Hi everyone,

I would like to start off by welcoming back all of the students, faculty, staff, administration and members of our community for the start of another great semester! During the faculty in-service a couple of weeks back I had the pleasure of meeting a large number of instructors who are new this semester. With that being said I would like to reach out to any new or current faculty member who might be in need of classroom media and/or technology training. As you already know, being able to effectively incorporate different forms of media into the 21st century classroom is an important piece of student learning in today’s educational environment. If anyone is in need of training please don’t hesitate to contact any member of the library staff. It does not matter if you teach at Harrison, Pickard, or Doan; we will accommodate any request you may have concerning this.

I am also looking for input concerning book, journal and video title purchases for the library. If any faculty have any request pertaining to purchases please email them to me at stroy@midmich.edu.

Jim VanderMey on Sabbatical

I’ve come back to the classroom this Winter term with a more Chinese outlook on what I’m doing. No, I did not spend my Fall 2008 sabbatical term in China, but I was at Grand Valley State University, where the philosophy department boasts not one, but two, excellent Chinese philosophers. One, Peimin Ni, is a specialist in Confucianism and modern British and American philosophy. The other, Geling Shang, is a specialist in Daoism and contemporary European philosophy. Under Ni’s guidance I studied the Confucian thinker Xunzi, and with Shang I studied the Daoist philosopher Zhuangzi. While that might sound to many of you like “much to do about who gives a rip,” it was actually very practical in its contributions to my teaching here at MMCC, where I teach philosophy.

The Xunzi project was focused on the problem of nurturing scholars, especially cultivating an ethical approach to research and personal development through the rituals and readings of academic work. If you know anything about MMCC’s ENG 111 course, you will recognize the theme. That same project also involved an examination of the problem of student plagiarism, reexamined from a Confucian point of view. I’ll be presenting my work from that project at the national conference of the Asian Studies Development Conference in Philadelphia in March. If the Xunzi project was the yang side of my sabbatical, the Zhuangzi project was the yin side. In the Zhuangzi project, I focused on the topic of disengagement— from ambitions, from duties, from coercion, from controlling management oneself and others - and how that might open room for re-engagement with the world on other levels. This project arose from watching my students at MMCC struggle with the processes of over-engagement, disengagement and re-engagement. The Daoists have something to teach us. So I’ve come back to my classes at MMCC eager this term, carrying new ideas about how to guide the growth and development of students in all my classes, how to teach philosophy, and how to introduce our students to the rich philosophical and educational traditions of East Asia. It’s good to be back.
University.

English at De Montfort

Shillingsburg is a Professor of printed forms. Peter L. Shillingsburg reveals what is potentials for electronic representations of printed media. He explores transferring texts from print to electronic media. It's also not enough nowadays just to run and keep your anti-virus programs up to date. Spyware and Adware are now ahead of viruses as the number one danger facing computer users today. So you need to arm yourself with sophisticated engines for write, transmit and read texts. As technologies for electronic media are underway in the way we write, transmit and read texts. This thought-provoking work considers the potentials and pitfalls of some common problem areas. Be cautious and install spyware protection software so you are able to enjoy safe web surfing again.

Academic Support Center

Need help with your classes? Have a test to take? Or maybe you need help with writing that paper? Come on in to the ASC!

For the Winter 2009 semester the ASC hours are as follows:

Math Tutoring Services
Monday 9:00am to 4:30pm
Tuesday 9:00am to 6:00pm
Wednesday 9:00am to 6:00pm
Thursday 9:00am to 4:30pm

Reading and Writing Center
Monday 9:00am to 4:30pm
Tuesday 9:00am to 6:00pm
Wednesday 9:00am to 6:00pm
Thursday 9:00am to 4:30pm

Please make an appointment for testing.

WebTutor

Haven't heard of MMCC’s WebTutor yet? It’s a new live-interaction feature that allows real time interaction with an MMCC representative!

Students, guests and employees can now ask general questions, receive tutoring help, research assistance and library help online and in real time. Questions can be general, such as wondering what the Academic Support Center hours are, or how to go about registering. Or a person can inquire about a specific academic or research subject. The MMCC representative will answer any general question, and is connected to a network of faculty members for more in-depth, subject specific queries.

Academic help is not just a click away! Simply log on at www.midmich.edu/webtutor and live interaction with a MMCC representative to receive and respond to as soon as possible.

For more information contact Bill Mathews by email at wmathews@midmich.edu

Jared’s Safe Web Surfing Tips

Safe web surfing on the Internet continues to get harder every day. Even though you can’t eliminate all of the risks, there are ways you can reduce some of the danger.

Any file-sharing program is a big problem because the files come from several computers (Such as Limewire). The first safe web surfing tip is stay away from file-sharing programs all together because this is a major source of computer problems today.

Another good safe web surfing tip is to beware of any product that claims to be free. It’s not always the case, but it is very possible that the publisher generates revenue from pop-up ads while you are on the Internet. There is a reason it’s free and it’s not a good one.

Another helpful safe web surfing tip is to go to Microsoft’s Windows Update website regularly to update your system with the latest security patches.

The tips above can never guarantee safe web surfing but they can help you become aware of some common problem areas. Be cautious and install spyware protection software so you are able to enjoy safe web surfing again.

Jared Bruner