

# Norco College Online Newsletter

March 27, 2020

*It's a beautiful day for a Neighbor,  
would you be mine,  
could you be mine,  
won't you be my Neighbor?  
- Mr. Fred Rogers*

## Hello Mustang Faculty,

During this COVID-19 break in our traditional classroom environments, Norco Online offers weekly newsletters designed to quickly highlight the news, resources and tips for you in this online transition.

In honor of the late, great Mr. Fred Rogers, this NOE Newsletter is about being a neighbor to students, staff, faculty and administrators. I hope you appreciate this bit of nostalgia from an icon in TV history.

## BREAKING NEWS!

For the first time in Norco College history, our *neighborhood* is online for all faculty and students. Despite RCCD campus closures, Norco College continued instruction for the first week.

**Thank you** to the District, President, Vice Presidents, Deans, Chairs, Faculty, Staff and everyone else for pulling together to make this a reality!

## IMPORTANT NEWS!

President Green requests faculty to notify their Deans of Instruction if you have students who did not log into Canvas during our first week of transitional instruction. Deans will help with contact information for these students to ensure they are informed about our new virtual environment. Some students may not know where to log in or how to find their courses. We want to welcome everyone back from the unfortunate, unplanned and unexpected break in our semester.

## LAPTOP NEWS!

Faculty who need to borrow a laptop during the online transition should come to campus **Friday, March 27 from 10:00am-12:00pm**. Please park outside the gate and walk into the OC along the north-east side. A business services manager will assist you.

## ABC's of Online Education:

Over the next several weeks, NOE Newsletter will feature an alphabetic index of best practices in online education. This will help ensure we maintain our vision for access, equity and success while we innovate in our courses.

- A. **Acclimate** your class to online education by sharing [Virginia Shea's 10 principles of Netiquette](#) to foster a positive learning community and to support student success. Unlike your classroom environment, where some students may sit silent and listen, online education allows students a voice in a variety of locations in the course including chat, discussion boards and small group assignments. Some

students new to online learning may not know how to responsibly use the many communication tools located in Canvas. Let's provide clear guidelines to help students realize this is not social media. Academic conversation should be open, honest, polite and thoughtful to foster a genuine learning community.

- B. Broaden** your instruction by including a variety of learning experiences and opportunities. Online education is asynchronous and dynamic. The technology allows students to interact with the Internet as a research laboratory as well as to collaborate with one another. Consider small, consistent lessons during the week based upon your weekly schedule. If you have a Monday-Wednesday or Tuesday-Thursday, keep continuity by posting announcements, discussions, assignments or hosting office hours. Online education is not just lecturing via Zoom. Variety and creativity increase student enjoyment which piques interest and promotes success.
  
- C. Collaborate** with colleagues in your discipline, department or school to explore ways your virtual neighborhood can be enhanced over the next week ahead. Building a quality online course takes time, patience and care. We have been thrust into this online transition rather abruptly. Take a deep breath and recognize you have time to slowly integrate the tools available through RCCD Distance Education and Norco Online Education.

Let's find ways to *Acclimate*, *Broaden* and *Collaborate* this week as we continue instruction in this new version of Norco College.

Thank you for taking time to consider these bits of news and information. Have a beautiful week!

In Solidarity,

*Norco College Online*

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