



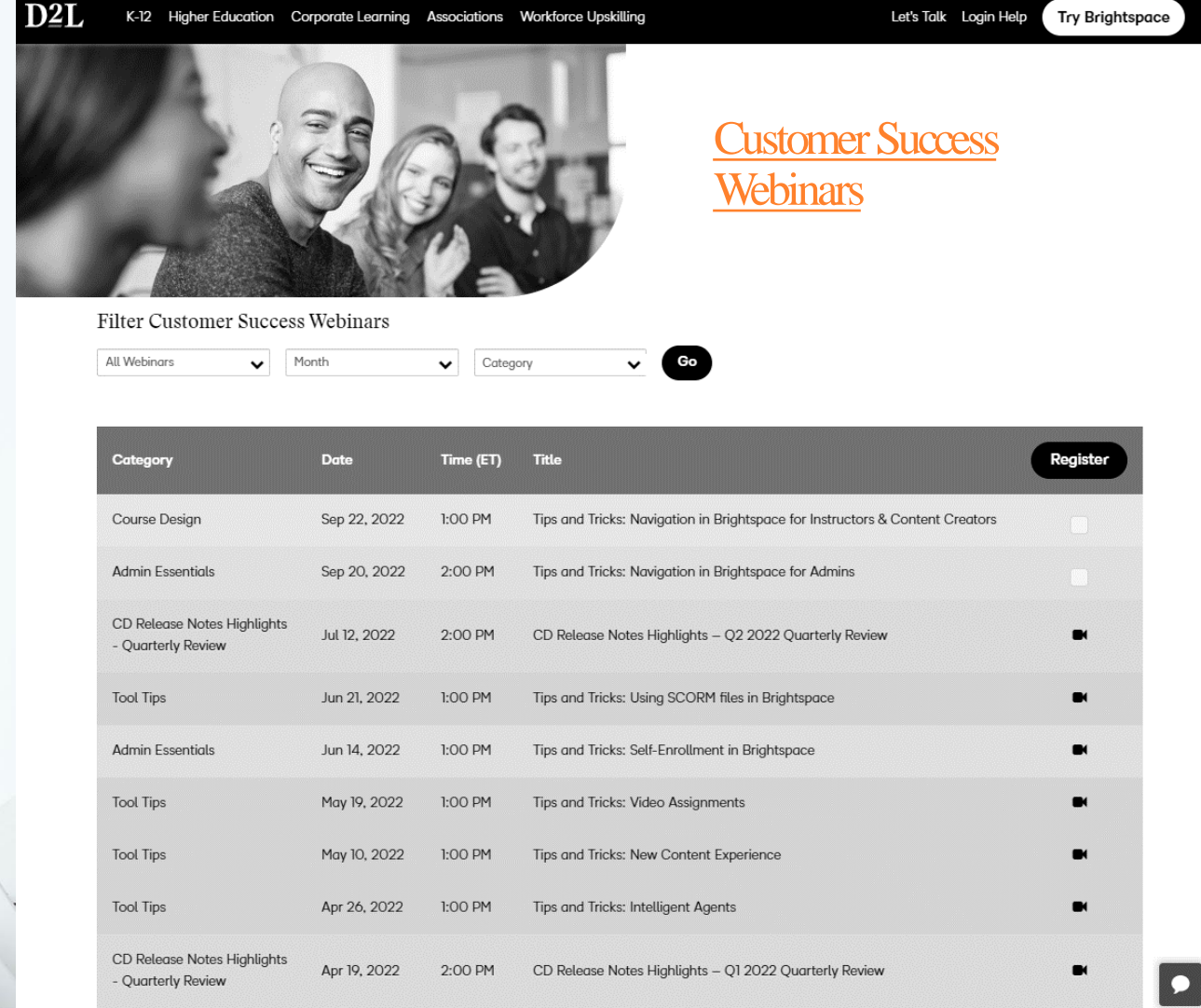
Tips & Tricks: Homepages and Nav Bars for Instructors & Content Creators

September 22, 2022

Welcome to Customer Success Tips & Tricks!

- These webinars are about effective practice and Tips & Tricks with Brightspace tools.
- Looking for training? Check out [Brightspace Guided Training](#)

- This webinar will be available to view on demand, along with the slides, in a couple of days on the [Customer Success Webinars page](#)



D2L K-12 Higher Education Corporate Learning Associations Workforce Upskilling Let's Talk Login Help Try Brightspace

Customer Success Webinars

Filter Customer Success Webinars

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Category	Date	Time (ET)	Title	Register
Course Design	Sep 22, 2022	1:00 PM	Tips and Tricks: Navigation in Brightspace for Instructors & Content Creators	<input type="checkbox"/>
Admin Essentials	Sep 20, 2022	2:00 PM	Tips and Tricks: Navigation in Brightspace for Admins	<input type="checkbox"/>
CD Release Notes Highlights - Quarterly Review	Jul 12, 2022	2:00 PM	CD Release Notes Highlights – Q2 2022 Quarterly Review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tool Tips	Jun 21, 2022	1:00 PM	Tips and Tricks: Using SCORM files in Brightspace	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Admin Essentials	Jun 14, 2022	1:00 PM	Tips and Tricks: Self-Enrollment in Brightspace	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tool Tips	May 19, 2022	1:00 PM	Tips and Tricks: Video Assignments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tool Tips	May 10, 2022	1:00 PM	Tips and Tricks: New Content Experience	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tool Tips	Apr 26, 2022	1:00 PM	Tips and Tricks: Intelligent Agents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CD Release Notes Highlights - Quarterly Review	Apr 19, 2022	2:00 PM	CD Release Notes Highlights – Q1 2022 Quarterly Review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Agenda

1

**What are
Homepages and
Navigation Bars?**

2

**Why is it
important to
consider the
layout?**

3

Tips & Tricks

4

Demo

Homepages

- Homepages are the first page that a learner sees when they login to the organization and their courses
- They are important for communication about the course, learner interaction, and creating a clear navigation experience

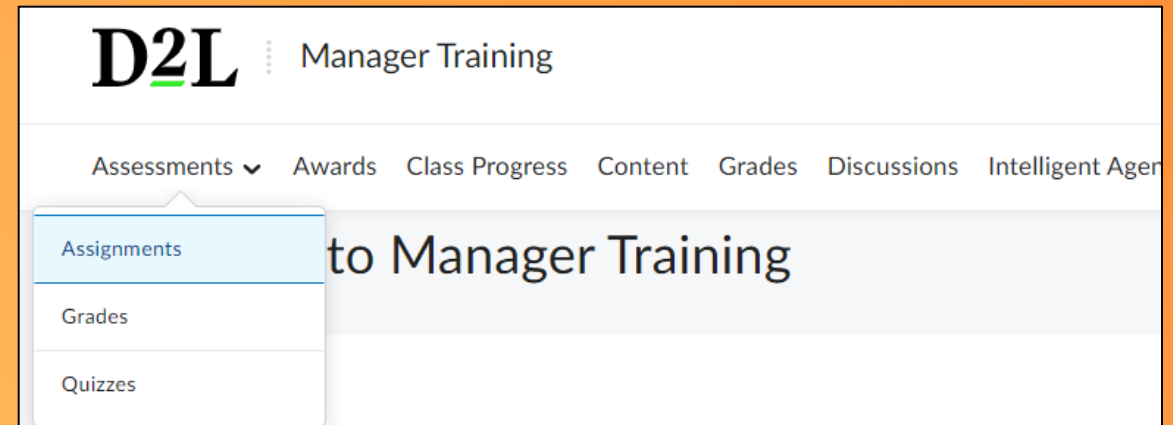
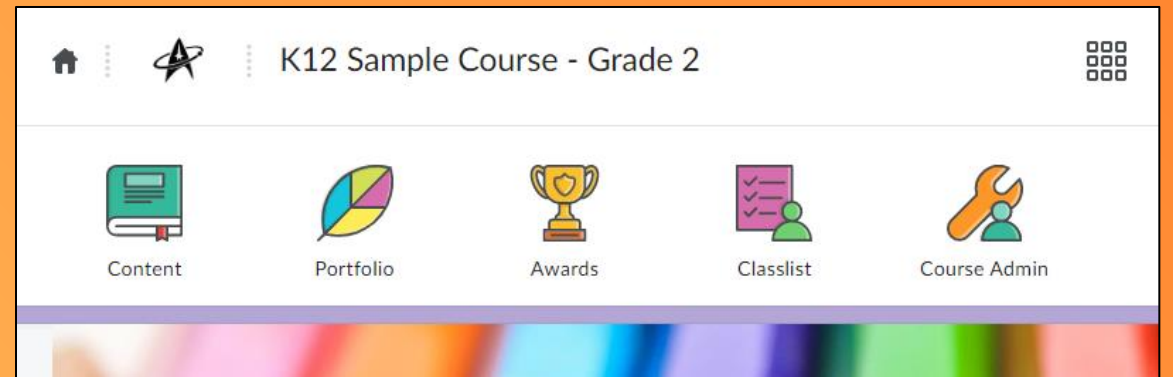
Note: You can create a course homepage that jumps straight to a tool (ex. Content) by changing the type to 'tool-based' instead of 'widget-based'

This screenshot shows the homepage for the 'Online Accessibility Lab' course in Brightspace. The page features a navigation bar with 'Content', 'Discussions', and 'Course Admin'. Below the navigation, there are four topic cards: 'Welcome', 'Accessibility at D2L', 'Sensory', and 'Physical'. Each card displays a progress bar at 0% completion. On the right side, there is an 'Earned Awards' section with an 'Accessibility Champion' badge and a 'Launch the Quick Guide' button.

This screenshot shows the homepage for the 'Instructional Design Escape Room' course in Brightspace. The page features a navigation bar with 'Course Home', 'Content', 'Course Admin', and 'Quizzes'. Below the navigation, there are two announcement cards: 'Find the Location' and 'Conditional Offer'. On the right side, there are two 'Hint' sections: 'Hint 3' and 'Hint 2'. At the bottom, there is an 'Earned Awards' section with a 'Congratulations!' message.

Navigation Bars

- Nav Bars give learners access to the tools that will be used in the course
- They can be text or icon-based depending on the literacy levels of your learners or branding guides
- Nav Bar groups can also be created to combine similar tools to save space





Widgets

- Widgets are similar to apps on your mobile device
- They display a snapshot of information on the homepage for a certain tool
 - System widgets
 - Activity Feed, Announcements, Work-to-Do, Calendar, Google Workspace, etc.
 - Custom Widgets
 - Homepage Expansion Pack - [Learn more](#)
 - Learning and Creative Services - [Learn more](#)
 - Create your own! [Learning centre course](#)

Awards ▾

Earned Awards Available Awards

 #1 Star
This award is given for completing a certain module.
🔒 Visits the content topic: Topic 1

 Course Completion 2022 Award
Completed 2022 Compliance Course
🔒 Receives greater than or equal to 80% on the modules and topics: Elisa Course Offering Sand

Calendar ▾

Monday, September 12, 2022 ▶

Upcoming events ▾

SEP	11:59 PM
18	Discussion 1: Overcoming Communication Failures - Availability Ends
SEP	11:59 PM
26	Quiz 1 - Availability Ends

News ▾

Welcome - action required! ▾

Posted Jan 31, 2022 5:04 PM

Hello and welcome to your Leadership Training.

Before you make your way through, please self enroll in a group based on the region you are located in. This will be used for moderator purposes.

Follow this link [Regional Groups](#) to enroll by your region, and head to Content to get started.

Good luck!

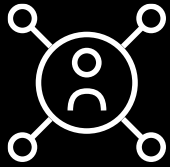
Jean-Luc

[Show All News Items](#)

Why are Homepages and Nav Bars important?

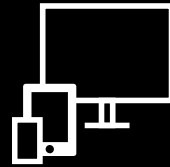


Homepage and Nav Bar Quick Tips



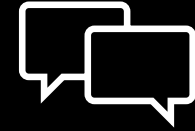
Personalize it

- Use replace strings in the header to include a learner's name and course
- Share an instructor profile or video on the homepage
- Include a content widget to help learners jump to where they left off



Avoid Scrolling

- Avoid 'hiding' important information at the bottom of the homepage that requires learners to scroll down depending on their screen size
- Use Nav Bar groups to combine similar tools together to consolidate space



Communicate

- Share important course updates with Announcements or News
- Foster interaction with peers using Activity Feed
- Share due dates using Work-to-Do or Calendar or Updates widget

There is no single correct layout!

Demo Time

Summary

- Maintain consistency with your Homepages and Nav Bars across your school/organization
- There is nothing more confusing to a learner than having to learn how to navigate completely different courses
- Be sure to collaborate and consult with your colleagues and administrators when deciding how to create or edit your course Homepage and Nav Bar

Thank you!

Any questions?