Brightspace Monthly Newsletter

Welcome

Dear all,

Please note the following Brightspace updates for September 2024:

WEEK 1 USER TIPS

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

TAKE THE NEXT STEP

LIBRARY ASSIGNMENT TOOLKIT

FUNCTIONALITY UPDATES

UPCOMING TRAINING

SUPPORT

Week 1 User tips

1. If you have not done so yet, please set up your module using instructions in Getting started - Instructor for information on using module mastercourse templates, and adding other teachers which we included in our previous newsletter.

2. Make your life simpler! Use ITD forms to bulk enrol additional students, create guest accounts, create new project or programme sites, merge module sites, and create groups for large classes: Brightspace (Staff, PG) - UL| SSP (topdesk.net)

3. Reading lists for SEM1 are available in your Brightspace module sites with an updated Leganto interface. Please visit the Reading List LibGuide for guidance or contact **libinfo@ul.ie** for assistance. Also, Leganto sessions for students are available in Weeks 3 and 4 in the Library's events calendar.

4. When developing your content, follow best practices in section 3. Creating and Managing Module Content – in Introduction to Brightspace for Instructors

Important reminders

- **Read-only access to Sulis and Moodle will end in the coming months.** In the meantime, Module Leaders and Course Directors should **backup or download any outstanding Sulis/ Moodle materials**, as they will **no longer have access to Sulis/ Moodle** after these dates:

  - **Sulis: 31st October 2024**.
    - How to transfer content from Sulis to Brightspace.
    - Quizzes tool - Download functionality
    - Sulis - UL (Topdesk.net)

  - **Moodle: 31st December 2024**.
    - How to download content from Moodle.

Take the next step

Take a new step this semester and innovate in your teaching approach using one of these tools:

VEVOX	**Vevox**, the student polling platform in UL is now available to promote class interaction and engagement. See recent training and full documentation in Vevox	University of Limerick (ul.ie).
peerScholar.	**PeerScholar**, our peer review and assessment tool, can be added to your module on request (contact ITD directly on TopDesk). For more info, see PeerScholar	University of Limerick (ul.ie). To add Peerscholar to your module you can contact ITD directly on TopDesk with your request.

Library Assignment Toolkit

The Glucksman Library's Academic Success Toolkit for Assignments, a self-paced Brightspace module in Brightspace Discover that guides students through the process of finding, critically evaluating, and using high-quality and relevant sources in their assignments, has been recently updated to reflect changes in tools, resources, and practices, and in response to feedback received from early adopters.

The flexible nature of the Assignment Toolkit means that you can choose to incorporate it into your module by integrating some or all the accompanying learning activities (*e-tivities*). Alternatively, students can be encouraged to explore the Assignment Toolkit independently of your module. For more information, please contact the library on libinfo@ul.ie.

Functionality updates

BigBlueButton: There is a new "Guest Policy" option in the room setup. When enabled, all users are put in a waiting area until a moderator manually allows them to join the meeting.

More information on Creating a BigBlueButton Meeting within Course Content.

Upcoming training

Assessment and feedback in Brightspace - overview and updates

Date: September 25th 11-12pm (online)

This interactive session will provide a general overview of the assessment and feedback functionality in Brightspace with attention to new functionality updates. The session will be provided by Dr Angélica Rísquez (Learning Technologies and Learning Analytics Lead, CTL) and John Morrissey (Learning Technologist, CTL). Register **here**.

Support

- Those starting with Brightspace can visit Brightspace Training for recorded introduction videos and complete Introduction to Brightspace for Instructors (Brightspace 101), a self-paced course that will guide you through all you need to know to get started, and receive notifications from just in time announcements with user tips and technical updates.

- The Staff Brightspace Knowledge Base comprises over 500 'how to' articles and FAQs, and has a dedicated section for students.

- ITD TopDesk is available for Brightspace queries of a technical nature, while Faculty Learning Technologists are providing extensive support from a pedagogical perspective. Also, live training sessions can be organised on demand for groups and departments across UL from the Centre for Transformative Learning.