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# ONLINE COURSES AND ABSENTEE AUTHORS:

**Breaking Down Barriers** 

# Background and Barriers

- Typical online course model: absentee authors
- Barriers
  - Unclear communication channel between CEL and departments/authors/instructors
  - Difficulty of ongoing maintenance
  - Varying levels of instructor expertise in online teaching
  - Inability to leverage instructor engagement/expertise

## Breakthrough: Co-ordinator / Liaison Role

#### Benefits for Academic Department:

- Contributes to program consistency (instructor and student expectations, pedagogical standards)
- Acts as intermediary between course authors and instructors (and CEL)
- Customizes and co-ordinates instructor/TA training activities each semester
- Ensures ongoing caretaking and maintenance of courses, monitors lifecycles
- (Strategic planning and development of EL program)

# Co-ordinator / Liaison Role (cont'd)

Acts as main point of contact between CEL and academic department

#### Benefits for CEL:

- Streamlines communications
- Facilitates onboarding and instructor training activities
- Acts as intermediary between CEL and course authors
- Contributes to program consistency, development and maintenance efficiencies
- Monitors course quality and lifecycles

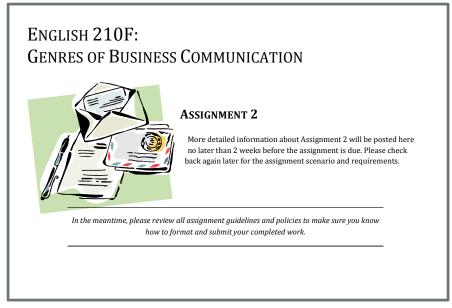
## Breakthrough: Instructor / TA resources

Training sessions, Course manuals, and TA guides

- Provides course overview for new instructors / TAs
  - Pedagogical objectives
  - Lesson and activity structures
  - Technical requirements
  - Required inputs
- Professionalization for apprentice instructors / TAs
  - Awareness of pedagogical structures
  - Online teaching skills development

# Breakthrough: Assignment Placeholders

- Ensures academic integrity and currency
- Leverages instructor engagement and expertise
- Practical response to timing of production cycle and instructor hiring



### Questions?

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