UMSL | Center for Teaching and Learning

Summer 2017 Newsletter

Unsure Where to Start with Canvas? Check out the Canvas Flowchart
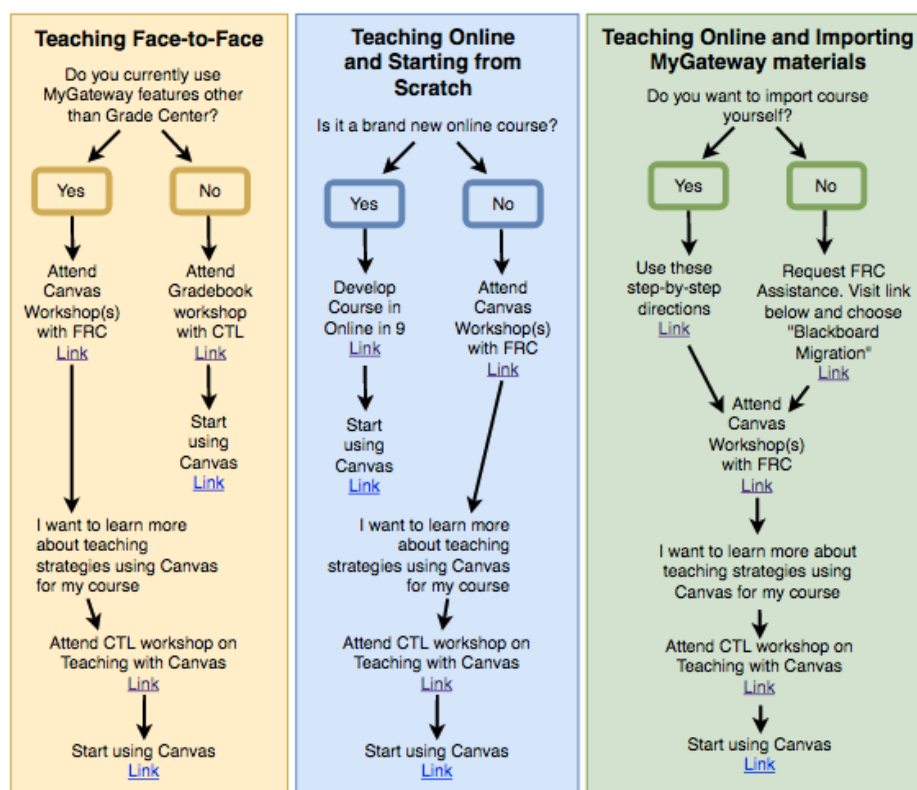
[Larger version](#)

Keynoters Announced for Focus on Teaching and Technology Conference

Katie Linder

Thursday Keynote:
Helping Students Learn in an Age of Digital Distraction

Our students are inundated with an overwhelming amount of information each day as they navigate social media, peruse various websites, listen to the radio, read print media, and flip through innumerable television channels. Unfortunately, very little of this information is directly connected by our students to their interactions with us in the classroom. In this keynote, we will explore how to break through the cognitive overload that our students experience daily and discuss how we can help our students develop effective strategies for learning during this Age of Digital Distraction.

Therese Huston

Friday Keynote:
Late Nights and Big Questions: The Joys and Challenges Outside Your Comfort Zone

Most people don't like to admit it, but we know it's true: As faculty, we often find ourselves teaching the barely familiar. Sometimes, we're folding cutting-edge research into our courses, and other times, we're teaching topics we haven't studied (or used) since we were sophomores ourselves. We can picture the pitfalls, but how can this scenario make us better teachers and our students better learners? Whether you're teaching a course for the first or the umpteenth time, we hope you'll join us to consider "teaching while learning" and the possibilities it brings.

Conference Website
Register for the Conference

What Do I Do If a Student Needs a Transcript for My Video Lectures?

By: Michael Porterfield

At some point in your tenure as a faculty member, you may be notified that a student in your course has a visual impairment and will need an accommodation. The message that comes from the Office of Disability Access Services (DAS) reads "In order for our office to assist you in providing the necessary accommodations for this student, our office will need to be provided with accessible links to any audio materials that require processing." I bet your first question is, "What is an accommodation and how do I make my audio/video links accessible to DAS?"

An accommodation is defined as an, "adjustment making a workstation, job, program, facility, or resources accessible to a person with a disability" (p. 65)[1]. Basically, every person, regardless of their disability, should have access to every opportunity afforded to the other students in a class. This scares some instructors because they do not know how to help with or accommodate a student who has a disability. There is no need to be afraid. The Office of Disability Access Services exists to help any faculty or student in any way possible in this situation. This includes making your audio/video lectures or YouTube videos accessible to the student who needs this federally-mandated accommodation. Accessibility can take different forms, but with regard to a visual impairment, it may include providing transcripts for course videos or adding alternate text-based descriptions for images and tables for use with screen-readers.

The bottom-line is: DAS will work with you, as the instructor, to inform you of what to do and how to help the student receive what is appropriate to meet the accommodation. This applies to all disabilities. Most of the time we think only of physical disabilities, but on this campus, most of the disabilities are hidden, including afflictions like post-traumatic stress disorder or mental illness. Regardless of the type, this is an opportunity and not something to be feared.

To read more about what services DAS offers, please view their web pages at: https://www.umsl.edu/services/disability/index.html, or call them directly at 314-516-5212.

[1] UMSL Disability Access Services. (2015). Student handbook [PDF document]. Retrieved from https://www.umsl.edu/services/disability/files/pdfs/DAS%20Student%20Handbook%208-18-15.pdf

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Teaching with Canvas This Summer!

There's no better time than summer to try out UMSL's new Learning Management System, Canvas. Join a workshop offered by the CTL or Faculty Resource Center to see how easy it is to move your Blackboard course over. You can be up-and-running with Canvas in no time!

June

Thursday, June 22
Express Scripts Hall 103

9 AM - 10:30 AM
Getting to Know Canvas
This workshop will introduce participants to our new learning management system (LMS) Canvas and provide an overview of its features and functionality. FRC staff will present an overview of the Canvas layout, including course organization and management. We will also address questions and concerns regarding the migration from Blackboard (MyGateway) to Canvas. Bring a colleague and join us for this hands-on workshop.
Register

Tuesday, June 27
Express Scripts Hall 103
1 PM - 2:30 PM
Exploring Canvas Tools
Canvas has a selection of tools which foster engagement and partnership between faculty and students. In this workshop, participants will learn how to create discussions, groups and online quizzes. In addition, this session will cover third party tools, including Kaltura, Panopto and Google Docs. Bring a colleague and please join the FRC staff for this hands-on workshop.
Register

Thursday, June 29
Express Scripts Hall 103
1 PM - 4 PM
Canvas Working Session
This is a come-and-go session designed to give you a place to work alongside CTL Instructional Designers as you setup your course in Canvas. If you intend to migrate a Blackboard course, it's recommended that you submit that request in advance of attending the working session. Please register so we know how many attendees to expect.
Register

July

Wednesday, July 5
Express Scripts Hall 103
1 PM - 4 PM
Canvas Working Session
This is a come-and-go session designed to give you a place to work alongside CTL Instructional Designers as you setup your course in Canvas. If you intend to migrate a Blackboard course, it's recommended that you submit that request in advance of attending the working session. Please register so we know how many attendees to expect.
Register

Tuesday, July 11
Express Scripts Hall 103
9 AM - 10:30 AM

Getting to Know Canvas

This workshop will introduce participants to our new learning management system (LMS) Canvas and provide an overview of its features and functionality. FRC staff will present an overview of the Canvas layout, including course organization and management. We will also address questions and concerns regarding the migration from Blackboard (MyGateway) to Canvas. Bring a colleague and join us for this hands-on workshop.

Register

Wednesday, July 19
Express Scripts Hall 103
10 AM - 11:30 AM
Making Canvas Work For You

This session is designed to introduce participants to the basic tools available in Canvas. Participants will learn how to manage the Canvas interface, create pages and announcements, work with files, send/receive email, navigate in the student view and utilize grade book features. Bring a colleague and your questions and join us for this basic hands-on workshop.

Register

Friday, July 21
Express Scripts Hall 104
9 AM - 12 Noon
Canvas Working Session

This is a come-and-go session designed to give you a place to work alongside CTL Instructional Designers as you setup your course in Canvas. If you intend to migrate a Blackboard course, it's recommended that you submit that request in advance of attending the working session. Please register so we know how many attendees to expect.

Register

Tuesday, July 25
Express Scripts Hall 103
1 PM - 4 PM
Canvas Working Session

This is a come-and-go session designed to give you a place to work alongside CTL Instructional Designers as you setup your course in Canvas. If you intend to migrate a Blackboard course, it's recommended that you submit that request in advance of attending the working session. Please register so we know how many attendees to expect.

Register

Friday, July 28
Express Scripts Hall 103
1 PM - 2:30 PM
Exploring Canvas Tools

Canvas has a selection of tools which foster engagement and partnership between faculty and students. In this workshop, participants will learn how to create discussions, groups and online quizzes. In addition, this session will cover third party

tools, including Kaltura, Panopto and Google Docs. Bring a colleague and please join the FRC staff for this hands-on workshop.

Register

August

Wednesday, August 2
Express Scripts Hall 104
9 AM - 12 Noon
Canvas Working Session
This is a come-and-go session designed to give you a place to work alongside CTL Instructional Designers as you setup your course in Canvas. If you intend to migrate a Blackboard course, it's recommended that you submit that request in advance of attending the working session. Please register so we know how many attendees to expect.

Register

Thursday, August 3
Express Scripts Hall 103
1 PM - 2:30 PM
Exploring Canvas Tools
Canvas has a selection of tools which foster engagement and partnership between faculty and students. In this workshop, participants will learn how to create discussions, groups and online quizzes. In addition, this session will cover third party tools, including Kaltura, Panopto and Google Docs. Bring a colleague and please join the FRC staff for this hands-on workshop.

Register

Thursday, August 10
Express Scripts Hall 103
1 PM - 4 PM
Canvas Working Session
This is a come-and-go session designed to give you a place to work alongside CTL Instructional Designers as you setup your course in Canvas. If you intend to migrate a Blackboard course, it's recommended that you submit that request in advance of attending the working session. Please register so we know how many attendees to expect.

Register

Selections from Metropolitan Universities Journal

UMSL is one of the premier urban research universities in the country. With that designation comes unique responsibilities and opportunities. The Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities, whose mission includes "promot[ing] the exchange of ideas, experiences, and research outcomes among its members" offers a journal collecting research articles to further this mission. Below are some selections.

Creating a University Driven "Ingepreneurial" Ecosystem in West Baltimore: A Strategy for Rust Belt Revitalization
Read Article

Student Success for All: Support for Low-Income Students at an Urban Public University
Read Article

Conceptualizing Community Engagement: Starting a Campus-Wide Dialogue
Read Article

Test Out New Test Proctoring Software

The CTL and ITS are partnering to pilot a new test-proctoring solution that allows online students to take a proctored exam anywhere. More information about ProctorU can be be found on their website: https://www.proctoru.com

If you would like to be part of the pilot for ProctorU, please sign up below. Apply to Try ProctorU Service

Upcoming CTL Events

June

Tuesday, June 27
Lucas Hall 589 (LH589)
12 Noon - 1:30 PM
DIY with a Guide, Session 2

The new DIY with a Guide program offers faculty a self-paced opportunity to design a course in collaboration with an instructional designer in the CTL. This program is reserved for those faculty who have already successfully completed Online in 9. It is structured to build on what you learned in Online in 9 to design a next-level, quality-assured online course with carefully integrated technologies and instructional strategies to achieve course goals. Though the program is self-paced, the cohort will meet 4 times over lunch to share ideas and get valuable feedback from peers. The program consists of 4 modules spread out over the semester: Designing, Building, Testing, and Reflecting. The central components of the program are built around Chickering and Ehrmann's framework, "Implementing the Seven Principles: Technology as Lever." At the end of the semester, faculty participants will have a completely designed, quality-assured course ready to offer students.

Register

July

Tuesday, July 18
Lucas Hall 589 (LH589)
12 Noon - 1:30 PM
DIY with a Guide, Session 3

The new DIY with a Guide program offers faculty a self-paced opportunity to design a course in collaboration with an instructional designer in the CTL. This program is reserved for those faculty who have already successfully completed Online in 9. It is structured to build on what you learned in Online in 9 to design a next-level, quality-assured online course with carefully integrated technologies and instructional strategies to achieve course goals. Though the program is self-paced, the cohort will meet 4 times over lunch to share ideas and get valuable feedback from peers. The program consists of 4 modules spread out over the semester: Designing, Building, Testing, and Reflecting. The central components of the program are built around Chickering and Ehrmann's framework, "Implementing the Seven Principles: Technology as Lever." At the end of the semester, faculty participants will have a completely designed, quality-assured course ready to offer students.

Register

August

Tuesday, August 8
Millennium Student Center-Century Room C (MSC-C)
Main Meeting: 9 AM - 12 Noon
New Chairs Meeting: 12 Noon - 1:30 PM
Campus and Academic Leaders Forum
Designed for chairs, directors, deans, and associate/assistant deans. Deans attend with their 'cabinet teams'. Please encourage your College colleagues to save the date.
Register

Saturday, August 12
Express Scripts Hall 104 (ESH104)
8:30 AM - Noon
Part-Time Faculty Orientation
Orientations are tailored to full-time and part-time faculty, respectively. Depending on the group orientations will introduce: (1) campus services which support faculty and students; (2) campus supports for teaching and learning including integrating technology into courses; (3) service-learning and civic engagement opportunities; (4) research and funding opportunities.
Register

Monday, August 14
Millennium Student Center - Century Room C
8:30 AM - 5 PM
New Full-Time Faculty Orientation (Day 1)
Orientations are tailored to full-time and part-time faculty, respectively. Depending on the group orientations will introduce: (1) campus services which support faculty and students; (2) campus supports for teaching and learning including integrating technology into courses; (3) service-learning and civic engagement opportunities; (4) research and funding opportunities.
Register

Tuesday, August 15
Express Scripts Hall 103 (ESH103)
8:30 AM - 4 PM
New Full-Time Faculty Orientation (Day 2)
Orientations are tailored to full-time and part-time faculty, respectively. Depending on the group orientations will introduce: (1) campus services which support faculty and students; (2) campus supports for teaching and learning

including integrating technology into courses; (3) service-learning and civic engagement opportunities; (4) research and funding opportunities.

[Register](#)

Wednesday, August 16
Social Sciences and Business Building (SSB)
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Graduate Student Conference
Offered annually, the GSC is a one-day orientation & professional development conference for all graduate students. A joint effort of the Center for Teaching & Learning and the Graduate School, the GSC provides resource and development opportunities for every level of graduate student, across all disciplines. Specialized sessions address the needs of both beginning and experienced TAs and RAs.

[Register](#)

Friday, August 18
Express Scripts Hall 104 (ESH104)
1 PM - 4:30 PM
Part-Time Faculty Orientation
Orientations are tailored to full-time and part-time faculty, respectively. Depending on the group orientations will introduce: (1) campus services which support faculty and students; (2) campus supports for teaching and learning including integrating technology into courses; (3) service-learning and civic engagement opportunities; (4) research and funding opportunities.
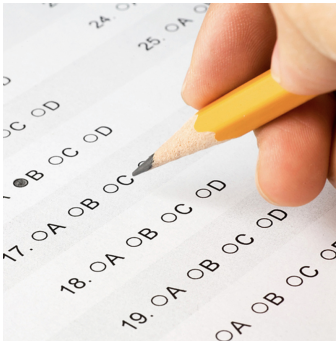
[Register](#)

Readings From The Web

Portrait of Faculty Mental Health

Margaret Price, associate professor of English and disability studies at Ohio State University, taught for years before one conversation with the right person got her a crucial accommodation for her cognitive processing and memory issues.

[Read more](#)

What One University Likes

About a Standardized Test of Student Learning

Are students better thinkers and problem solvers when they finish college than they were when they started? And how can we tell? *The Wall Street Journal* brought some new evidence into that long-running debate this week with an [analysis](#) of individual colleges' results from the Collegiate Learning Assessment examination, known as the CLA+.

[Read more](#)