other important announcements.
- can take practice quizzes (and/or graded quizzes) online, at their convenience, rather than spend precious class time for this purpose.
- can still keep up-to-date, even if they have to miss class, once I post my lecture notes online.
- will stop asking me, "When are you going to start using the Web in your classes?!"

## **HELPFUL HINTS:**

Many faculty work their way into Blackboard slowly, beginning with posting announcements and their syllabus, and then adding more functionality each semester, such as discussion forums and digital homework submission, as they become more comfortable with the interactive tools available.