

ISI Courseware and Management System Enhancements

The ISI Development Team works diligently to develop and enhance the ISI Courseware and Management System on an ongoing basis. Minor updates are released monthly and larger changes are transmitted to the ATTAIN labs in the spring, winter and fall. As always, we appreciate hearing about what you have found useful, as well as your discovery of bugs and suggestions for improvement.

ISI COURSEWARE ENHANCEMENTS

Curriculum Access

Given the increase in the number of available courses, the course window has been expanded to allow for five courses to be seen without scrolling. A course may also be located by pressing the first letter in the course name. In the event that you do not see this change on your stations, please contact an ISI field engineer.

New Courseware Content

Four new lessons have been added to the new chapter on blood borne pathogens in the Health Care Worker and Nursing Assistant Programs. The Nursing Assistant Program now contains three new lessons in a new chapter on Aging.

Curriculum Bug Fixes

In the course, You Can Make It Happen, a lab manager reported that student responses were not being stored for later retrieval. This problem has been corrected and the responses for a given lesson may now be printed. This change allows for students to create journals, which will serve as a useful resource for instructors and lab managers in creating programs that effectively meet students' needs.

Reminder: curriculum bug fixes occur on an ongoing basis and changes are transmitted to the ATTAIN Labs monthly. We ask when reporting a bug that you please provide your ISI Trainer with a screenshot along with your email explanation. This speeds up the process of identifying and correcting the problem.

Update On Pilot Courses

The following pilot courses are nearly complete with regards to content and are now in the media enhancement stage. We encourage your feedback as you use these courses under a pilot license:

Developmental Mathematics, Reading & Writing
Child Care Levels I, II, III, & Parenting
Adult Basic Skills Mathematics Exam

Please Note: Additional passages for grades 1 & 2 are in preparation for Developmental Reading. Additional instructional material will be implemented in fall 2004 for Developmental Writing.

Upcoming Development Plans & Ideas

Health Care Worker Program & Nursing Assistant Program: A content matter expert is reviewing these courses and will provide additional and modified content to reflect industry changes. ISI developers will also build a feature that allows for sites to locally customize the terminology used in these courses.

College Remedial Reading: The reading passages will be reordered based on new assessment and analysis of reading levels. There will also be recording of audio for all of the reading passages.

Workplace Mathematics & Workplace Reading: Discussions are underway to refresh these courses, providing additional instructional content.

ISI MANAGEMENT SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS

Certificates

Certificates are now available in the Advanced Reports tab in the Management System. There are three certificate types: Achievement, Accomplishment, and Completion. Lab managers and instructors may generate certificates based on completion of set criteria (e.g., Overall Time on Task, Overall Session Score, Overall Lesson Score, and Number of Sessions).

When replenishing supplies, be sure to purchase certificate paper with wide or no borders. ISI will provide one pack of certificate paper for each site as a kick-off. We encourage you to submit feedback about this new feature to your ISI Trainer.

Reports

Most reports have been reformatted with extensive changes to their appearance, including use of shading, group page breaks, condensing of the “sort” header fields, and clarification of “Best” session when there are multiple possibilities.

Beginning in the fall, the reports will be changed so that page breaks per student are optional. Some lab managers have requested page breaks so that reports may be distributed to individual students. Others prefer the pages to run together to save paper. This option will also be a settable preference.

To find out how to use ISI reports as a tool for improving instruction and evaluating programs, please contact your ISI Trainer.

Third-Party Software Management

The third party software tab in the Management System now allows a lab manager to add, modify, and delete third party software for his/her particular ATTAIN lab. Once the software installation request has been approved by SUNY and the software has been tested by ISI, lab managers may use this feature to add the software to the ISI Management System. This allows for accessing the third party software through the ISI Curriculum icon and tracking its usage via the ISI Manager.

Comments Field

Longer notes and descriptions may now be entered in the comments field on the student enrollment screen. This field now holds 255 bytes of information, up from 40 bytes.

Student Deletion

In general, there is no need to delete student enrollment records from the ISI Management System. Saving these enrollments allows for tracking usage of the system over time. Additionally, because an endless supply of student ID numbers is available, there is no need to make room for more by deleting students. However, in isolated cases where deletion of multiple students is necessary (e.g., at the onset of lab usage, or incorrect entry of multiple students), ISI has added a support to make multiple student deletion more efficient.