LMS Review Briefing
Tech Talk

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Academic and Research Technologies
LMS Review Basics

What is an LMS?

A learning management system is a technology platform that supports teaching and learning activities.
LMS Review Basics

What is an LMS?

Since 1999, Northwestern has used Blackboard Learn as its LMS (but called it CMS).
What is the LMS Review?
The LMS Review involves the evaluation of alternative LMSs to support the University’s teaching and learning environments.
LMS Review Basics

Why are we having an LMS Review?

In October 2012, the University’s IT Governance Educational Technology Advisory Committee (ETAC) identified the need for a comprehensive review of NU’s educational technology commitments. In January 2013, the Learning Management Systems Review Group was created and began investigating educational technology options.
LMS Review Basics

What does the LMS Review involve?

The 2013-2014 investigation involves 3 LMSs:

- Sandbox accounts (demo and shell course sites) for all three
- Pilot courses in Canvas
- Canvas is the front-runner
LMS Review Basics

What does the LMS Review involve?

Assessments
• Faculty survey of LMS experiences
• Pilot faculty survey
• Pilot student survey
• Sandbox user feedback
LMS Review Basics

What does the LMS Review involve?

Information Sharing

• LMS Review Site
• LMS Review Briefings
• LMS Review Blog
• IT@NU Initiative
LMS Review Basics

What does the LMS Review involve?

2013-2014 Process

• Canvas pilots
• Canvas, Blackboard, and D2L Sandboxes
• Ongoing communication and data gathering
• The LMS Review Group will submit its official recommendations to ETAC by May 2014
Questions?

Feel free to ask questions in the Q&A box
Overview: New Blackboard

- My Bb to personalize navigation and notification
- New content editor
- Video everywhere
- Improved discussions interface
- Addition of calendar to keep track of due dates
- Inline grading
- New test options
Welcome to Astronomy!

In this course we will explore many interesting and exciting topics. Be ready to journey through the solar system, study the impact of space weather on Earth, see how the Aurora is formed and what protects Earth from a barrage of solar radiation.

eLearning Science Fair!

Calling All Scientists!

The eLearning Science Fair is almost here! What scientific questions do you want to explore? All students are encouraged to participate. Please...
Overview: Desire2Learn

• Flexibility that allows each department, program, instructor to have own look and feel
• Drag/Drop to create content, can selectively move objects from course to course
• Video and audio recording and feedback throughout system
• Full set of release conditions available throughout system (i.e. support adaptive and personalized learning)
• Free Assignment Grader app for instructors to grade offline
• Learning Environment also includes Enterprise ePortfolio, and lifelong access to students
Welcome to the Canvas Scavenger Hunt!

The purpose of this scavenger hunt is to give you a quick orientation to this learning management system and some of its tools. The idea is that you will proceed from clue to clue, sequentially, to make sure Canvas will work on your browsers, add some information to your profile, participate in a discussion board, edit a wiki page, upload a document to the assignments area, and take a quiz. Along the way, you’ll learn how to get help in Canvas, too.

Mobile App:
A mobile app for Canvas is available for iOS devices, Android, and other devices. Download one now!

Time commitment:
Canvas features

• Multiple ways to arrange and display information: Modules, Pages, Assignments
• Syllabus tool that auto-populates with any information with a due-date
• Calendar tool that can stretch across courses
# Canvas features

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*Canvas features for January 2014*
Canvas features

- Student / faculty wiki pages

**BEST PLACE FOR LUNCH ON-CAMPUS**

- Tech Express (nuCuisine)
- Frontera Fresco (agreed)

**Einstein's (definitely the best)**

- Harry's (the only place for lunch on-campus)
- Sargent (next to Mudd, tech, and a gym)
- Norway
- Starbucks
- Lisa's Cafe
- Out of my lunch box! -- YEA
- Haven't eaten on campus
- On the lake fill
- In the lake
- Bring yo lunch. save $$ (me too)
Canvas features

Welcome to your new course wiki!
Canvas features

- Mobile app for iOS, Android phones and tablets
- SpeedGrader (also available as an app) with annotation, commenting, rubrics; written, audio, video feedback
Canvas features

Building Blocks for College Completion: Learning Analytics

Key Takeaways
> Learning analytics offers colleges and universities a robust way to use data to help
Canvas features

Connections to external apps, including:
• Publishers’ sites
• Harvard Business Publishing
• Newspapers
• Twitter, YouTube, Vimeo
• Wikipedia
• Mediasite, Panopto
# Canvas features

## External Apps

Apps are an easy way to add new features to Canvas. They can be added to individual courses, or to all courses in an account. Once configured, you can link to them through course modules and create assignments for assessment tools.

Click [here](#) to see some LTI tools that work great with Canvas. You can also check out the Canvas Community topics about LTI tools [here](#).

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Questions?

Feel free to ask questions in the Q&A box
Fall pilot student survey results

- Switch to Canvas (73%)
- Stay w Blackboard (13%)
- Don't know / no answer (14%)

NU stay or switch?
Fall pilot faculty survey results

- Stay (0%)
- Switch (93%)
- Don't know (7%)
LMS Resources

• **Learn more:** Information is available on the [LMS Review Site](#) and the [IT@NU Initiative](#) page

• **Read the blog:** Faculty and students share insights on the [LMS Review Site](#)

• **Participate:** [Request a sandbox or pilot](#) in the Spring Quarter

• **See the story:** Click through the [Multimedia Timeline](#)
Questions?

Feel free to ask questions in the Q&A box
Thank you