LMS update: Courses launch in Brightspace this week

We are only three days away from the launch of Carleton's academic courses in Brightspace. Starting May 6, Brightspace by D2L will replace cuLearn as Carleton's Learning Management System (LMS).

Whether you have extensive experience with online platforms or this is your first time teaching with Brightspace, Teaching and Learning Services (TLS) has a variety of resources to help you get started.

Read this month’s full LMS update for information on upcoming technical demonstrations and training, course consultations, online resources to help with...
course setup, and opportunities to hear from colleagues through the Brightspace Showcase series.

Blog: Five takeaways to ease your anxiety while transitioning to Brightspace

By: Christine Streeter, Contract Instructor, PhD Candidate, School of Social Work, Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs

One year has passed since the declaration of a global pandemic and how we live, and work, has changed. With the disruption in our lives, we have had to learn many new technologies on how to engage and communicate with each other, and I completely understand the last thing anyone wants to be doing right now is to grasp yet another Learning Management System (LMS).

During the Winter 2021 term, I participated in the Brightspace pilot. I am grateful to have gained some experience and practice with the new system before its official launch on May 6, 2021. Teaching and Learning Services (TLS) has provided bi-weekly meetings where the group of pilot instructors could meet, learn, discuss and share ideas about Brightspace. And I am here writing this post to provide some relief – learning how to use Brightspace is not as bad as you may think (and that’s coming from a very tired PhD student). Read more.

Summer 2021 I-CUREUS applications are now open

Do you have a student you’d like to support in the Internship-Carleton University Research Experience for Undergraduate Students (I-CUREUS) program? Applications are now being accepted for a limited number of summer 2021 positions.

Funded by the Discovery Centre and the faculty
supervisor, the I-CUREUS program provides an opportunity for undergraduate students to conduct paid research, access research scholarships and gain hands-on experience in their discipline or an area of interest.

Internships span from May to August 2021 for a maximum of 150 hours. Applications are due Friday, May 7. Visit the Discovery Centre website to learn more and apply.

Register for the spring 2021 Course Design Fundamentals program

Teaching and Learning Services (TLS) is offering another installment of the Course Design Fundamentals program this spring, May 31 – June 14. This program addresses your course’s foundational elements, such as the learning outcomes, the assessments, and the communication and engagement strategies, so that they are aligned and provide a well-rounded learning experience.

While this self-paced program is designed to be a flexible series of five workshops that you can take in any order, this spring offering gives you the chance to complete the program in a few short weeks. Once you complete the program requirements, you’ll receive a letter of completion for inclusion in your teaching dossier. Register for workshops here.

Reminder: Zoom user emails have been updated

On April 29, many Zoom usernames were updated from Carleton’s alias or short-form email address format (firstname.lastname@carleton.ca) to match Carleton’s long-form email (fullname@cunet.carleton.ca or fullname@cmail.carleton.ca). This update was necessary as Carleton is moving to a Zoom enterprise license.
Zoom accounts should be intact with your password remaining the same. The only change is the username that you use to log in to Zoom - either fullname@cunet.carleton.ca or fullname@cmail.carleton.ca - which one depends on your role at Carleton. In both addresses, fullname represents your MyCarletonOne username. You can check your Zoom account login info by logging into this webpage. In general, faculty, staff and many contract instructors will use fullname@cunet.carleton.ca. Most TAs and some contract instructors will use fullname@cmail.carleton.ca.

If you are unable to log in to Zoom after checking your username info, or if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to zoom@carleton.ca.

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**Instructor check-in: May**

Teaching and Learning Services (TLS) has created monthly check-ins for instructors to reflect upon at specific points during the term. As the Carleton community continues to adjust to online teaching and learning, these check-ins can help you stay on track, stay organized and be proactive in solving any issues that might arise this term.

This month’s check-in focuses on Brightspace basics, communication, engagement and midterms.

TLS is also hosting a **May Check-in Chat** to discuss these topics on Tuesday, May 11 from 10 - 11:30 a.m. Whether you have ideas to share, are searching for guidance, or simply want to know how others have approached teaching this year, we invite you to attend this session.

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**Recommended practices for a HyFlex teaching approach**
With the uncertainty around the fall 2021 and winter 2022 terms and the challenges that some international students may face attending on-campus courses, Carleton is offering instructors the option of a HyFlex teaching model.

Prior to making the decision to use HyFlex, it is important that instructors reflect on their specific circumstances, the context of the students that may be registering in their course and their teaching goals. Instructors considering a HyFlex approach should do so with the following goals in mind:

- Facilitating interactions between students
- Creating an equitable experience for both online and in-person students
- Facilitating the connection between students and the instructor
- Encouraging active participation and discussion
- Supporting greater accessibility and student flexibility

Additionally, utilizing a HyFlex teaching model can address other goals unrelated to pedagogy, including ensuring access to select courses for students unable to attend face-to-face courses.

With these considerations in mind, we've outlined several recommendations for HyFlex teaching in the fall.

**Carleton students present at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR)**

On April 12-14, more than 3,400 students from post-secondary institutions around the world participated in the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) to celebrate the work of undergraduate researchers.

This year, 10 Carleton students presented at the first-ever virtual event. We are proud to recognize and
celebrate the important research being done by our undergraduate students across campus. See the list of students who presented and read about their research topics here.

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Don't forget!

- **SOPI applications:** The Shared Online Projects Initiative (SOPI) allows online module and course development to be shared across Carleton University and University of Ottawa for the upcoming fall and winter terms. SOPI provides instructors with grants of up to $8,000 each to work with colleagues at the partner university in developing online courses or modules, as well as teaching activities suitable for bimodal or HyFlex delivery. Proposals are due May 21.

- **Carleton University Chair in Teaching Innovation applications:** Awarded annually to an educator who demonstrates teaching excellence and innovation across their academic career, each chair appointment is for a three-year period. Applications are due May 30. Learn more.

- **Summer supports for teaching:** If you're interested in recording a course introduction, demonstration or entire lectures, on-campus recording is available in one of our operator assisted studio classrooms. Additionally, we provide equipment loans to help you and your TAs support, develop and teach online courses. For additional support, our Teaching Online page has various resources to help you build your online course and we are always available for individual consultations.