UMSL | Center for Teaching and Learning

What is Team-Based Learning?

Vanderbilt University has done an excellent job explaining Team-Based Learning:
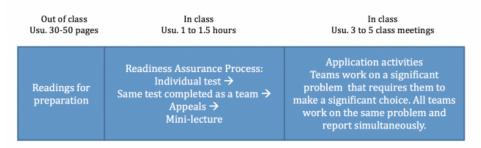
"[It] is a structured form of small-group learning that emphasizes student preparation out of class and application of knowledge in class. Students are organized strategically into diverse teams of 5-7 students that work together throughout the class. Before each unit or module of the course, students prepare by reading prior to class.

In the first class of the module, students participate in a "Readiness Assurance Process," or RAP. Specifically, **students complete a test individually**(the "Individual Readiness Assurance Test," or iRAT) **and then complete the test with their group members** (the "group Readiness Assurance Test," or gRAT). Both the individual scores and the group scores contribute to the students' grades. The tests are typically multiple choice, and students often complete the

group test using a "scratch-off" sheet and score themselves, reducing grading time *and* promoting student discussion of correct answers.

After the students complete the group test, the instructor encourages teams to appeal questions that they got incorrect. The appeals process encourages students to review the material, evaluate their understanding, and defend the choice they made.

To conclude the Readiness Assurance Process, the instructor gives a mini-lecture that focuses on concepts with which students struggled the most."

Out of class Usu. 30-50 pages	In class Usu. 1 to 1.5 hours	In class Usu. 3 to 5 class meetings
Readings for preparation	Readiness Assurance Process: Individual test → Same test completed as a team → Appeals → Mini-lecture	Application activities Teams work on a significant problem that requires them to make a significant choice. All teams work on the same problem and report simultaneously.

Structure of a team-based learning module

TBL in Action at UMSL

Recently, Express Scripts partnered with UMSL to provide awards for computer science classes to create a new app that helps facilitate team-based learning. Classes produced nine prototype applications for the Android platform and are currently working on applications in iOS (iPhones and iPads) and a web-based application. The CTL's own Keeta Holmes has been helping students understand the aspects of TBL so they can build applications that our faculty can use to facilitate these meaningful student experiences. In the meantime, the CTL has resources to help you implement TBL in your own course(s). Team-Based Learning doesn't apply to a specific discipline and can have a positive impact on learning in many contexts. If you want to talk about how you could implement TBL in your own course(s), please contact an instructional designer in the Center for Teaching and Learning.

More Resources
Why TBL Works (pdf download)
Books About Team-Based Learning

Need Help Moving Your Online Courses to Canvas?

Consider these options from the CTL and get in the queue early!

Option 1: The CTL recreates your online course for you in Canvas.
Complete this quick online form to request that we copy your MyGateway course into Canvas and the CTL staff will recreate your course structure and activities paying close attention for things that didn't copy over. This is a good choice for those of you who have rubrics, group activities, and Voicethread links that don't copy from MyGateway. **Please note that you'll need to tell us which MyGateway course site or shell has the source course you want us to replicate. This might be your development shell from Oi9 or it might be from the last time you taught it. Once we recreate your course for you, we'll pass it off to you with a handy list of next steps.

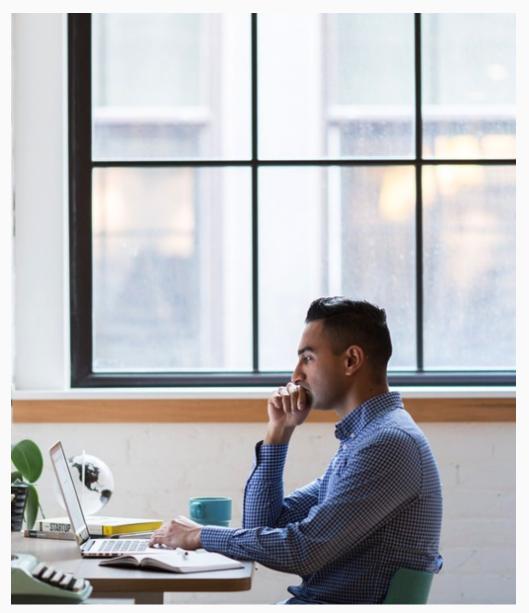**Option 2: The FRC copies your course into a new Canvas shell for you to organize.**
Request that the FRC copy over your course for you by clicking "Blackboard Migration." Then, once they've imported in the Blackboard archive, you can attend workshops to learn how to organize what comes over and to set up those activities and resources that don't copy over from one system to another (rubrics, Voicethread, Groups activities, Kaltura, Panopto links)

Option 3: You create a MyGateway course archive and import it into your own Canvas shell.
Follow these instructions to learn how. Tip: We recommend opening your course in MyGateway and in Canvas in side-by-side windows to do the detective work to see what is missing.

We hope to hear from you soon! We recommend you migrate your course(s) this semester before MyGateway shuts down on December 31. If you go with Option 1 above, let us know as soon as possible so we have time to rebuild your courses.

Upcoming Workshops

Building Transparent Assignments

Thursday, October 5
Lucas Hall 589
2:30 - 4 PM
Recent research reveals that the design of course assignments can have a large impact on student learning. This workshop introduces the concept of transparency in assignment design, and presents a framework for assessing course assignments for transparency in four main areas. Participants are encouraged to bring an assignment to discuss with colleagues during this interactive, hands-on workshop. The intended outcome is to clarify instructor's goals for the assignment in a way that motivates students to deliver high-quality work.

Register

How I Moved My Course Over to Canvas

Wednesday, October 11
Lucas Hall 589
2:30 - 4 PM

Hear first-hand from faculty who have made the leap to Canvas in this workshop presented by the CTL. Create your own plan for moving your Blackboard content to Canvas or even how to start from scratch and give your course a fresh look. Don't miss the chance to talk with your colleagues and ask for some helpful tips on moving to Canvas.

[Register](#)

Say Hello to Zoom! UMSL's New Web Meeting Tool for Canvas

If you're looking for a way to have virtual meetings with your students or help them facilitate their own group meetings for projects and assignments, look no farther than Zoom.us, the new tool for web meetings that will replace Blackboard Collaborate. Zoom makes it easy to jump into a virtual meeting from your desktop or mobile device, create breakout rooms for groups, and share screens to keep students on the same page. Best of all, Zoom sessions can be recorded and are automatically uploaded to Kaltura, UMSL's video-hosting site, where you can share them with others. Check out our new resources for students and faculty to get started with Zoom today.

Zoom resources for faculty
[Adding a Zoom Session in Canvas](#) (pdf document)
[Using Zoom for Virtual Meetings](#) (pdf document)
[Recording and Sharing a Zoom Session](#) (pdf document)

Zoom resources for students
[Using Zoom for Virtual Meetings](#) (pdf document)

CTL Events

October

Friday, October 6
Lucas Hall 589
12 Noon - 1:30 PM
DIY With a Guide: Second Session
This is a continuing fall series for those enrolled in DIY with a Guide. Please bring your own lunch if you'd like to eat during this time.
[Register](#)

Thursday, October 5
Lucas Hall 589
2:30 - 4 PM
Building the Transparent Assignment
Recent research reveals that the design of course assignments can have a large impact on student learning. This workshop introduces the concept of transparency in assignment design, and presents a framework for assessing course assignments for transparency in four main areas. Participants are encouraged to bring an assignment to discuss with colleagues during this interactive, hands-on workshop. The intended outcome is to clarify instructor's

goals for the assignment in a way that motivates students to deliver high-quality work.

Register

Wednesday, October 11
Lucas Hall 589
2:30 - 4 PM
How I Moved My Course Over to Canvas
Learn about Canvas from your wonderful colleagues! Find out how they made the most of moving their Blackboard course to the new Canvas learning management system.

Register

Thursday, October 19
Lucas Hall 589
3:30 - 4:30 PM
Teaching with Case Studies in Canvas
Cases come in many formats, from a simple "What would you do in this situation?" question to a detailed description of a situation with accompanying data to analyze. Whether to use a simple scenario-type case or a complex detailed one depends on your course objectives. Learn from faculty colleagues who teach online with case studies in 3 different and innovative ways in Canvas and determine what approach makes sense for you.

Register

November

Wednesday, November 1
Lucas Hall 589
3:00 - 4:30 PM
MyVita Workshop
myVita is the new faculty accomplishment software that allows faculty to track their important work. UMSL is moving tenure and promotion decisions to myVITA in the very near future. Come learn how to add all of the information necessary for your successful bid for promotion or tenure and promotion.

Register

Friday, November 3
Lucas Hall 589
12 Noon - 1:30 PM
DIY With a Guide: Third Session

This is a continuing fall series for those enrolled in DIY with a Guide. Please bring your own lunch if you'd like to eat during this time.
Register

Wednesday, November 8
Lucas Hall 589
2:30 - 4:00 PM
Turning Quizzes Into Rich Discussions
Change your in-class quizzes into action-packed, game-like discussions that encourage debate, conversation and competition. Participate in a TBL (Team-Based Learning) format to explore group application exercise questions. We'll begin with a TBL activity, then analyze the structure, process and essential characteristics of an effective TBL activity. Leave the workshop with an action plan on how you might convert a class session into a TBL exercise that enhances team cohesiveness, student accountability, and meaningful learning.
Register

Thursday, November 9
Lucas Hall 589
12 Noon - 1:30 PM
Grading in Canvas: Biscuits and Grading
This workshop will focus solely on helping you make the most of the Canvas Gradebook. You'll find out secrets of the rubric tool, how to make your own columns, how to weight grade categories, and even how to give feedback from your iPad! Did I mention there will be biscuits!
Register

Wednesday, November 15
Lucas Hall 589
12 Noon - 1:30 PM
Preparing for Promotion to Full Professor
Register

Wednesday, November 15
Lucas Hall 589
2:00 - 3:30 PM
Preparing for Promotion and Tenure Review (Tenure-Track Faculty)
Register

Thursday, November 16
Lucas Hall 589
2:30 - 4:00 PM
Preparing for Promotion to Non-Tenure Track Faculty Members

Register

Wednesday, November 29
Lucas Hall 589
2:30 - 4:00 PM
Using Peer Review in Canvas
A Peer Review assignment in Canvas enables students to provide feedback on another student's assignment submission, even anonymously. Peer Review facilitates communication between students and can help students learn from each other. Leave the workshop with a guide that helps you set up a peer review assignment in Canvas.

Register

December

Friday, December 1
Lucas Hall 589
12 Noon - 1:30 PM
DIY With a Guide: Fourth Session
This is a continuing fall series for those enrolled in DIY with a Guide. Please bring your own lunch if you'd like to eat during this time.

Register

Tuesday, December 5
Lucas Hall 589
3 - 5 PM
The Procrastinator's Guide to the Canvas Galaxy
Don't be the last surviving person on the UMSL planet following the demolition of the planet Blackboard. Hitch a ride with the CTL ship as we rocket through the Canvas Galaxy and leave behind the rubble of our old learning management system to a new and vibrant system called Canvas. Let us help you make this new Canvas System your home to live, learn, and prosper.

Register

Wednesday, December 13
Lucas Hall 589
10 - 11:30 AM
The Procrastinator's Guide to the Canvas Galaxy
Don't be the last surviving person on the UMSL planet following the demolition of the planet Blackboard. Hitch a ride with the CTL ship as we rocket through the Canvas Galaxy and leave behind the rubble of our old learning

management system to a new and vibrant system called Canvas. Let us help you make this new Canvas System your home to live, learn, and prosper.

[Register](#)

Friday, December 15

Lucas Hall 589

1 - 2:30 PM

Last Call: Canvas Migration Workshop

The train is leaving the station! If you want to bring anything over from MyGateway to Canvas, now is the time.

[Register](#)

Monday, December 18

Lucas Hall 589

10 - 11:30 AM

Last Call: Canvas Migration Workshop

The train is leaving the station! If you want to bring anything over from MyGateway to Canvas, now is the time.

[Register](#)

Tuesday, December 19

Lucas Hall 589

10 - 11:30 AM

Google Doc Group Assignments in Canvas

Instructors often assign collaborative group projects to help students develop the leadership, management and interpersonal skills they will need to be successful in today's workplaces. To help instructors and students, Canvas offers group assignment options as well as group spaces for collaboration, management and communication. When assigning group projects, instructors can use Canvas' Assignments, online Discussions and Collaborations (of which Google Docs is an option). In addition to these tools for specific assigned tasks, students can work and share together in their own Canvas group workspace, which is created automatically when a group is formed. In this session, we will walk through organizing Google Docs in your Drive and construction of a group assignment using Google Docs and Google Sheets.

[Register](#)

Thursday, December 28

Lucas Hall 589

10 - 11:30 AM

Last Call: Canvas Migration Workshop

The train is leaving the station! If you want to bring anything over from MyGateway to Canvas, now is the time.

Thursday, December 28
Lucas Hall 589
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Canvas Working Session

Internet Musings

The Power of Dialogue

The 2016 presidential election revealed the American electorate to be deeply divided across a host of economic and social issues. As we complete the first months of Trump's presidency, and commence another academic year, many are asking: Where do we go from here? It's a good question, and we want to share our perspective from our work with the Democratic Dialogue Project, an exchange that brings together students from the United States Air Force Academy and Colorado College in an attempt to enrich citizenship by creating opportunities for exchange across various divides — conservative and liberal, urban and rural, military and civilian.

Read More

Rank and File

Higher education is replete with rankings of every form, metric, and method - and graduate school is no exception. The ubiquity of ranking stems, at least in part, from its utility. Rankings can be monetized by the rankers, boost schools' promotional efforts, and seized upon by individual students eager to stand out. Plus, they're good for our egos: students and universities alike hype favorable rankings in their own chest-thumping displays, both good-natured and craven. Enrolling at a highly ranked university or program might be emotionally validating but shouldn't we graduate students, a data-driven and coldly rational sort, be immune to such things?

Read More