INFO7470 technology setup

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Introduction

For classroom interaction, we will be using a combination of videoconference and webconferencing methods:

• the core visual interaction with the instructor will be through standard videoconferencing equipment (H.323) on a primary screen, in permanent fullscreen
• slides and interactive computer demonstrations will occur on a second screen, via WebEx technology

For a limited number of individuals, we will grant streaming view-only access should they be temporarily unable to join the distance-learning classrooms. However, this should be the exception, since we believe in strong bidirectional student participation. This is not a technological restrictions.

Recording

The classes will be recorded for a combined video-multimedia stream using Mediasite technology. The recorded classes will be available within a couple of days of the class, and before the subsequent meeting. The entire semester will be available for future viewing. Intra-semester access to the recorded class meeting may be password-restricted.

Participation in the class implies consent to the recording of the entire class.
Technical details

The primary screen should be in the center or to the left, whereas the second screen should be on the right. (see diagram at end)

The IP address for the Cornell Multipoint Conference Unit (MCU) is 128.253.73.75 (codian-bridge.ilr.cornell.edu). (Simulated) ISDN is +1.3123283816. The MCU (a Codian MCU 4205 unit) supports up to 1Mbps streams in both 4:3 and 16:9 formats. Remote parties can test-connect at any time for unattended tests.

A conference will be configured to start 20 minutes prior to the scheduled class start time. Remote locations should be connected by 15 minutes prior to class start. The MCU supports scheduled dial-outs, and that is the preferred connection method if the remote location supports unattended connections. Remote parties dialling in will have to navigate through the auto-attendant and enter a PIN code.

The second screen should be driven by a computer capable of connecting to a WebEx session (to verify that Webex will work: (to check whether you have the appropriate players installed for UCF (Universal Communications Format) rich media files, go to https://ilrcornell.webex.com/ilrcornell/systemdiagnosis.php)

A test connection date is set for XX NOVEMBER 2010, when all connection methods can be tested with technical personnel onsite on all participating sites.