



In the Homestretch!

This year has been full of excitement and transition. We are in the final days of the semester, Blackboard, and 2017! Through it all, we have seen the faculty and staff of UMSL remain committed to the success and well-being of our students. We say good-bye to Blackboard on 12/28 and welcome the opportunities of refreshing courses in Canvas. As you finish up the semester, we hope you have a moment to take a deep breath, look back on the year, and rest in the fact that you're doing good work. Happy holidays from the Center for Teaching and Learning.

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Course Design Workshop for Face-to-Face Courses, January 9

Are you teaching a new course next year? Or ready to redesign one you've already taught? Interested in aligning the components of your course to intentionally foster significant student learning? If so, come join colleagues from across campus in a 3.5 hour workshop on the design of face-to-face courses. Together participants will focus on the role of course design in the overall act of teaching and write learning outcomes that will provide focus for the course activities and assessment.








When is it? Tuesday, January 9, 1:00 - 4:30 PM in Lucas Hall 589 (location subject to change)

[Sign Up](#) today before all the spots are taken!



canvas *Quick Tips*

UMSL



Help

[Ask Your Instructor a Question](#)
Questions are submitted to your instructor

[Search the Canvas Guides](#)
Find answers to common questions

[Ask the Community](#)
Get help from a Canvas expert

[Report a Problem](#)
If Canvas misbehaves, tell us about it

[Submit a Feature Idea](#)
Have an idea to improve Canvas?

[Canvas Request System](#)
UMSL Fac/Staff can customize their courses

Are you interested in having your own sandbox, or development course, in Canvas? A sandbox, or development course, is essentially a testing course. It allows you to try out Canvas features, course ideas, etc. in an environment similar to your typical Canvas course without actually updating a live course and potentially confusing students. You also have access to the same student view feature as you do in a live course, so you can see exactly what a student would see.

With a sandbox, or development course, you can:

- Build your course and import all the content into your live course(s). This is especially helpful to instructors whose courses may not be available for months, but want to work on building the content.
- Test out new course ideas.
- Try out Canvas features.

To request a sandbox, or development course, access [UMSL's Canvas Request System](#) or by

clicking the icon  from inside Canvas.

Upcoming Workshops on Canvas and MyVita

December 2017

Your Choice! Tuesday, December 5, 3 - 5 PM

or Wednesday, December 13, 10 - 11:30 AM

Lucas Hall 589

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 8

Lucas Hall 589

10:30 - 11:30 AM

MyVita Workshop

myVita is the new faculty accomplishment software that allows faculty to track their important work. This session will focus primarily on adding information into the research/scholarly activity/creative activity section in preparation for the deadline for adding information here for the Academic Program Review.

[Register](#)

Your Choice! Friday, December 15, 1 - 2:30 PM

or Monday, December 18, 10 - 11:30 AM

or Thursday, December 28, 10 - 11:30 AM

Lucas Hall 589

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

11:30 AM - 1:00 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](#)



Build an Awesome Online Course



Join Online in 9 This Spring

Our Fall cohort of Online in 9 is just wrapping up and the faculty have created some wonderful online courses that are heading to a course catalog near you. Now it's your turn! Join the Spring Online in 9 program to develop your own online course over 9 weeks and meet some fellow faculty along the way. Series runs February 12 - April 27. Space is limited, so register today!

Don't have the schedule flexibility for a set time each week? We're now offering a fully online version of Online in 9.

Learn more and [Register](#)



DIY with a Guide: For Your Next Online

Course!

Have you graduated from Online in 9 and are you ready to design your next online course? 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.

Spring 2018 Meeting Dates:

Kickoff Lunch and Learn – Feb 16th 12-1:30pm

Lunch and Learn – March 2 - 12-1:30pm

Lunch and Learn – April 6 – 12-1:30

Lunch and Learn – May 4 – 12-1:30pm

[Register](#)



Join New Part-Time Faculty Orientations!

We have two dates in January for New Part-Time Faculty Orientations.

- Saturday, January 6: 8:30 - Noon (Lucas Hall 589)



Student Support Programs

The UMSL Center for Teaching and Learning trains and supports a variety of student support leaders. Click on the program of your choice below for information, registration, or to request a PALS or Supplemental Instruction leader for your class (if faculty). Questions? Contact CTL's

- Friday, January 12: 1:00 - 4:30 (ABH 0003)

These half-day programs will help you hit the ground running as a new or returning part-time faculty member at UMSL. Learn about everything from the student body, campus systems, and meet the staff here to support you.

[Orientation Schedule](#)
[Register](#)

Supplemental Instruction
Coordinator, Jenna Alexander
at alexanderjm@umsl.edu.

[Peer Academic Leader Seminar \(PALS\)](#)

PALS is a Campus Rules & Regulations Orientation

- February 1, 2018: 9:30 - 11:30 (Location TBD)
- March 5, 2018: 2:00 - 4:00 (Location TBD)

[Supplemental Instruction \(SI\)](#)

SI is a full semester program of class-embedded student support. *If you are a faculty member* who would like to request an SI Leader for your class, please complete the [SI Faculty Request Form](#) and email it to the SI Coordinator, Jenna Alexander, at alexanderjm@umsl.edu.

Spring Forum

Save the Date!

2018 Spring Forum on Teaching and Technology

Friday, February 2, 2018

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

JC Penney Conference Center

[Register now](#) to secure your spot in this popular event!



Readings From the Web



Principles of Teaching / Principles of Learning

We'd love to highlight the great work of our colleagues at **Carnegie Mellon's Eberly Center: Teaching Excellence & Educational Innovation**. Their website has loads of great resources but we'd like to highlight these two foundational and handy lists for you.

The following small but powerful set of principles can make teaching both more effective and more efficient, by helping us create the conditions that support student learning and minimize the need for revising materials, content, and policies. Here are a few highlights from this resource, [Teaching Principles](#).

- Get to know your students to shape how you teach course concepts

- Don't try to cram everything in. Don't try to do too much in a single course.
- Recognize and overcome your own expert blind spots. What's automatic for YOU but not for your students?

The following list presents the basic principles that underlie effective learning. These principles are distilled from research from a variety of disciplines. [Learning Principles](#)

- Practice coupled with targeted feedback enhances the quality of student learning.
- To develop mastery, students must practice integrating what they're learning and know when to apply what they have learned.
- Student motivation determines, directs, and sustains what they do to learn.



2017 NMC Horizon Report

The *NMC Horizon Report > 2017 Higher Education Edition* is a collaborative effort between the NMC and the EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative (ELI). This 14th edition describes annual findings from the NMC Horizon Project, an ongoing research project designed to identify and describe emerging technologies likely to have an impact on learning, teaching, and creative inquiry in education. [Read more...](#)

Six Key Trends of 2017

1. Collaborative Learning
 2. Blended Learning Designs
 3. Redesigning Learning Spaces
 4. Growing Focus on Measuring Learning
 5. Deeper Learning Approaches
 6. Advancing Cultures of Innovation
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do nothing for 2 minutes

We often don't take the time to reflect on what we do or why we do it. [This website encourages you to take two whole minutes to take a break](#), listen to the waves, and be mindful about your work. Go ahead! It's good for you!
