Wimba Live Classroom Student Guide

For this class, we will use Wimba Classroom- a virtual classroom where we can text chat or speak to and see one another using microphones and webcams. We can collaborate just like being in a face-to-face classroom.

The minimum system requirements to use Wimba Live Classroom are as follows:

- Windows 7, Vista or XP; Mac OS 10.4+
- 256 MB RAM
- An Internet connection at 56k or higher
- IE 7.0+, Safari 3.0+, Firefox 3.0+ (Browser must be Java and JavaScript enabled)
- Sound Card (for Audio Calling)
- Speakers and Microphone for Audio Calling (USB headset with integrated microphone recommended. These are available online or in stores such as Best Buy, Target, or Wal-Mart. The price ranges from $15-$45 dollars).
- USB or Integrated Webcam (for Video Calling).

Step 1

It is really important that your computer is setup to work with Live Classroom before the first session. We recommend that at least 48 hours before that you log in to Blackboard and enter your course.

Login to Blackboard here: [http://southernmiss.blackboard.com](http://southernmiss.blackboard.com)

Use your SOAR id (i.e. w123456) and SOAR password to login. Click the name of the course to access it from “My Blackboard.”

Click on the Wimba Classroom link.

This link will typically be on the Course Content homepage or in Course Materials.

Step 2

The first time you enter live classroom you will need to run the Setup Wizard.

Wimba Class Monday at 5pm
The button is located on the right side of the screen once you click on your Wimba Classroom link. The Wizard will determine if your computer has the correct software to run live classroom. If you have any problems working through the Wizard, technical support is always available at http://www.wimba.com/services/support or you can click on the 24/7-support link located in the course menu of your blackboard course.

Once you have completed the Wizard you can enter the live classroom by clicking on the Enter Room button.

Step 3

In some browsers, this page will appear and since you have already run the wizard click on the click here link to enter the room.

Step 4

If the following message appears, click the ALLOW button to continue.

Step 5

You should now be in the live classroom. You will see three areas and a media bar. The large area is called the content frame and all content that the
The instructor/presenter wants to show will be displayed in this frame.

The frame on the bottom left is text chat area. You will be able to chat with your instructor and classmates in this area by typing in the rectangle at the bottom of the area. All the activity that happens in the classroom will be documented in the text chat area.

The Participant Area will list your instructor and classmates. The Media Bar contains the talk button and other audio and visual components - more on this and the Participant Area in the following steps.

**Step 6**

The media bar will mainly be used for audio and video controls, but there are a few other things in this area.

**Network Connection Status:** This status is an average of your internet connection since being online. It is not an indicator of your current network connection.

**Talk Button:** In order for your instructor and classmates to hear you, you must click and hold down the talk button while speaking. The button will turn an orange/gold color when it is pushed.

**Audio Indicators:** This is a visual of the current audio levels. You can also click on this button to adjust your speaker and microphone volumes if needed.

**Telephone Information:** If you have problems with or do not have access to a microphone and/or speakers you can call-in to the live classroom session with the following information provided by this button. (Please be aware that long distance charges will apply.)

**Media Options:** This button opens a list of options for your audio and video. If you have problems with either one you can sometimes solve the issues by disconnecting the media. This option is last in the list. To reconnect media click the same link that should be now labeled reconnect media.

**NOTE:** If you are having issues with your audio make sure that the correct audio input is checked.
**Video:** When you click on this button a video window will appear. To start transmitting your video you must click on the icon that looks like a closed eye. When the button turns to an open eye you are transmitting video. You should see yourself in the preview window located on the bottom right corner of the video window. If you want to remove the preview you can click on the center button and it will only show the presenter video. To resize the video window click on the button to the right.

**Step 7**

The Participant Area has buttons located below the list of participants. These buttons are intended to enhance the interaction of the live classroom. You can participate in yes/no questions by clicking on the appropriate button.

If you have a question you can click on the hand raise button and a number will be displayed by your name and a hand raise chime will be heard.

The final button in the participant area is emoticons. These allow you to let the instructor to know how you are feeling.

For more information on Live Classroom please visit [http://www.wimba.com/services/support/documentation - wCl](http://www.wimba.com/services/support/documentation - wCl)