Brightspace Update

August 31, 2023 will be the very last day the GBC Community can access Blackboard. Brightspace training has been offered throughout this year to hundreds of faculty. If you have not completed all four training modules, please register for one of the August sessions on page 2 of this newsletter.

New: Changes to Technical Support for Brightspace

Technical support for Brightspace can now be accessed from directly inside the tool itself. All staff and students can now connect through the "Get Help" button located on the bottom right of all Brightspace pages. Here you will be able to engage a chatbot for FAQs, connect with a live agent, or open a support case.

Compatibility Issue with Advanced Variables in Assessments

If you have used custom or advanced variables within your assessments on Blackboard; please verify that they have migrated properly to D2L/Brightspace prior to August 25 2023. Should you encounter any difficulties, please contact eLTI via the helpdesk.

Community Requests and Participant Updates

If you are intending to utilize communities within Brightspace for the September term; please use the same request process previously used for Blackboard. Additionally, please be aware that "Leaders" are now identified as "Instructors" and "Participants" are now "Learners" within Brightspace Community Spaces.

Blackboard Grades, Submissions, and Content

As a reminder, Blackboard Learn will no longer be available after August 31st 2023. It is recommended that faculty download any grades and submissions prior to August 31st 2023 in anticipation of a potential student academic grade challenge. Additionally, it is advised that faculty and community leaders create a personal course/community export to preserve any content that they may wish to retain for later use, and that has not been migrated to Brightspace. Should you require assistance with downloading your grades, assignments, and/or course material; please contact the eLTI team prior to August 25th 2023 or click here to view Faculty Blackboard Decommission Tips.

Get Help

To access Brightspace visit https://learn.georgebrown.ca

For help inside Brightspace (e.g. how to use a feature, a feature isn't working, etc.) click on the **GETHELP widget** in the bottom right corner.

For password re-sets, first-time access to Brightspace, to request a sandbox in Brightspace or to request a DEV[i] shell in Brightspace users should email the GBC Helpdesk helpdesk@georgebrown.ca

To learn how to migrate your own courses, export content out of Blackboard and much more visit the **Faculty Brightspace Support Sharepoint.** This site is updated frequently. Faculty can book a meet-up with one of the Instructional Design or eLTI team members for additional support. See the Calendly booking link on the **Drop-in** Sessions tab.

To learn more about Brightspace and the resources available to you please visit the TLX website.

All other inquiries, questions, comments or concerns can be directed to tlx@georgebrown.ca.

Instructor-focused Brightspace Training

Please click on the specific date and time listed below to be redirected to the registration page.

Module 1: The Brightspace Environment
This module is an overview of the Brightspace environment and highlights of its tools, widgets and admin options with opportunities to discuss implications for learning. It serves as a foundation for the upcoming modules. It contains more demonstration and is less hands-on than upcoming modules.
Monday, August 14: 5:00pm - 7:00pm (online)
Friday, August 17: 10:00am - 12:00pm (online)
Thursday, August 24: 9:00am - 11:00am (on-campus)

Module 2: Creating Content
This module focuses on adding and organizing your content in the Brightspace environment. We will have an opportunity to review the tools and demonstrate application and then have participants practice within their sandboxes.
Tuesday, August 15: 5:00pm - 7:00pm (online)
Friday, August 18: 9:00am-11:00am (online)
Thursday, August 24: 12:00pm -2:00pm (on-campus)

Module 3: Communication Tools
This module focuses on communication tools built in Brightspace, whether that is one on one or class wide communication.
Monday, August 14: 1:00pm - 3:00pm (online)
Wednesday, August 16 10:00am - 12:00pm (online)
Monday, August 21: 6:00pm - 8:00pm (online)
Tuesday, August 22: 3:00pm - 5:00pm (online)
Tuesday, August 29: 9:00am - 11:00am (on-campus)

Module 4: Assessments & Grading
This module includes an overview of the Brightspace Assessments and Grading tools, and includes hands on tasks. In most cases, the facilitator will demonstrate a series of steps toward an objective, and then invite you to recreate those steps in your own Sandbox shell.
Tuesday, August 22: 1:30pm -3:30pm (online)
Wednesday, August 23: 8:30am - 10:30am (online)
Thursday, August 24: 6:00pm -8:00pm (online)
Tuesday, August 29: 1:00pm - 3:00pm (online)
Tuesday, August 29: 12:00pm - 2:00pm (on-campus)

Support & Administrative Staff - Brightspace Training

Please click here to be re-directed to Cornerstone to register for any of the Support Staff/Admin focused sessions, listed below.

Module 1
Thursday, August 10: 10:00am -11:00am
Tuesday, August 15: 2:00pm - 3:00pm

Module 2
Thursday, August 17: 10:00am - 11:00am
Monday, August 21: 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Module 3
Thursday, August 24: 10:00am - 11:00am
Friday, August 25: 2:00pm - 3:00pm

Module 4
Wednesday, August 20: 2:00pm - 3:00pm
Thursday, August 31: 10:00am - 11:00am