



Improving the Student Experience

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Presenter Biography

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Learning Goals

By the end of this Session you will have:

- ▶ Learned how to customize your course navbar including creating custom links and link groups.
- ▶ Learned how to customize your course homepage and create widgets.
- ▶ Explored ways to use Announcements and Activity Feed to effectively reach students.
- ▶ Considered how to seek student voice to ensure that the course is set up in a way that is clear and easy to follow for students.
- ▶ Heard a variety of tips on how to build a presence and use that to improve the student experience.
- ▶ Looked at ways to mimic the in-class experience using Brightspace tools.

Disclaimer

- ▶ Not all Boards provide the same permissions in the VLE or have the exact same setup. Speak with your TELT Contact or DELC if you have any difficulty.

Improving the Student Experience



Make your navbar easy to navigate.



Setup your homepage so it is clean and highlights key information for students. This is the first thing they see.



Leverage Announcements and/or Activity Feed to build your presence and guide students on a daily basis.



Seek student feedback early and make improvements.



Provide daily or weekly checklists to ensure students are staying on track.



Provide short video lessons on key topics throughout the course.



Build your presence by being highly accessible to students in a variety of formats. Let them see YOU!

Start with the Navbar



What do students need access to? Get rid of clutter.



Try creating your own links and link groups where it helps.



Bonus Tip: Consider creating menus in other languages for ELL students.

Setting Up your Homepage



Remove unneeded widgets.



Create widgets to highlight key information and engage students.



Bonus Tip: Have a fun widget.

Announcements, Activity Feed or Both!



Choose which tool is best for you and develop your communication plan.



Post daily...but be careful not to overwhelm.



Bonus Tip: Limit text, leverage images and video to communicate.

Seek student feedback and make improvements



Are you finding it easy to navigate the VLE?



Are the lessons easy to follow?



Is it clear what you are required to complete each day?



Are you able to seek help from me when needed?



Is there anything I can do to improve the experience and help you be successful?

Check another one off the list!



Consider providing students with daily or weekly checklists to help them ensure everything is completed.



Could you use a widget to help you accomplish this?



Bonus Tip: Be creative, a “checklist” doesn’t have to be text-based.

Lesson Videos Can Go A Long Way in Boosting Student Success



Focus on key and/or challenging topics.



Keep videos short. Chunk material as needed.



Bonus Tip: Be YOU and have some fun with it. Don't focus on perfection.

Build Your Presence



Post daily, use voice and video.



Reach out to students individually to check-in. Try to do this with five a day.



Let students get to know YOU, it goes a long way to building their engagement.



Provide live support opportunities at least a few times a week.



Provide opportunities for student conferencing, small group sessions, live lessons etc



Reflect student interests in the course and provide opportunities for students to learn from each other.



Make time for fun!



Share your tips and ideas. We're in
this together.

Questions?



THANK YOU!

We hope this presentation will assist you with summer school this year.