

How Do I.....

Navigate Around My Course in TigerNet?

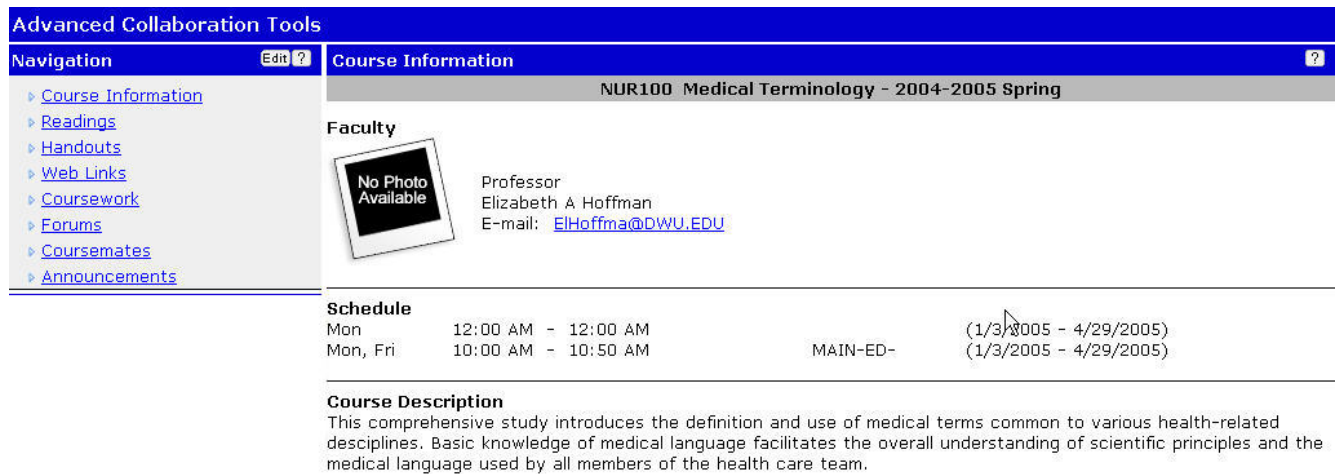
This tutorial assumes that you have already gone through the steps in the document **How Do I Get Started with Dakota Wesleyan University's TigerNet?** and have your personal home page already set up.

How Do I Find My Courses?




Once you log into TigerNet, your personal home page will look something like this. (The actual appearance will differ, according to how you have personalized it.) If you have installed All My Courses on your home page, your course list will appear somewhere on the page. Just click on the course name. As an alternative, click on Student, in the upper right corner, then All My Courses.

What Does a Course Home Page Look Like in TigerNet?



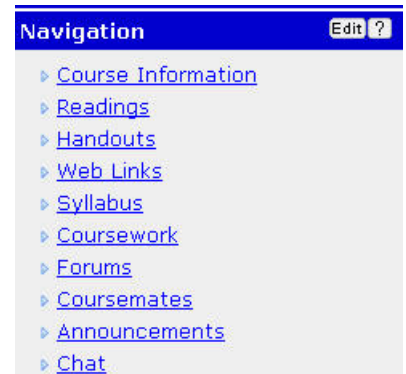
This is one example. It is important to understand that faculty members can select which course components to use in TigerNet and which not to. Other courses may not necessarily look like this one.

How Do I Navigate My Way Around a Course?

As you can see in the illustration above, the Navigation menu is located on the left side of the course home page and all lower level pages. Always use this menu to move from one course component (or "portlet") to another. When you see it, you can click on the double-box icon () to go back to the previous page.

NOTE: TigerNet does not like it when you use the Back button on your browser. Try to avoid this whenever possible. If you get an error message that seems to dump you out of TigerNet, just to back to All My Courses and re-enter the course. It is inconvenient, but an easy fix.

The Navigation menu items that you see here may vary from course to course. On Page 2, we'll explain what you'll find in each of these portlets. Only instructors have an Edit button. Don't look for it in your Navigation menu.



What Do Each of These Menu Items Mean?

Course Information

Course Information is the generic information about the course and some information about the instructor. This is what you see on the course "home page".

Readings

The Readings portlet only provides information about required textbooks. Other readings that are provided via TigerNet should be found in the Handouts portlet. For readings that are accessed online, such as from other web sites or Layne Library's digital collections, use the Web Links link.

Handouts

This is where your instructor will put course documents, such as lecture notes, PowerPoint presentations, the course calendar, and possibly detailed assignment instructions. You should keep checking this portlet for updated information.

Web Links

Links to web sites used in course activities, including readings available online, will be found here.

Syllabus

Your instructor may put the course syllabus here. Many faculty prefer to disable this portlet and place the course syllabus in Handouts, so all essential course documents are in the same place.

Coursework

The Coursework portlet is where your instructor will put all assignments that must be completed online, such as quizzes, tests, and lab worksheets. If your instructor uses the Gradebook in TigerNet, all components of the course grade should have some kind of entry in Coursework, although detailed instructions and other information will most likely be placed in the Handouts portlet.

Forums

The Forums area is where the class will conduct its online discussions that are not in real time. The nice thing about Forums is that you can participate in class discussions at any time, from anywhere you have an Internet connection. Forums has a hierarchy: At the top level are the Topics that your instructor creates. Within Topics are individual Threads. A Thread normally is initiated by your instructor's question that starts a discussion. Within Threads are the individual Messages that constitute the discussion. Use the purple Reply button to post your comments. In some courses, instructors allow students to post questions and start new Threads.

Coursemates

This is where you find out who is in your class. Use the My Info portlet in TigerNet to upload your picture and share other information about yourself with your classmates.

Announcements

If your instructor posts periodic announcements to the class, they will be located here.

Chat

The Chat portlet is a place where members of a class can have a discussion in real time, i.e., all at the same time. This is very helpful for groups who can't meet in person. Arrange a time when you all meet together on TigerNet. Click on the Chat link to enter the chat room. You will see a listing of others in the room on the right side of the page. At the bottom of the screen, left side, is the field where you enter your text. Then hit Send to post your comment to the chat.

Groups

Your instructor may wish to assign class members to work in groups. If s/he has created groups within the course in TigerNet, the name of the group to which you are assigned will appear under Course Information in the Navigation menu. In the example to the right, three groups have been created. Click on the group name to enter the group workspace.

Group workspace in TigerNet is identical to a course workspace. Whatever you do in the group space will have no effect on the TigerNet materials and activities of the course in which you are enrolled. The group space is completely independent.



