Dear Classes: DrK Newsletter (DrK-N) 29April2016 (SUMMER 2016 NL)





REF: BS4458 ePortfolio in Business Administration

CO2420 Business Presentations and Publishing CO3430 Web Design and Applications Management I

Picture of the Day:

STRESS TEST:

If you see anything OTHER than two dolphins, you need to take a few days off and unwind...

NOTE: If you are already having this type of Semester in Summer 2016, Send up a smoke signal and let's get busy finding solutions to your problem(s)...Okay, please!!! If you send the smoke signal on a windy day, it might be interpreted other than it was sent in original form. But SEND IT ANYWAY--

SUMMER 2016: Hello to ePortfolio'ers, Web Designers, and Business Presentation'ers: I am going to restart the Newsletter I send out each month, if possible. I think it is a source of information, humor, and just goofy stuff from time to time. But, the key to the newsletter is that I get to type again...and again...and again. Practice, practice, and more practice. But the truth in this item is what is included in each of the courses this Summer 2016. And what is that, DrK, you ask? Well, ePortfolios are about selling yourself for Professional, Personal, and Community Service reasons; Business Presentations—well, need I say more on that and newsletters?!!! And, whoa web designers: surely you know the value of a good page for review. So, read below and then we can connect...or, I should say, we will connect...this week!

BS4458 ePortfolio in Business Administration

The ePortfolio class is a process to establish a web presence, or digital footprint, that enables you to 'sell yourself' in terms of skills, experiences, certifications, community service, projects, employability or soft skills, and so forth. This course includes the creation of a web presence and how to find hosting sites, use registered domains, and upload your artifacts to your site/hosting site. I cannot over emphasize the trend in this regard because employers are looking at these resources much more than you might think. Thus, a good ePortfolio site is valuable to specific and general individuals to showcase, if you will, yourself in regards to the items noted above. To the students in the ePortfolio course, I am going to be working with you very closely this week and begin the process of providing support as needed. However, the goal is to build an ePortfolio via a hosting site and design and build a site that can be used as a central repository for your artifacts that enable you to have them accessible via web access. And, just in case you are not aware of this: there are three areas of concentration in ePortfolios, setting aside the technical for a moment: 1) Professional – what do you want to say about your professional work, your skills of both technical and soft skills, and how will you use artifacts to validate the quality of your skills and so forth; 2) Personal – the who, what, and where of you and what you might bring to the job and community in who you are; and, 3) Community Service - what have you done to help your neighborhood, city, town, service to others, etc. Take all

three of these, add the technical considerations to design, develop, and host your ePortfolio, and you have the course in a coconut!

CO2420 Business Presentations and Publishing

Wow! To say that this needs to be defined is like the opening 'cartoon.' Whether in business, missions, advertising, or whatever, business presentations and publishing is a crucial thing that needs accuracy, clarity, readability, and so forth. In fact, my granddaughter and I were playing school this past weekend (she's in first grade). She downloaded (yep, she is a technical savvy already) a puzzle where you have the words in a maze and you find them in the maze. Well, this was from a site that advertised these types of puzzles. On one of the words, it asked the user to find---get ready for this.....the word 'ability.' But, they wanted you to find the word, "ablility." Now, it could just be a typo, but do you see how something as small as this in a business presentation or a published item can inflect a person's thinking or assurance that if this is an issue, what else might be an issue? (Don't use this reasoning in my materials, as I am always typing and failing to proof my work—so I am OOPS on this one.) But, you see what I mean. So, this course about business presentations and publishing is not just some fly-by-knight sort of thing! OOPS there I go again—did you catch the error I just made (intentional this time)? And with web sites proliferating at the speed of light and information at our fingertips or our sliding devices, my Heavens—we might need to get this business presentations and publishing right as often as we can—from simple written statements to full-blown pubs and our presentation materials. There is a very humorous YouTube video you might find hilarious and the link is here. (Note: while this video is humorous, it might tinge the senses, but is a good way to view PowerPoint.)

CO3430 Web Design and Applications Management I

Wow. Web design, or coding, or writing in HTML/HTML5, CSS/CSS3 or versions therein. Or you might desire to consider this programming. Now, I don't know if you have ever written code before, but there are a few things to consider: 1) you write source code as the directions for your computer via your Operating System and/or 'app.' Now, we've had apps since the first days of computing in various forms. There is the platform (hardware) that allows you to have a system to give instructions as to what you want it to do (PC, laptop, handheld, smartphone, and

uga, uga, uga); then there is the Operating System that provides the interface between you and the platform so you can tell it what to do, like print, open the app, access the Net, and uga, uga, uga; then, there is the app that runs on the Operating System which runs on the platform, uga, uga, uga. Web design—CODING—tells the app what to do, and the app gets support from the Operating System to tell the hardware what to do, and the Platform performs what you wanted it to do so the user can see the web page/web site/web presence/access to the Internet pages, uga, uga, (Lots of uga's in this eh?). Well, when you start writing in HTML and the other stuff in this course, you literally tell it precisely what to do; outside the code and directives you give the app (Google Chrome, for example), the web page is like a mirage in the desert/dessert (select one) without water or sand or palm trees or H2O if the code is not correct ALL through the code. Maybe you wanted a specific section of the web page to do precisely 'this.' Well, if the code is uga, uga, uga, it will only do precisely what you code it to do. PRECISELY!; 2) the code is then interpreted/compiled/other by the app running on the OS running on the Platform, uga, uga, uga, and the app displays precisely what you have informed it to display. It operates as you have directed---the code/source code is the language the app follows. Google Chrome is the app; it interprets the language/code you provide. It is not intuitive, is not a mind-reader, and it does not learn by osmosis---but by CODE/INSTRUCTIONS along, uga, uga, uga; 3) once Google Chrome interprets the code and displays the web page to you, your OS/Platform then allows you to do various things which your source has told Google Chrome to display, such as run other apps, print, save data and pdf files, view videos, display color patterns, etc, or uga, uga, uga; and, 4) practice, practice, practice, or....uga, uga, uga. Thus, web pages/design is coding, error correcting, inserting modules, calling other things, links, videos, mini-apps within the bigger app, coding within coding, etc, or.....uga, uga, uga. You see? So, start small, gain momentum, and follow the rules of the coding and you will be amazed at what you will get in return.

<u>To Everyone:</u> As you know by now or soon will discover, I send out emails to everyone in general. Now that you have begun to work in your specific areas developing your skills, I am going to be sending less general emails, and working specifically with you in your classes. So, if it seems that I have vamoosed to other pastures, please know that if you look in the field of

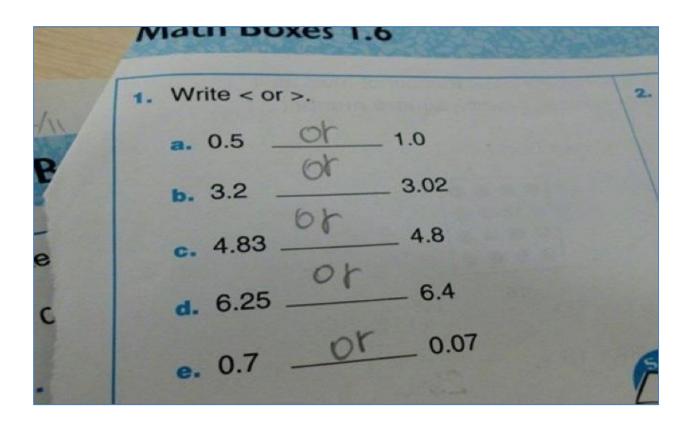
green grass, I am right next to you chewing the cud right alongside you. It may seem that I "have left the building", but it just seems that way. I am going to also start using Internet sessions to help with your materials and respond to questions. We will most likely be using RingCentral to conduct these sessions, and they will be announced as early as possible to enable you to participate.

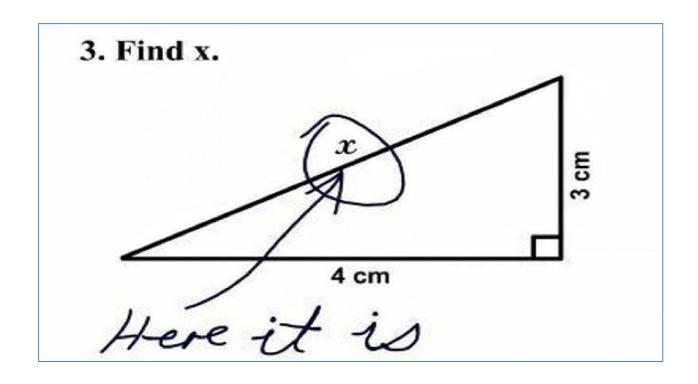
What I would like to begin with is this: for each class, if you are having ANY issues, please bring them to my attention ASAP. I have restructured the classes and reduced—SIGNIFICANTLY—the amount of quizzes, worksheets, and other types of work, to give you as much time on task as possible. IN fact, you may notice that some weeks, you don't even have materials to submit. This is intentional to allow you full time to work on your skills development. Anytime you would like to provide feedback or you see something that is not clear or needs to be corrected, please let me know. As I am rebuilding, and this being the first semester in which these classes are being rebuilt, it is not uncommon for me to miss something, misspell something, or just plane/plain/plane miss something. Your feedback and help is of great value.

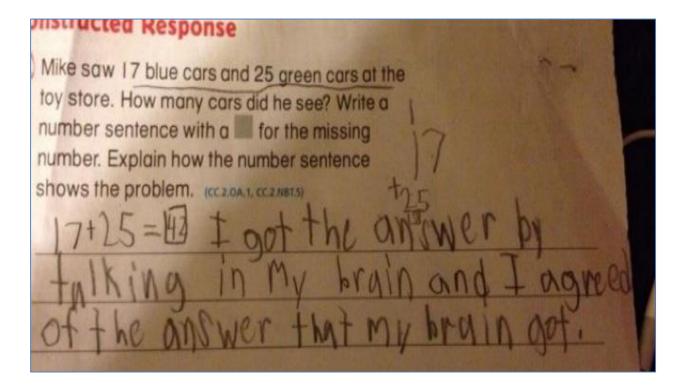
Finally, if you get bogged down in life issues, please keep me informed. I understand how these things can happen. I had pneumonia that caused me to be without work-capacity remedy for almost two months (Prayer and meds were the remedy), and I got so far behind I thought seriously about just retiring and becoming a basket case. But, I can't. God has work for me, I have two precious grandchildren, that dog I mentioned, a wife that I love and cherish, a dad that needs his sons because his love of 62+ years is with Christ waiting for him one day, and just the stuff of life. It happens to ALL of us at times, and that is veritas (truth). Even when I was so sick I couldn't function, I did what I could as I could with what energy reserves I had. That's the key: never stop moving forward, even if it is at a crawling pace. My little grandson is now 1 year old and is as rambunctious as a 7 year old, walking (wobbly but moving all the time), leaving behind the accumulation of millions of Frequent Crawler Miles! If we can't run a marathon, sprint when we can; if we can't sprint, walk; if that is not possible, limp along; if that is not feasible, then crawl! But never stop moving! I am here to help you, encourage you, and support you. Learning is a hard job, as I have said before. It takes time, brain power, and even

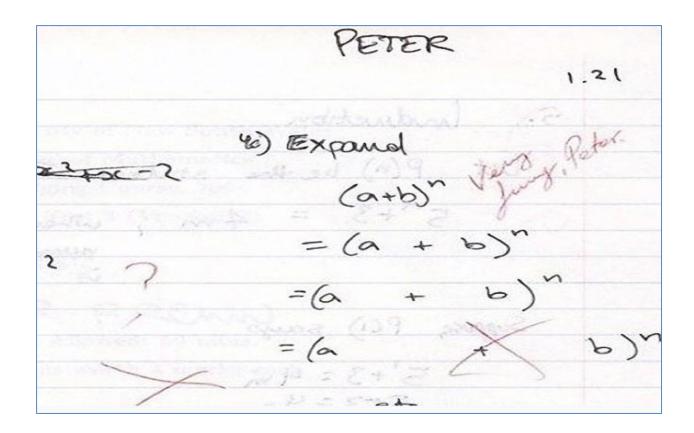
some restless/sleepless nights. Just ask my wife! Once when I was completing my dissertation, I worked for three days straight, sleeping 4 hours each day because of a deadline with the graduate office. I committed to the event, scheduled this with family, and went to work. Sometimes, we have to arrange these times to do our work. Get family involved as you can; DO WHAT YOU CAN AS YOU CAN. And never give up!

Who said education is boring?





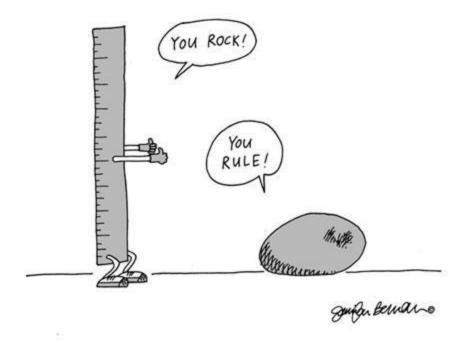




Final Words for this Edition

This is the first week. I hope that books are arriving, you are reviewing materials, and discovering Blackboard details. If the course is not clear, please check with me and give me notifications if there are problems.

Thanks, DrK



Okay for now: or, byefornowcyalaterbyefornow. DrK