LTC Newsletter

MAR/APR 2019

Learning & Technology Center

G-13 Still Hall

**Can't stop in? Make a "virtual" appointment - we'll meet with you online!
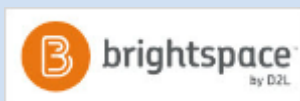Call x1848 or email ltcsupport to schedule.**

**VENANGO
LTC Office Hours:
APR: 15, 29
*Other days by appointment,
Call x1848 to schedule***

**Next meeting:
Partners in Teaching, Learning, and Assessment will meet Friday, April 19th at 3:30pm at Michelle's Cafe**

brightspace by D2L

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

D2L Brightspace will be unavailable Saturday, May 12, between 2 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. D2L will be switching to a new data center during this time and will be unavailable to all faculty, staff, and students. Note that D2L is a PASSHE-wide service and one upgrade date had to be selected for **all** PASSHE universities.

The downtime schedule will be communicated via email to Announce and S_Announce as well as various LTC communication platforms.

Using Transparent Assignment Design to Increase Student Success

Help increase clarity and foster a deeper appreciation for course assignments using the transparent assignment design! The more traditional assignment approach typically provides the task and possibly a rubric for both small and high-stakes assignments. Transparent assignment design is a teaching method that helps students understand *how* and *why* they are learning in specific ways. This systematic approach to assignment design consists of three key components: *purpose*, *task*, and *criteria for success.* This small teaching intervention has a positive learning impact of showing students what you expect of them and why you are asking them to do specific tasks.

Interested in learning more? Join us for the **April Faculty First Friday** session and hear how *Kim Schwabenbauer*, Sports Sciences, embraced the transparent assignment template to build on an exisiting assignment.

Faculty First Friday Series Continues - Spring 2019

D2L NEWS AND TIPS

• **CU ONLINE COURSE TEMPLATE:** Don't forget to request a sandbox for your summer course development using the **ADA compliant CU Online Template**. Please use the CU Online Template form to request a course shell with the template for you to customize.

• **IMPORTANT D2L DATES:** Summer course student loads will occur **Apr. 22; Summer 1** and **7W1 start May 6; Summer 2 - Jun 3; Summer 3- Jul 8**

• **TEACHING ONLINE COURSE-** The *Spring session* of the collaborative **Teaching Online Certification Course** began Feb. 19. The next offering will begin in **May 21**.

• **CONTINUOUS DELIVERY MONTHLY UPDATES -** Notice something different in D2L? Check the monthly updates web page to preview what's coming. Clarion University's D2L instance is updated about the third week of every month between 9 pm Thursday and 9 am Friday.

• **JOIN THE D2L COMMUNITY -** Since approximately 30% of D2L's product development comes directly from the D2L Product Idea Exchange (PIE), become a member of the D2L Community to add your product ideas or comment and up-vote others.

FRIDAY - APR. 12: Join with LTC and Clarion University faculty at **noon in Carlson 215** to connect, share, and learn! The **April 12** session will highlight *Kim Schwabenbauer* from Sport Sciences who will share a "small change" she made to a project using the "transparent assignment" instructional strategy.

NOTE: **Change in location** - we are moving Faculty First Friday's to a more central campus location. Come check out our new instructional Zoom capable classroom - Carlson 215!

The session will include a virtual option if you can't attend in person. Please ***Email LTC Support*** for the link. Cookies and coffee are provided; please feel free to bring your lunch.
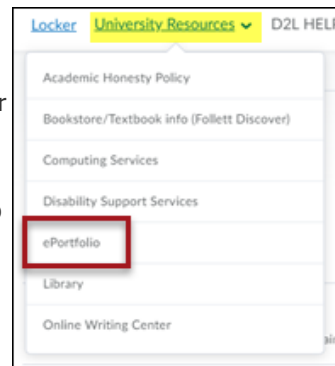
ePortfolio Available in D2L

Over the past two semesters, D2L's ePortfolio product has been piloted with two graduate programs: Doctor of Nursing Practice, and M.Ed. - Concentration in Curriculum, Instruction, and Teacher Leadership endorsement.

D2L/ePortfolio gives students and instructors the ability to create collections and presentations that showcase their experience, skills and accomplishments for potential employers, grad school applications, and internship opportunities by sharing samples of their work in a digital format. Graduating students will have the option to transfer their items from ePortfolio into the "MyDesire2Learn" ePortfolio platform hosted by D2L. MyD2L gives students ePortfolio for life, with up to 2GB of space for free.

To give the pilot participants the opportunity to export their ePortfolio contents to MyD2L, ePortfolio will be enabled system-wide on **April 15** which will subsequently allow any student the ability to create and edit their ePortfolios. Users will access ePortfolio from the "University Resources" menu in the D2L navigation bar.

Students will be notified using s_announce as well as the Student Announcement area within D2L. In addition, getting started instructions for students can be found in our documentation. If you have any questions or wish to explore use cases for your department or program, please contact the LTC at x1848.

The Final Stretch

The end of the term is rapidly approaching. With exams and final projects looming, faculty and students alike may be tired and anxious. Perhaps a small change in routine is just what's in order to create a surge of energy and excitement for the final stretch of the term. Some food for thought:

• **Surveys**: Take a few minutes to learn from your students. Consider using a survey with targeted questions that students can answer anonymously. This is a great way to get honest feedback on class policies, projects, or anything to guide your instructional or classroom (or online) practice.

• **Exams**: Everyone can get a little stressed when exams roll around. Help your students be more productive by building in short periods of quiet or movement to help alleviate anxiety. Consider playing calm music while students work independently on short practice questions. Alternatively, get them up and moving around the room for review "stations" taught by their peers. Host online review sessions in Zoom or provide wiki pages for peer support for your online students.

• **Instructional**: Consider trying a new (bite-sized) activity or experience related to something you've taught but didn't have time for - consider a guest from the community, virtual field trip, simulation or role play activity to change things up and inject freshness into a course.

While faculty and students alike are focused on getting to the end of the term, now is also a good time to test drive small changes in teaching that may fuel new and exciting approaches for the next term. Please contact the Learning Technology Center for assistance with D2L surveys, Zoom, or instructional strategies.

Spring Workshop Series

• **Tech Tuesdays - Apr. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30** Held every Tuesday during spring semester. Drop-in **Still 103** between **1:00 – 3:00 p.m.** for assistance with online or on-the-ground course development, D2L tips, editing the CU online course template, Zoom for teaching, or instructional strategies to increase engagement.

• **Faculty First Friday series - *Apr. 12 topic**: Transparent*

Learning Technology Center

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Assignment Activity - Having a hard time getting students to understand the "why" of an assignment? *Kim Schwabenbauer* will share her experience using the transparent assignment design strategy. **Carlson 215 @ Noon**.

• **Zoom Video Conferencing** - Training sessions will cover 'getting started' and basic/most common use of Zoom. Face-to-face training will be conducted in 103 Still by LTC staff. A Zoom meeting link will be emailed for virtual (web-based) sessions.

Apr. 2 | 2:00 - 3:00 PM
Apr. 3| 9:00 - 10:00 AM
Apr. 11 | 9:30 - 10:30 AM
Apr. 24| 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Email LTC Support to register. Please indicate session date and time. Participants will receive an email confirmation. Custom Zoom training sessions can also be scheduled for individual use case scenarios or for departments/groups. To request a 1:1 or department/group custom Zoom session, please email your requirements to LTC Support or call the LTC at (814)393-1848 to discuss your needs