“Tailoring a Large Course with Telesis”
ITeach Symposium January 12, 2006
Robert E. Hegel, ANELL

A. A Tour of the site for L06 ACC 227 Chinese Civilization (enrollment: 100)
   1. Topics (backbone of the site)
   2. Assignments (explained in detail)
   3. Calendar (specifies what reading, what writing by what date)
   4. Links (to reliable resources, through the East Asian Library homepage)
   5. Files (many, including images and texts on great variety of topics)
   6. Grade book (Example: Final: Responses 20%, Quizzes 10%, Essays 20% each, final 30%; Midterm: Responses 30%, Quiz 20%, Essay 50%)

B. Setting it up (the functions of items in the left column of the Telesis page)
   1. Topics—manage (paste in from Word document)
   2. Assignments—manage (paste in)
   3. Calendar—manage
   4. Links—manage (type in)
   5. Files—manage (upload from other sources)
   6. Topics—manage, to link all together

C. Cosmetics (changing the fonts to be consistent, etc.)

D. Explanation: Strengths of limiting materials for papers, etc., to what’s on the Telesis site
   1. Allows diverse interests in response papers on the various Telesis files (Students from A&S, Art, Arch, Bus, Engr)
   2. Assuring common information through quizzes and final examination
   3. Avoiding duplication of assignments by providing many essay topics
   4. Spacing the work load—for both faculty and students (staggering due dates between A-M and N-Z surnames)
   5. Allows personal exploration of own interests while encouraging development of new ones—for both students and faculty

E: Explanation: Downsides
   1. Must make uncommon or specific paper topics, not allow others without consultation—to avoid students’ lifting papers from the Web.
   2. Lots of reading for faculty and TA to be familiar with all Telesis materials; students read only self-selected samples.
3. Apples and oranges in writing assignments; not easy to compare with each other for consistency in grading.