

V I S U A L

FADE IN:

PROVIDER SUPPLIED IMAGES combined with Eyecon stock

GRAPHIC: PLANO ISD eSCHOOL identity

CG: Our Goal: To go beyond information-sharing, to help learners explore their world and develop skills essential an information-driven society.

MONTAGE of historical images (archival stills and movies) drawn from course-related sources.

CG: U.S. HISTORY

A U D I O

From its inception in 2001, the mission of Plano ISD's *eSchool* program has been to provide a quality online learning experience, emphasizing frequent and positive student-teacher interaction.

In designing our courses, our goal is to do more than simply present a subject. Our goal is to challenge you in ways that help you learn to think critically and independently -- an essential skill in our complex, information-driven world.

Plano *eSchool* courses are built around Blackboard. This web-based delivery system enables you to access to your teacher, your course materials, and your fellow classmates, wherever you have an Internet connection. Your parents and counselor can also log in, to follow and support your studies.

To demonstrate, let's look at just one of the courses we offer through the Texas Virtual School Network.

Often moving ... frequently inspiring ... occasionally tragic ... but always fascinating, U.S. History is not only the story of a nation, but of a brave social experiment -- a work that's still in progress.

V I S U A L

SCREENSHOTS with motion graphics to illustrate and demonstrate BB features

A U D I O

In this course, you'll tap the rich archival resources available on the Internet, to bring significant periods and events into 21st Century focus.

When you log in to Blackboard, you'll land on the Announcements page. This is where your teacher will post basic course information, updates and progress reports. It's one of the first lines of communication. But it's not the only one.

Throughout the course, you'll in be frequent contact with your teacher and classmates through other channels ... including the discussion boards, journals, blogs, and wikis embedded in course activities ... as well as Blackboard's dedicated email system.

The Course Documents page contains instructions for taking the course -- how to use Blackboard, how to submit assignments, access your grades, and so on.

Most importantly, it contains the Course Syllabus, your roadmap for the journey ahead, along with a handy checklist to help you keep track of your assignments. Speaking of which ...

Click the Assignments tab, and you'll find the course broken down into units covering different topics, each

V I S U A L

MONTAGE of images and video from related course material (include library music that evokes the period)

MOVING CG: My Lai, Kent State, Khe Sahn, the Credibility Gap, the Silent Majority, Tinker v Des Moines (etc)

SHOW EXAMPLES from course in progress

*MOVING CG:
Accept the draft? Enlist? Seek deferment?
Conscientious objector? Antiwar activist? Burn
draft card? Move to Canada?*

IMAGE: Student pondering

GRAPHIC: Example of letter

SHOW EXAMPLES

CG: Assessment tests are geared to specific TEKS requirements. .

A U D I O

with a set of challenging activities and assignments.

Here's an example ...

The Sixties were one of the most tumultuous times in our history. In this unit, you don't just study the period, you live it.

Through different websites, you immerse yourself in the news reports, the images, and the music from that period ... in the names and places and events that still echo today.

Through the discussion board and wikis, you'll discuss and debate the events and ideas that led us to war. In your blog and journal, you'll develop your own ideas about our involvement in Vietnam.

You'll even be asked to decide what you would do, were you were a student in the Sixties and faced with the draft.

You'll consider the options, make a decision, then explain it in a letter to your family ... just as you'd have done back then.

Naturally, there are quizzes throughout each unit, an assessment test at the end of each unit, plus a proctored final exam on the entire course.

V I S U A L

SHOW EXAMPLES (non-invasive) of different levels of teacher-student interactivity -- discussion board, journals, email correspondence, grade comments.

PLANO ISD eSCHOOL logo ?

TXVSN logo

FADE TO BLACK

A U D I O

And throughout the course, you'll work closely with a highly qualified teacher ... a mentor and confidant who will post questions and topics on the discussion board, share thoughts with you through your journal or blog, evaluate your assignments, and assess your progress. This very positive, interactive relationship is a hallmark of our online courses.

There's a lot more we can tell you ... and a lot more you probably want to know. To learn more about any of the Plano eSchool courses, check the Texas Virtual School Network catalog, or talk to your counselor.

(music out)
