Learning Center offering Excel Bootcamps

The Learning Center

Do your students struggle with assignments or tasks requiring the use of Excel? Your Learning Center (LC) is delighted to address this gap. We offer 2-hr Excel bootcamps for students and all you need to do is to indicate your needed timeline, decide if this is a mandatory assignment or not, and then create an assignment in D2L where the student can upload their Certificate of Completion.

A bit of history:

Two years ago, the LC's Faculty Advisory Council discovered a common challenge experienced by many instructors across disciplines: students' lack of basic Excel knowledge. Simultaneously, our LC staff recognized the increased need, demand, and importance of students needing assistance with navigating assignments requiring the use of Excel. Many of our instructors were frustrated with investing needed class/lab time to teach the basic Excel concepts before their students could tackle any content-related assignment.

With the goal of helping students learn the basics of Excel and without adding to your full plates, we collaborated with our faculty council and created a workshop to help teach the more basic concepts. The 2 hr Excel Bootcamps are free to all, managed, assessed, and supervised by the Learning Center – independent of your valuable class/lab time. Once you have requested this service, the LC communicates all the needed information directly to your students, students self-register in GA View and can attempt to Test-Out. If not successful testing out with a minimum score of 80%, students sign up for an Excel Bootcamp that works with their availability. Once the student successfully completes the Bootcamp (with Test-out option or final grade assessment of 80% or above), they receive a personalized, dated Certificate of Completion to upload in any D2L course (assignment works well) or protocol of your choosing. Please see the other attached Excel Bootcamp documents with 'course' information for more details on the content.

The LC beta tested our first Excel sessions in spring '21 with promising results. During last fall and spring semester, we hosted Excel bootcamps with approximately 900 students participating. We hope to partner with more classes this upcoming fall. Right now, faculty and instructors can sign up on this form: https://forms.office.com/r/hKW0SdrrwK

Due to the nature of logistics and staffing, we will prioritize faculty making the Excel Bootcamp a mandatory assignment. Interested faculty please complete the survey by Friday, August 12th.

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like even more information. Best,

Jeanne Haslam and LC Staff