

[00:00:01.27] - Speaker 1

I've touched on a lot over the past 3 to 4 lessons, but here I really want to focus on how we can make you successful when you go and try to take on this role in your— whenever that might be, tomorrow, next week, next month. But I want to give you some key steps for success. So start small. Take on simple repetitive tasks first, whether that's enrolling somebody as a course builder in multiple courses, and take on those processes first. Build your confidence gradually.

[00:00:42.05] - Speaker 1

You don't want to take on the largest project that's going to have a lot of eyes on it. Just try to do what you can that really will benefit you and make you a better administrator in your Blackboard environment. Leverage AI.

[00:00:59.27] - Speaker 1

You don't need to know everything because AI fills the knowledge gaps for you. And so what you need to know is how things— be able to understand how processes work, understand programming logic, and be able to look over AI's shoulder. Then you also want to be able to just iterate, improve. Your first version doesn't have to be perfect, and it may not do everything you want. It may not even do the thing you want it to do in the first place.

[00:01:27.29] - Speaker 1

But that's okay. It's the first version. Everything, you know, everything isn't great in its first iteration. So continuing refining it will make it better. And document your work.

[00:01:42.10] - Speaker 1

Document comments in code. Either have AI help you help document things. Save your prompts. Build your library. I can't tell you how many times I have had to go back after I realized that my prompt probably wasn't exactly the way I needed it to be in my early starts through AI coding.

[00:02:07.03] - Speaker 1

And I saved, luckily had saved my prompt and I went back and made changes or I clarified things or I said, I didn't want, don't want to use this, or I want it to be done this way, or I want you to use this certain library, or I want you to use this or this., and it clarified a whole lot of the issue, clarified a lot of the problems and, and, and addressed a lot of the problems that I would have and that I might have later on down the road. So making sure that you save your prompts and build that prompt library, because you're, when you're trying to figure out how to write a proper prompt, you can look back and figure out, well, what prompts worked in a similar situation, and then you're able to learn how to be a better prompt writer when it comes to giving AI coding the appropriate skills or the appropriate information. So the common concerns that I hear you saying today, I'm not a programmer, Terry. Well, I wasn't a programmer. I was a Blackboard administrator.

[00:03:19.02] - Speaker 1

Okay? You don't have to be a programmer because AI is the programmer. But you have to be a person who understands programming logic and understands programming code. That doesn't mean that you have to write the code. It doesn't mean that you have to understand how to write every single line, how to write if-then loops and everything else.

[00:03:40.18] - Speaker 1

You have to understand looping. You have to understand breaks. You have to understand if-then-else, those kind of things. There's things and concepts you have to understand, but let AI write the code and you provide the logic, you provide the oversight, and you check it to make sure that it makes sense. But what if I break something?

[00:04:02.28] - Speaker 1

So if you're worried about that, that's the reason you have a test instance of Blackboard. Just write a— start a read-only script, you know, hey, go check the last— you know, a great example would be just to Write a script that checks the last login date for, you know, this class. Give me the last login date for any of these users in this course. And use sandbox environments because those kinds of things are

great places for you to experience it. And you won't break things there.

[00:04:38.04] - Speaker 1

Then, I don't have time to learn. I promise you, you have time to learn. Start with one small task because AI accelerates the learning process, and AI accelerates the amount of time that you're going to get back. The time that you invest in developing— time developing these tools is going to be time saved later on down the road when you can do things, when situations require you to be able to functionally change things fast or make improvements or answer questions quickly. When time is the essence, having these scripts are so valuable to you and to have these abilities.

[00:05:26.10] - Speaker 1

So AI can help you. So the time you invest in learning is the time you're going to save down the road. You're giving yourself a present to your future self. So please think about that if you're telling yourself, I don't have time. So What I want you to do is identify one repetitive task in your workflow today, whether that is something you try to do in Blackboard, maybe it's something you do in your email, maybe it's something to do, I don't know.

[00:05:59.27] - Speaker 1

It may be something outside of work, but take on that role, choose an AI coding assistant, write out the logical steps and let AI help you create a script and then test, refine, and deploy. Because I want you to remember, if you can follow Google Maps, you can program today. So I want to thank you for your time. I want to thank you for your attention over these lessons. And I hope that these, this discussion today has opened your eyes to how you can implement AI and coding in your day-to-day work as a Blackboard administrator.

[00:06:40.15] - Speaker 1

Thank you. Have a great day.