Converting a course from face-to-face to on-line: What are the challenges.

As more and more students are seeking to complete graduate degrees on-line, colleges and instructors are faced with the dilemma of providing the same high quality of courses on-line that are presented in a face-to-face format. Converting a course from face-to-face to an on-line format while maintaining the same quality presents many interesting challenges to the instructor, especially when the instructor’s teaching strength has always been in face-to-face contact with students. How does instructor relate to the on-line students? Converting instructional information into a format that will be interesting, motivating, and instructional while not being flat requires a great deal of planning and creativity. Where does the instructor begin? What training is necessary? There are many obstacles which need to be addressed before the course can be ready to be uploaded. The steps that need to be followed will be reviewed in this presentation as well as roadblocks to be overcome. Examples of prepared instructional materials will be presented.