



Summer 2008 Exploratorium: Tools for Learning and Teaching

iLinc – Desktop Computer-based conferencing tool

Learning Advantages

- Synchronous tool for connecting to students at home or work
- Allows classes to be delivered remotely
- Provides tools for sharing of web based materials and presentations
- Now supports both Mac and PC Operating Systems

Technology summary

iLinc is a complete learning environment that supports both self-paced and interactive learning. iLinc is a desktop computer based videoconferencing system. Each student is sitting at a computer and the professor and the students talk to each other live (synchronously). It may be video and audio, or solely audio. The class is live and interactive, so the class hours are the same as a face-to-face class--but the students and instructor aren't all in one place.

The conferencing is in one window, while the remainder of the desktop is normally devoted to other things that enhance the class. Written text chats can exchange ideas or provide information. PowerPoint presentations can shown. A whiteboard is available and sessions can be recorded. Any application on any computer can be shared with the rest of the class, and any student can manipulate the application in turn.

University Support

- iLinc is the currently supported desktop conferencing tool for KSU

Where to get help

Contact Jim Raber jaraber@kent.edu for instructions and access to the tool

Web page for technology

<http://Learnlinc.kent.edu/ilinc/>

Technical needs

- Free software application must be installed on your computer
- Need a microphone attached to your computer to do audio chatting
- Check your computer for the necessary software/equipment requirements
<http://www.ilinc.com/technology/installed/client-requirements2>

Instructions/Tutorials

- <http://www.et.kent.edu/jaraber/ilinc/>
- <http://www.ilinc.com/myilinc/training/ask-the-expert-videos>
- Exploratorium 2008 Handout http://fpdc.kent.edu/resources/l_faq/exploratorium08.html



iLinc

Step-by-step instructions

- 1. Go to <http://learnlinc.kent.edu/ilinc> and login with your **KSU** credentials.**
- 2. If you are new to teaching iLinc and would like to have a test course to play with, please contact Jim Raber at x2-1927 to elevate your access and create a course environment for you.**
- 3. If you are a student, register for a class by clicking 'Catalog' on the left menu.**
- 4. Find the course you would like to register for and place a check box next to it.**
- 5. Click 'Register' at the bottom right of your screen.**
- 6. Click 'Home'. You will be greeted with a list of registered classes.**
- 7. To join a class, simply click Join.**
- 8. Teaching tools include**
 - a. Whiteboard**
 - b. PowerPoint**
 - c. Synchronized Web Browsing**
 - d. Application Sharing**
 - e. Audio, Video, and Text chatting**
 - f. Breakout groups**
 - g. Live polling**