# Forsyth Technical Community College
# Online Learner Orientation

Proposed Course Objectives and how they may be achieved:

- Student understands how online/ hybrid class works.
    - Student understands what each term means, how class interactions occur in a 100% online versus blended environment , time commitment etc.

- Student is able to make an informed decision of whether or not online learning will work for them.
    - Students answer a brief survey/quiz to test them on online readiness. The questions can help them think about whether their learning styles and technology skills match what is necessary to be a successful online learner. Something like this: http://www.aims.edu/online/quiz

- Student knows about hardware and supporting software requirements.
    - Through links to test out versions of Java/ Flash etc., students can make sure their computer supports the class.

- Student has an understanding of how to navigate Blackboard (participate in discussions, submit assignments and take a test).
    - As you mentioned that Blackboard will be upgraded and moving on to another version in the summer/ fall, my recommendation is that for now we take Stephens idea of including a link that points the learner to that particular functionality. For example- to demonstrate how to submit assignments, we direct them to this page. Following the upgrade later this year, the course may be redesigned to capture the specific screen and where students may find tools within the blackboard page.

- Student has a check list of what to do after signing up for a class
    - This could be something that students print along with the course schedule to make sure they have completed necessary steps. (Complete course entry assignment, participate in discussion forum/ post introduction, review syllabus etc.)

- Student understands the importance of soft skills like Time management, reading skills, netiquette. These may be external blogposts or videos on AL.

- Student knows what resources are available and where to find them
    - Atomic learning, learning center, tutoring help etc.

- Student knows where to go to for help.
    - Contact information of helpdesk/ link to FAQs.