

THE

METROPOLITAN

The Metropolitan State University Student Newspaper

Breaking the Piggy Bank: Why Online Classes Cost More Money Than Traditional Classes

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Metropolitan State University is known for its flexibility. And its ability to accommodate individuals who already lead busy lives and have responsibilities outside of school. Metro State is able to do this partially by offering online classes.

However, there is a major flaw with them: online classes cost more than traditional classes.

Doing some simple calculations will show that online courses are about 33 percent more expensive than traditional classes. For working adults who are trying to juggle a career, family and school, 33 percent more for college can be a big deal. Why is there such a large price difference?

“There are a lot of things that go on behind the scenes,” said Robert Bilyk, the director of the Center for Online Learning.

According to Bilyk, Metro State pays multiple expenses when offering online courses. Some of these costs include payment for the Center for Online Learning, payment to corporations like D2L Brightspace and expenses developing new classes. Each of these expenditures is necessary to keep online classes running and working smoothly.

Bilyk quotes the Center for Online Learning as being the largest expense. The Center for Online Learning is staffed with multiple individuals whose job is to develop new online instructional techniques and help online courses run efficiently.

In addition to this, Metro State must pay for D2L, a corporation that offers a learning platform designed to help instructors and students interact online. Sites like D2L force universities to increase online class tuition.

Developing the course itself takes up time and resources. Each year, Metro State offers new online courses. Because of this, they are required to hire personnel who have the ability to develop these new courses. “Professors are paid to teach, not to learn new software,” said Bilyk.

Moreover, Metro State has to have the ability to give training for professors who need to learn how to operate D2L and use different programs and software.

In addition to all of these costs, Metro State also hopes to continue improving online classes through adaptive learning. This would give students at Metro State the ability to study from a curriculum that is more specific to each individual. Also,

online proctoring is something that is being researched, which would help add academic honesty to online classes.

To help clarify this subject of online course expenses, let’s look at two different situations. In one situation, a professor is teaching a traditional class. In order to teach this class, the professor will need a salary and a room, which would include chairs, tables, utilities, and a whiteboard.

Conversely, in an online class, there is no longer a need for a room or the utilities. However, in exchange, a university has nontraditional costs that are more expensive. A university must now pay for an interface that allows students and professors to communicate effectively. Technology support groups have to be staffed to help professors get their material online. The university also needs IT help desks and personnel who assist students and professors as they use and work through the online course.

These hidden costs are the reasons why online class tuition is so high. Money talks, so listen and prepare to break the piggy bank for your online class.

Get Covered, Be Aware, Health Insurance at Metro

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Health insurance is a hot political topic right now. Metropolitan State has many non-traditional students who attend the university. The stress of staying healthy and being able to pay bills is a common concern for students. In every class there is a range of traditional students (18-21 age range), and older students with families. It is common to hear fellow students state they are raising a family, working full-time and going to school. When themselves or one of their family members fall ill, the impact can be huge.

Before the Affordable Care Act, I remember trying to get insurance as a 26-year-old new student. I had a health condition that could not be treated at the student clinic and required hospital services. The nightmare unraveled as being a women and my lowered income level (due to leaving work to attend school) worked against me. Because of my preexisting condition (an ectopic pregnancy) and making too much money the year before—a whopping \$29,000—I was left without insurance. My bank account was drained, and I had to work full-time while struggling to pay for school.

Flash forward two years when I was covered by MNSure. I had something similar happen to me and required emergency care. Being low-income and a full-time student, I was covered. Instead of using my meager savings to pay

Metro State’s Meaning of Art

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I still remember my first day of class at Metropolitan State. I parked in the lot (now the ramp) and was taking the skyway to the library’s third floor. Rounding the corner to the hallway with the slanted floor and windows on my right, I was drawn to the form on the opposite wall. A beautifully flowing, multi-colored mosaic, perfectly



“Disc” by Dick Huss (Photo by: Kevin J. Franken)

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THE METROPOLITAN

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From the Front Page

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“Light Waves After Thomas Young” by Amy Baur and Brian Boldon (Photo by: Kevin J. Franken)

suited for the space and enhanced by the incoming light. Since then, having taken that same walk countless times, I have always admired the piece—fittingly named “Streaming.”

According to Erica Rasmussen, professor of studio arts and gallery director at Metro State, the “Streaming” piece’s creator, Sheryl Tuorila, is a local artist. She works out of Northeast Minneapolis, and is a former Metro State student. The mosaic is made of clay, glass, stone and ceramic tile—Tuorila makes the tile herself. She has created artwork for other major Twin Cities buildings and is presently working on an installation at the Minneapolis/St. Paul airport.

Rasmussen, an artist in residence and community faculty member for the first few years, is a resident faculty and has been involved in the arts at Metro State for almost 20 years now. Rasmussen also spearheads Metro State’s “Art Purchase Award,” which she created 14 years ago. Every fall, Rasmussen goes around the university to raise funds for the project. The competition is held in the spring, and is open to students, alumni and arts faculty. With the number dependent on the amount of funds raised, \$1000 is given for each award. “Other universities have art purchase awards, but they’re not always to that dollar amount,” said Rasmussen. “It’s my belief that artists should be paid like any other professionals. It should be a significant sum, so that when somebody sells an artwork they can put some money in their pockets, buy some new art supplies, pay their bills.”

The Art Purchase Award competition also has another benefit. “It’s a great professional development exercise for our students and alums,” says Rasmussen. “When they’re applying

for the award, they’re learning to photograph and document their artwork, and go through the submission process, which is exactly what they’re going to do when they get out in the world. They’re going to have to approach galleries, apply for grants, all these things to get their artwork out in circulation,” she adds.

Rasmussen is also chairwoman of the Art Exhibition Committee at Metro State. Generally consisting of 8-10 members, the committee includes faculty, staff and students. “We like to involve people from different areas,” said Rasmussen. “They’re not always necessarily schooled in art, either, but they’re people that are interested in art here on campus.” This approach gives the committee broader, diverse perspectives when deciding which artwork to acquire.

The artwork for Metro State is es-



“Metropolitan Obelisk” by John Marshall
(Photo by: Kevin J. Franken)

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PAGE 1

for bills, I could afford food while also receiving better care and preventative treatments. The best part is I didn’t go broke because of medical care.

The reason I could receive care was because of the Affordable Care Act, also known as ObamaCare. Countless students and low income people have benefited from this act. However certain political parties want to repeal the act with no plan to replace it. So, what if that happens?

Well, traditional students will no longer be able to stay on their parent’s health plan until they are 26. Fortunately, the school offers a form of health care in connection with Fairview Healthcare Services. However, what if you need intensive care, or are diagnosed with cancer?

Women have a good amount to risk because of the repeal. They are a pre-existing condition just because they may become pregnant. In addition, contraception restrictions and the loss of choice become a problem. This becomes a nightmare for any woman who has ever had a still-birth or miscarriage. On top of that, women in rural areas who suffer from a failed pregnancy often have limited care and, without places like Planned Parenthood, can risk death.

The scary thing is the Republican-ruled senate has no plan. The president has stated in speeches, “Repeal Obamacare and replace it with something terrific.”

Well, what is that plan? If “terrific” is a plan, we better ride unicorns off into the sunset. People in Minneapolis are left scared to lose health care, and our senators are listening. While speaking on the Senate floor, Senator Al Franken said, “Because if, say, your child had cancer, and the Affordable Care Act was the reason you could get health insurance, you wouldn’t want to rip up the ACA before knowing what would replace it.” To which he added, “I’m not the only Senator with constituents whose lives are on the line here, so I just know that you don’t

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From the Front Page

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“Streaming” by Sheryl Tuorila (Photo by: Kevin J. Franken)

entially obtained three ways, two of them being donations and the Art Purchase Award. The third is called “Percent for Art.” Officially titled Minnesota Percent for Art in Public Places, this program allows state building projects to use up to one percent of construction budgets to commission artwork for the site. “This is a program that many states in the country have, but not all of them,” Rasmussen says, adding, “so we’re really lucky we have a great Percent for Art program.”

An example of this can be seen after exiting the skyway and looking to the wall on the right of Metro State’s new Science Center. Created by Amy Baur and Brian Boldon and titled “Light Waves after Thomas Young,” this dazzling piece was named after the scientist’s Double-Slit Experiment of 1803, which demonstrated that light travels in waves. The artwork also emphasizes the importance of making visible the invisible through scientific imaging, and utilizes digital images on bent, kiln-formed glass suspended on a stainless steel structure. Some of the images displayed include microscopic enlargements of pollen and chemical crystals, as well as leaves and a common field cricket. These images also represent various scientific disciplines taught at Metro State.

Another piece, commissioned when the library was built, has a unique trait: it’s outdoors, on the library lawn. Designed by Minneapolis artist Janet Lofquist, the gleaming glass and stainless steel structure is called “Infinite Library.” The artwork’s inspiration is from a short story by Jorge Luis Borges titled “The Library of Babel” and also from the role of Boolean logic in modern binary computers. It’s been suggested that the short story by Borges foreshad-

ows cyberspace and its role in the future of the library.

Another piece with local, east-side roots sits atop the fireplace of the library’s first-floor study room. Mainly black and amber in color, this warm, vibrant glass artwork is called “Disc.” The artist, Dick Huss, has a glass-blowing shop just several blocks from campus. The library’s second-floor fireplace is home to what is called the “Metropolitan Obelisk.” The piece is made from books that artist John Marshall rescued from a trip to the landfill. He then carved and stacked the books into this fitting and novel (pun intended) piece of art.



“Infinite Library” by Janet Lofquist (Photo by: Kevin J. Franken)

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intend to rip up the Affordable Care Act and leave them with nothing. You’ve got to have a plan right? So let’s just see it.”

It is smart to be concerned over what will happen. However, the school does offer a range of services for traditional students. According to an email sent in January to students, health care services are accessible in two ways: by using a platform called Zipnosis; and visiting Fairview Healthcare clinics throughout the Metro area. These services offer basic care for the flu, allergies, health screenings (such as diabetes and heart health), pink eye, and other basic outpatient services.

To access these services, you must go to app.zipnosis.com. Login using your Star ID, first and last name, and verify that you are a Metro State Student. However, depending on the treatment, the student may be responsible for out-of-pocket payment. So always ask what your insurance will cover, and how much it will cost. There is nothing worse than getting a surprise bill you can’t afford.

In addition, this does not come without a cost. In 2014, student senate approved charging \$2.50 per credit fee to enrolled students for healthcare services. So what does that mean? A student enrolled taking eight credits during a semester in 2017 will be charged \$20.00, for example.

If you choose not to use the school services and need care, search “Health Care” on the school’s website. You will find a list of sliding scale clinics that offer a range of services based on your income level.

You may not believe the Affordable Care Act is the answer or is working. But, if you are sitting in a classroom at Metro State, most likely this act has made life better for some of your classmates. As a school with massive amounts of diversity, we’re all here to be lifelong learners, and it’s important that all students are supported and healthy.

On Campus

Five Steps to Getting Your Work Published in the Haute Dish Magazine

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You may have your creative aspirations. If I may ask, what are they? Perhaps you have a dream to write a book or produce an interesting video. Maybe you would like to compose a poem or take an inspiring photograph. Whatever it is, would it be exciting to have one of your artistic productions printed in a magazine or displayed on a website?

If you are a Metro State student, alumnus, faculty or staff member, there is an opportunity for your work to appear in an upcoming edition of the Haute Dish for the fall semester. Haute Dish is an arts and literature publication for Metro State. Imagine the satisfaction you will feel when you show your published piece to friends and family.

The Haute Dish staff is currently accepting submissions for their next issue. They are anxiously awaiting yours. The Staff would like to see what your imaginative mind and motivated heart can produce. **The deadline to turn in your creation is April 15, 2017, at 11:59 p.m.**

Your contribution to Haute Dish could be a great addition to your resume or portfolio. For writing students, publication provides exposure and shows employers your dedication to the craft. Haute Dish, however, encourages all current students to submit to the magazine, not just writing majors. For instance, they have received excellent poetry from science majors.

Are you ready to start your personal journey to getting published? Your journey begins with a first step. Here is a step-by-step guide to getting your work considered for the next Haute Dish magazine.

Step One: Discover Your Genre and Decide What Type of Piece You Would Like to Create

Haute Dish magazine is available at all four Metro Campus locations. You can read an online version through their website at hautedish.metrostate.edu. Haute Dish features work from Metro State students including fiction, creative nonfiction, memoir/personal essay, poetry, photography and illustration. There is also a *Focus on Metro* category just for photographs of Metro State campuses and activities. Students interested in creating videos can submit to the digital storytelling section for the online version of the Haute Dish.

View the entries to see what interests you. It may help you consider your strengths and determine the work you would like to do yourself. Artists find success through passion and enjoyment of their creative labors.

Step Two: Examine the Guidelines to Ensure that Your Submission Will Fit the Required Specifications

Work turned into the Haute Dish must be original and not previously used in other publications. Also, the work must be an approved file length and format. Writings, for instance, cannot exceed 3000 words and poems must be limited to 40 lines. Videos must have an MP4 or MOV file format. Please visit hautedish.submittable.com/submit for up-to-date submission rights and requirements.

Step Three: Have Fun, and Create Your “Masterpiece”

Many people initiate stress working on this project. They might lose sight of the fun of the process by focusing too much on the result. Even in the most optimal environments, it is possible to lose creative inspiration. Sometimes, our artistic energies are low. The difficulties may cause us to lose motivation in our ventures. At these times, it is best to put the project on hold until you can tackle it with a different mindset. Coming back to the project, you will be amazed how much better things will flow.

People should not be nervous about sending their work to Haute Dish. Many people are surprised when things go better than anticipated. Sarah Fjellanger almost did not submit her work to the magazine. “As a member of the Editorial Review Board for Haute Dish and this year’s managing editor, I would like to encourage my fellow students to submit pieces to Haute Dish.” Said Fjellanger, “I know from past writing classes that there are some very good writing artists out there, most of them afraid of that first plunge into exposing their words to the public. I was once there myself.”

Step Four: Edit Your Final Piece Continuously to Make It Your Best Work

A popular misconception of writers is that their efforts come easy. Exceptional writers deliver outstanding work with dedication to effort and extensive editing. Before submitting your output, take the time to review work repeatedly. Some people find it useful to read text out loud. It may also be helpful to get others to view your work. You will be surprised to discover a necessary alteration after each review. Your attention to details will be the difference between a good creation and the best creation from you.

Step Five: Submit your Final Piece and Cover Letter Before the Deadline

You will want to give yourself enough time to complete the project punctually. Submissions received after the deadline will not be considered for the fall issue. Along with your final piece, you will need to provide a cover letter. This page should include your name, status at Metro State and a short (fewer than 150 words) biography about yourself.

Haute Dish also requires users to use their Metro State University email with their communications. You can submit all of your submissions (up to 4 in each genre) electronically through the submission page at hautedish.submittable.com/submit. Remember to exclude your name from the pieces to be considered. The Editing Review Board prefers to vote without the influence of names.

Good luck with your goal of getting published in the next Haute Dish magazine. I hope your submission will get selected. If your submission is not selected, please remember that Haute Dish publishes the magazine two times a year.



Magazine Stand in Founders Hall (Photo by Scott Lindell)

Haute Dish Info

Published 2 times a year

Deadlines for submissions:

Fall-April 15

Spring-November 15

Staff members include:

Managing Editor

Business Manager

Layout/Designer (Now Hiring)

Web Editor

Opportunities Available:

Become a volunteer for Haute Dish by becoming a member of the Editorial Review Board! These students will review and vote on submissions for the fall issue. Contact Haute Dish today at:

hautedish@metrostate.edu

Would you like free money? Would you like a boost towards paying for your education?

In conjunction with Students United (www.studentsunited.org/#home), a non-profit that represents students on the capitol and MnSCU, the Student Senate invites you to apply for scholarships. These scholarships include the Penny Fellowship, the Friends Scholarship and the Hull Education Foundation Scholarship. In total, there are six scholarships—some with multiple grants.

Any student can apply; many scholarships range from \$500 to \$5000. Apply before the deadline of April 1, 2017.

Student Issues

Faculty Respond to Executive Order on Immigration

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Metropolitan State faculty members have issued robust responses to President Donald Trump’s executive order on immigration. The overarching message is one of concern and support for students impacted by the order.

Professor Nantawan Lewis of the Ethnic and Religious Studies department is organizing a panel discussion on the executive order. “Since it was issued on January 27, there’s been a lot of concern, a lot of anxiety, a lot of uncertainty in the community,” said Lewis.

The executive order barred citizens of seven Muslim-majority countries: Iraq, Syria, Sudan, Iran, Somalia, Libya, and Yemen. As of February 9, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has blocked the order. It is unknown when or if the Trump administration will issue a revised or new order.

Lewis noted that Metro State has a sizable population of students originating from Somalia, one of the affected countries. “We must examine how this ban impacts them, their classes, their families, their community,” she said.

She urges students to attend the forum, “to get a better understanding and to have an informed perspective— not just what they hear from social media.”

The forum will provide information on the seven affected countries, and historical context for the immigration and travel ban. “This didn’t drop from the sky, there’s a long history of executive power to determine who can come in and who cannot come in, who can be a citizen and who cannot,” Lewis said.

The event will be held March 1 in the Great Hall, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Panelists include Tamara Gray, Muslim scholar and faculty in the Ethnic and Religious Studies department; Jaylani Hussein, executive director of the Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) Minnesota; and representatives from the offices of Senator Al Franken and Congressman Keith Ellison.

“Don’t forget, this country is a country of immigrants. It’s incumbent on us all to learn, to know, to be aware, and to be informed so we don’t panic,” Lewis said.

“We Stand with Our Students”

Associate Professor Jose Santos of the Social Science department is one of sixteen Metro State professors who registered as faculty allies on the website westandwithourstudents.org. “I

want [students] first of all to realize if they are an immigrant student – of which we have many – that absolutely the support is there for you,” said Santos. “...the faculty is behind you.”

Faculty who sign up indicate their willingness to stand with their students, wherever they are from and whatever their status and offer their guidance. The website is searchable by state and campus.

Santos called Metro State President Ginny Arthur’s statements on the executive order an important “first step,” but hopes “a hell of a lot more” happens.

“There’s an actual crisis going on in this country. Can [Metro State] be a model for change in this really problematic time? We need to reach out beyond these walls,” he said.

“We Strongly Denounce this Ban”

Assistant Professor Mark Asplen of the Natural Sciences department was an early endorser of an open letter of academics opposing the executive order. After receiving the link to notoimmigrationban.com from colleagues at the University of Minnesota, Asplen became signer number 2,150. At time of press, the letter now has over 43,000 signatories. The letter denounces the executive order as discriminatory and inhumane.

“Somalia is one of the countries affected by the ban and we have a lot of immigrant students from Somalia,” said Asplen. “That struck home very, very strongly for me. This deeply affects our university community and the Twin Cities.”

Asplen is also concerned about the potential harm to the academic system in the United States. “A lot of people come here to study, to bring knowledge back to their cultures and countries. They conduct absolutely pivotal research, especially in science, and certainly in other fields. To have a blanket ban for people from certain countries – it is unconstitutional in my interpretation,” he said.

He would like to see the university do even more for immigrant, refugee, and undocumented students, including through designating Metro State as a sanctuary campus.

“I think that would be very consistent with our mission as a campus community,” said Asplen. “I don’t think there would be much of a justification not to do it,” He supports the Metro State Inter

Faculty Organization (IFO) proposal to do so.

“All Are Welcome”

Sign posted all over the Library and Learning Center read “All Are Welcome”— in English, Arabic, Hmong, Somali, and Spanish. It’s an effort to “make sure there aren’t any kind of barriers of any type—visible or invisible— that are keeping people from the library,” said professor and librarian, Jennifer DeJonghe.

She noted that libraries have a long history as safe and welcoming spaces, particularly for newcomers and immigrants. But in tense and stressful times, “it’s good to check: are we really open to everybody? It isn’t enough—especially now—to just say, ‘ok here’s the information’ and our doors are unlocked,” she said.

Metro State librarians are assisting students seeking more information on the executive order and their immigration status. “Students are asking if we have recommendations for them about their visa,” said DeJonghe. “Asking us: do you think I can travel? Is it safe to go visit my family? So if they’re coming up to library help desks, there obviously is a need.” She put her name on both the “Academics Against Immigration Executive Order” open letter and the online list of faculty allies.

“Everybody is respected, welcomed for who they are”

In conversations with colleagues and on the faculty listserv, DeJonghe finds everyone eager to find ways to do more to help students affected by the executive order.

“We in higher education need to find ways to respond more quickly and more succinctly in situations such as this,” she said. Our response time can feel slow in this age of Twitter, and those who need to hear from us the most might miss our message.”

Religious Studies professor Lewis sees the faculty response in the context of Metro State’s continuing work to build an anti-racist learning community.

“Faculty, staff, and students are committed to see social justice being done,” she said. “To see that everybody is respected, welcomed for who they are— their race, religion, sexual identity, religion, class— that’s what this is all about.”

Mann About Town

An Open Letter to Those Questioning Their Heritage

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Hey Guys, how’s it going?

So, St. Patrick’s Day is coming up on March 17. It is a day where everybody’s green rubs a little to the surface and the streets run green with overpriced beer, now turned vomit. Who doesn’t love this holiday when its whole guiding principle is having a good time while celebrating Irish heritage?

Me. I hate this holiday is where I’m driving.

Look, I’m not against having fun. I’m not even against the celebration of my lineage for a little

fun on a grand scale. Irish immigrant history is a large focal point for the country from the late 19th century onwards. I must just be an overly sensitive curmudgeon—who doesn’t know his basic modern history—and I simply cannot let bygones be bygones?

*Editor’s Note: Here comes a truth bomb.

Wait a second, St. Patrick’s Day didn’t become popular as a celebration of Irish immigration, heritage, and history? Well... why did it get popular in the first place?

Oh, wait, right: Booze! Spirits! Grains! Hops!

It seems that the only Irish thing the holiday celebrates is the belligerent stereotype of the “Orishman:” drunk, dumb, abusive, violent Celts who are busy eating potatoes to provide for their rabbit-catholic hybrid families.

There is such an innate idiocy to the “Orish.” “Kiss Me, I’m Irish” shirts; skyrocketing sales Guinness, Bailey and Jameson; and a mysterious rise of the Irish population in the U.S. seems to

Tech Corner

Virtualizing an Old Computer Game

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Virtualization is one of the dark arts of tech geeks. We don't fully understand how it works, but we wield it to create amazing, magical things. Like server redundancy (which is a very magical thing, trust me).

For the average computer user, virtualization is a far less useful thing, but it does serve one key purpose: running old software in old operating systems. (For my primer on operating systems, check out the February 2017 issue on The Metropolitan's Website.)

Yet the process of installing and running a virtual machine can be very tricky. I'd like to provide a simple guide to doing so, with the end goal of running two very old games that will no longer work on modern Windows: Maxis' SimPark, and a fan-made Mario DOS game (available at <http://www.wieringssoftware.nl>), both childhood favorites of mine.

First, There Might be an Easier Way

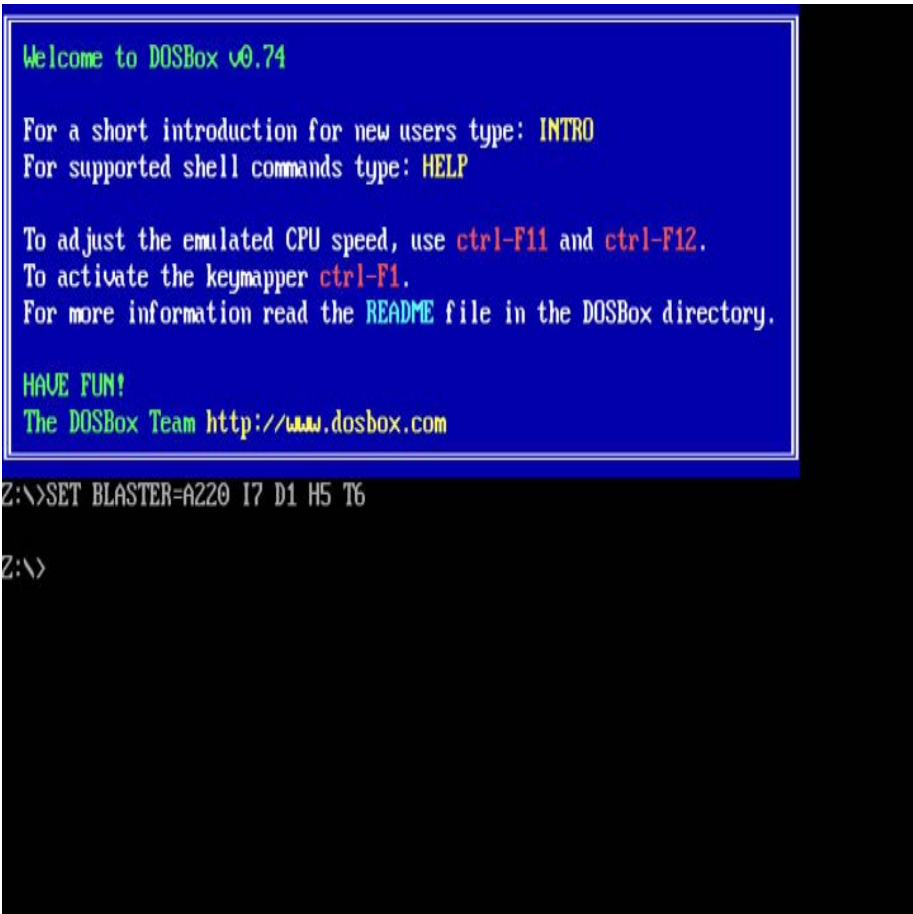
It deserves to be mentioned that a lot of ancient software can run with a great deal of success using *emulators*. There isn't actually much of a difference when we speak of a "virtualizer" versus an "emulator." The distinction boils down to whether most of the emulation is occurring on hardware (then it's a virtualizer) or on software (in which case, it's an emulator).

Many people have already heard of emulators, and might be scared away by a stigma of illegality surrounding them. This is partially earned. While emulator software itself is legal in the United States, the typical use of an emulator is to run copyrighted software, whose distribution and possession may, in some instances, violate various copyright laws.

What I'm concerned with in this article is running old CDs and fan games. Assuming you got the software legally in the first place, it is 100 percent legal to it using an emulator.

With that out of the way, the main emulator for running old Windows games is DOSBox (available at dosbox.com). In fact, this is such a popular solution that many of the old games sold on Steam (steam.com) and Good Old Games (gog.com) actually come with DOSBox. After all, why should old studios bother rewriting their games when something like DOSBox can instantly allow them to be run on a modern system instead?

Installing DOSBox is trivial (just download and run the installation wizard), but getting it to work with your old software is another matter.



After Starting DOSBox...Now What?

In some cases, it's as simple as opening the .exe file you want to run with DOSBox. I could do this with my DOS Mario game, but it ran much slower than I expected. There's a simple explanation for this: DOSBox defaults to emulating a much, much older CPU than the game expects. To correct this, I increased DOSBox's cycle speed with the shortcut Ctrl+F12 (I could also have lowered it with Ctrl+F11). For the Mario game, I simply needed to get it to around 15,000 (from the default of 3,000), and it was able to run smoothly.



A Properly Running Knock-Off Mario Game.

Another emulator that is still being developed is Win3mu (win3mu.com), specifically designed to run Windows 3 applications. In practice, there aren't many of those, but it's worth keeping an eye on as well.

When You Need a Full Operating System

DOSBox isn't perfect. In fact, it's quite limited: it only runs games designed for MS-DOS, one of Microsoft's operating systems from 1981 to 2000. In theory, games made through 2000 would work with DOSBox. Most games actually switched from being developed for DOS to being developed for the more advanced Windows platform beginning with Windows 95. If the game you want to run came out after 95 (like the 1996 SimPark), odds are DOSBox won't run it.

As a result, a full Windows 9x virtual machine is needed. There are two popular virtualizers out there: VirtualBox and VMWare. VMWare's paid offering, VMWare Workstation, is probably the best option, but it costs money. If you already happen to have a subscription (some classes at MetroState will include them for the course), go for it. If not, it's a choice between VMWare's free offering, VMWare Player, and Oracle's free and open-source offering, VirtualBox (virtualbox.org). Given a choice between the two, I generally prefer VirtualBox. This is because it includes custom scaling options (which are a must on high-DPI screens like Apple's Retina displays), is slightly faster in many situations, and makes it easier to move over to VMWare than the other way around.

One limitation is that it can be difficult to install Windows 3 or Windows 95 on VirtualBox. Windows 98 is generally compatible with all programs written for those older operating systems, however, so this isn't really a problem as long as we decide to go with Windows 98.

Do note, as well, that while my demonstration will use Windows 98, for most games Windows 2000 and Windows XP will also work just fine, and will still perform very well on most modern computers.

Once you've installed your virtualizer (I'll use VirtualBox for my demonstration), you should go ahead and procure a copy of Windows 98—may

Tech Corner

VIRTUALIZING FROM PAGE 6

be you still have a CD lying around somewhere or maybe you can buy a copy off of eBay. Go ahead and create a new virtual machine and give it a reasonable amount of RAM. For Windows 98, this should *never be more* than 512MB (if you use more, Windows 98 will likely fail to boot—I usually use 256MB). When asked to create a hard drive, do so, giving it at least a couple gigabytes of space. The OS itself takes up around 250MB, but you almost certainly have hundreds of gigabytes to spare, and we could be installing quite a few applications into the virtual machine.

Finally, depending on your virtualizer, you will either be asked to insert an installation disk or you will do so once you start the virtual machine for the first time.

Step 1: Create the Virtual Machine

Step 2: Set the memory to somewhere between 64MB and 512MB. 256MB is a good medium.

Step 3: Create a hard drive image of somewhere between 256MB and 20GB. 4GB is a good medium.

Step 4: After all of that, it should look like this.

Step 5: If you want, you may also go into settings and adjust the zoom factor. For my display, 1.5 is helpful.

Now, we’re ready to start the operating system installation itself. 1) Start up the virtual machine you just created, 2) select the installation media, if necessary, and 3) if asked, make sure to boot from CD. You’ll then start working through the installation wizard.

The installation wizard is pretty straight forward. For the first part, you will configure your disk by choosing “Configure unallocated disk space,” and, when asked, should *enable* support for large disks. The system will restart, you’ll need to boot from CD-ROM a second time, and the setup wizard will format your disk. Finally, it will perform a system check and start the proper Windows 98 installation.

Step 1: Boot from CD

Step 2: Start the setup.

Step 3: Configure your disk.

Step 4: Enable large disk support.

Step 5: Restart, boot from CD-ROM again, and wait for the setup wizard to format your virtual disk image.

In the next stage, we’ll be using the fancier Windows 98 Setup. You will start by choosing where to install Windows (back in these days, everything was installed on top of MS-DOS; that included Windows itself) and how much you want to install. You’ll wait a while, click “ext” a bunch of times, and eventually the virtual machine will restart again. This time, you want to boot to the hard disk instead of the CD-ROM. You’ll get an opportunity to enter your name, a Windows product key and then set the time. After a few more restarts, you should have a desktop.

Step 1: Click “Continue.” Click “Next” to install to C:\WINDOWS.

Step 2: “Typical” is fine here, but you can also go into “advanced” and install some of the cooler stuff if you feel like it. Click “Next” a bunch of times.

Step 3: Wait. “Windows Just Got Better.” I feel like they’ve used that line a lot.

Step 4: You will reboot again. Choose to boot to hard disk this time, and enter a name once prompted. Click “Next,” accept the EULA, and click “Next” again.

Step 5: Enter your product key. Hit “Next” and “Finish.”

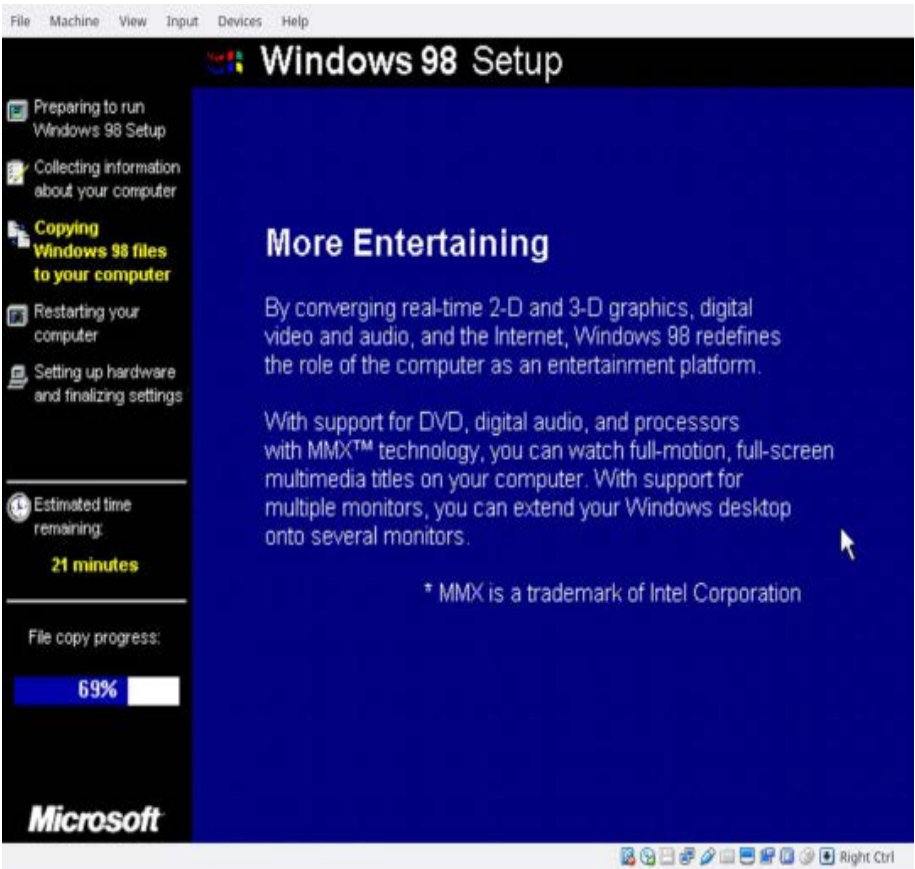
Step 6: Wait some more.

Step 7: You can adjust your timezone if desired, but the time itself should be correct — it will be whatever time your main system clock is set to.

Step 8: Waiting is fun, right? At the end, it will restart one more time. Humorously, it also blue-screened after rebooting, though in Windows 98 you can often choose to ignore these errors.

Step 9: Finally, a desktop!

As old as Windows 98 is, proper support for it tends to be limited. Right now, our desktop is only 640x480 pixels. It’s only 16-bit high color—whereas we should be able to display full 24-bit true color. There are some options. Scitech Display Driver is an abandoned driver that can successfully achieve high resolutions and 24-bit color. You can find it online, but I



“Full-Motion, Full-Screen Multimedia Titles”?! This Truly is the Future!

can’t speak to exactly how legal doing so would be. The laws surrounding “abandonware” (as in, you can’t find copies and the company shows no interest in future sales) are murky.

Well, that’s kind-of disappointing.

The fix is easy, but tedious: find the Scitech Display Driver online, add it as a disk to your Virtual Machine, install the driver, and then choose the “SciTech Nuclear Driver” in the SciTech window.



After Our Display Fix, SimPark Runs Great! As Simple as Popping in the Original CD.

View all of the screenshots for Joseph’s article and discover much more at:

themetropolitan.metrostate.edu.

In the Community

Exploring East Side

BRITTANY JACKS
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Restaurants

Tongue in Cheek

989 Payne Ave, Saint Paul
651-888-6148

Tongue in Cheek has been using the best animal and seafood products since June of 2014. The products are raised and caught humanly and sustainably. They offer quality food at a reasonable price, and the passion and appreciation is shown in the dishes. Tongue in Cheek has a casual feel with fine dining characteristics, so you don't have to worry about dressing up too much. But, do expect some fancy food.

Hamburguesa El Gordo
990 Payne Ave, Saint Paul
651-340-1483

Hamburguesa El Gordo is a small restaurant that has come a long way. Known for serving large burgers, their cuisine specializes in Northern Mexican street food. The success of what started as a home business led to the opening of their restaurant doors in November 2015. They offer a new experience to Metro students that is difficult to get in Minnesota. The cost of a meal is \$15 to \$20 per customer. They use fresh ingredients and make the meals fresh to order. Every Friday, if customers buy 3 burgers they get the 4th one free. Hamburguesa El Gordo also offers call in orders for pick up (just in case Metro students don't have much time in between classes).

Cooks
949 Payne Ave, Saint Paul
651-756-1787

Cooks is a newer restaurant and has been nominated for a new business award. They serve locally sourced food and focus on classic American diner food, some with a Korean twist. The restaurant is only available for breakfast and lunch throughout the week. On Fridays they provide Korean dinners from 5-9 p.m., presenting a new cook and menu each week. Cooks offers the highest quality with fresh ingredients.

Drinks

Sidhe Brewing
652 Jenks Ave, Saint Paul
612-424-1534

Sidhe is a welcoming brewery that believes there is a craft beer for everyone. The owner started as a home brewer and now has her own store front on the east side. On Fridays and Saturdays Sidhe offers \$2 off for happy hour. The store carries 10 curious beers, from ale to pilsner. Sidhe's motto is: "Brewed by women, loved by all."

Caydence Records and Coffee
900 Payne Ave, Saint Paul
651-340-5128

Caydence is a delightful coffee shop that is new to the neighborhood, having only been in business for five months. The interesting pairing of records with coffee is as fresh as they are. It's as if a record store and a coffee shop had a baby. The experience of sipping espresso while flipping through their vinyl selection is quite relaxing. This new combination seems as though it has been plucked from a hipster's dreams.

Ward 6
858 Payne Ave, Saint Paul
651-348-8181

Ward 6 is a bar that is immersed in the east side community. The menu is full of delicious pub food and enjoyable drinks. If drinks are what you want, they have a variety of wine and beers much like other bars. What sets them apart are the adult milkshakes, amusing cocktails and shots. Food is served up to an hour before they close, and they are open for brunch on the weekends from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Ward 6 also hosts a handful of shows a couple of times a month. More information on the artists presented can be found on their website.

Shops

Art Gallery and Oddities
1129 Payne Ave, Saint Paul
651-230-7767

Art Gallery and Oddities is well known in the community and has been a featured article in the Pioneer Press. Their gallery portion of the store shows local artists work and hosts monthly shows. Viewing the art is a delightful and relaxing experience. It's also inspiring to be surrounded by so much great local work. The oddities portion is unique and something to behold. They carry an array of items, from taxidermy to crystals. When you're feeling adventurous, or need a gift for someone who has everything, this is definitely the place to go.

Dulceria Bonbon Candy Boutique
882 Payne Ave, Saint Paul
651-249-6565

Dulceria Bonbon is a dream come true for candy lovers. The store is filled with bright colors and fun, festive delectables. They carry Mexican, American and artisan candies, as well as ice cream and piñatas. This unique store deserves a good look.

San Miguel Bakery
886 Payne Ave, Saint Paul
651-774-3110

San Miguel Bakery is a very understated store. As soon as you walk in, your eyes go straight to the walls filled with fresh made pastries. Some pastries look familiar: sugar-topped, jelly-filled, flaky crust. But others look like nothing I have ever seen before. They are all worth a taste and offer a great chance to try something new. The baked goods cost about a dollar a piece (you must spend \$5 to use a credit card), so it doesn't cost a lot to really experience part of a culture.

MANN ABOUT TOWN FROM PAGE 5

happen—roughly 35 million people identify as with some lineage, about 12% of the states' total population.

"But, maybe it's just a misguided interpretation of my culture's identity," I think to myself. "It is only one day, after all. It's not like there are misuses of the Irish's image and values over the stretch of hundreds of years.

*Editor's Note: This is where we ironic comedy writers would insert an image of one of Football's most iconic mascots, the Fighting Irishman.

On a very superficial level, this is where I empathize with Mexicans and, ironically, all of Latin America for being narrow-mindedly lumped in as Mexicans in the eyes of many American's for another similar holiday: Cinco de Mayo—another cultural holiday that is

irresponsibly celebrated as deeply in the U.S. by a large population because of its intrinsic liquor value.

Most Irish simply do not celebrate St. Patrick's Day like Americans. In the same vein as Mexico not being Mexican independence day—which is September 16, mind—Cinco de Mayo is nowhere near as significant of a holiday south of the border as it is here.

It can be believed that Cinco de Mayo can be viewed as a celebration of Mexico-American relations and Mexican immigrants but, it so rarely is celebrated for that in the same way that St. Patrick's Day is so very little for Irish heritage.

"A day where everybody is a little Irish!" I seem to always hear, sure. But, that's akin to saying "A day where everybody's a little Mexican!" When, in reality, if you're not... you're just not. And if

you're just using the holiday as another excuse to binge drink, you're certainly not doing our heritages any favor.

If I didn't know any better, the alcohol industry must be inserting themselves into the holiday to raise sales... if I didn't know any better... *Winky Winky*

Look, just do me a favor? If you do celebrate the holiday, please give a little dignity and respect to it and observe the deep struggles and victories that the Irish have endured. Almost like if you were celebrating the holiday for what it should be: a reflection on Irish heritage and history in this country.

Sincerely,
Brayden Mann