

# Wavelength

## Major Distance Learning Mistakes

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### Special points of interest:

- Technology
- Blackboard
- Distance Learning
- DDL, Inside & Out

Most students in Distance Learning courses face a multitude of challenges that can throw a curve in the best laid plans. Recognizing and avoiding these mistakes can help keep students on the path to success:

**Procrastination is the student's number one enemy.** The longer a student or anyone for that matter, waits to take on a task, the more likely it is that it will not be completed. After a while, assignments can build up so much that a student dreads even beginning to delve into the material resulting in an incomplete or failing grade.

**Not connecting with faculty and fellow classmates...** It is never too late to get to know fellow students and professors. One of the most important things a distance student can

do is to become part of a "community" by reaching out and bonding with other students. There is always some consolation in knowing that "you are not in this alone."



*Students can support each other in distance learning courses just by keeping in touch.*

**Not taking advantage of online resources...** There are so many places to tap for information relative to class. Often students either have too much and are

overwhelmed or are not aware of what is available. For example, the SwVCC library catalog, [YCCS Linc](#), online offers a complete listing of library materials on campus as well as other colleges throughout the state. There are also ebooks available to check out online by creating an account either from an on campus computer or by calling the SwVCC library (276.964.7265). Students can log into

[InfoTrac](#), [SIRS](#) and [GaleGroup](#) by using their Blackboard user name and password when prompted to do so.

By avoiding these mistakes, DDL students can improve their chances of success in distance learning. For more information log on to [DDL](#).

## Got Antivirus Software?

Well, Blackboard site has it for FREE to college students, faculty and staff. Just log on and download Symantec AntiVirus Corporate Edition to your office and/or home computer. Symantec AntiVirus contains everything you need to detect viruses, repair files and help prevent virus infection. To protect yourself from new viruses, you can configure regular virus definitions file

updates. Complete details, download and installation instructions can be found on the SwVCC tab in Blackboard on the VCCS: FREE! Symantec AntiVirus Corporate Edition module.

Depending upon your connection speed, dialup users may see download times of up to 2 hours.

For more information or to address questions regarding

Blackboard, please email the Blackboard administrator, [Stacy Harris](#).





Visit [amphonicdesigns.com](http://amphonicdesigns.com) for freebie downloads.

## Website of the Month

So, you have figured out how to transfer songs from your CD collection to your iPod, but they don't have the cool album cover art like the normal iPod downloads. How can you get it?

Visit [amphonicdesigns.com](http://amphonicdesigns.com) to find artwork, album reviews, artist information and more free!

Amphonic Designs can automatically add artwork to your

entire iTunes Music Library in One Easy Step. Just choose the size of artwork you want and Album Cover Finder quickly adds the correct album covers directly to your music files. You can even choose regional specific searches from their database.

The "no strings" download offers a free version plus a limited time trial of the full version.



Suggestions or comments: [lanna.lumpkins@sw.edu](mailto:lanna.lumpkins@sw.edu)



## Multimedia Club Elects '06-'07 Officers

Recently the SwVCC [Multimedia Club](#) elected new officers for the 2006-2007 academic year:

**President:** Dave Holmes, **Vice Presidents:** Josh McClanahan & Aaron Yates, **Secretary:** Donna McClanahan, **Reporter:** Justin Trout & **Treasurer:** Stevie Looney.

The Multimedia Club utilizes the creativity of students to break into the exciting fields of



Radio, Television, Journalism, Photography and Web Design.

Multimedia Club members invite students interested in learning more about the club to attend any of the weekly meetings held on Thursdays @ 12:10 p.m. in R206. Students that cannot make on campus meetings but would still like to join should email the club advisor, [Lanna Lumpkins](mailto:Lanna.Lumpkins) expressing interest.



DDL is located on the SwVCC Richlands campus on second floor of Russell Hall. Staff can be reached 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday. DDL can be reached by phone @ 276.964.7279, fax @ 276.964.7686 or by email, [sylvia.dye@sw.edu](mailto:sylvia.dye@sw.edu).

## Start Job Hunting Early!

In celebration of National Career Development Month in November, SwVCC, VHCC and WCC are co-sponsoring the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Community College Career Connection of Southwest Virginia. This career fair is unique because it targets employers throughout the region who are interested in hiring employees with community college credentials. Please mark your calendars to attend the Career Connection of Southwest Virginia, Wed., Nov. 1, 2006, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., at the Southwest Virginia Higher Ed Center, Abingdon, VA.

Many Employers begin making hiring plans and even hiring decisions long before May graduation dates. This fall career fair is a timely opportunity for students to "jump start" the networking process!

If you would like more information on this job fair or other career opportunities, please visit the [Career Resources Center online](#), phone 276.964.7544 or email, [sharon.peery@sw.edu](mailto:sharon.peery@sw.edu).



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