The Other Side of Canvas

(an instructor's point of view)

GTA Workshop

https://umsystem.instructure.com/



THREE KEY AREAS

1. Communication

- > Inbox
- Announcements
- Notification

2. Organization

- Modules
- Pages
- Files

3. Assessments

- Assignments
- Quizzes/Exams
- o Grades/SpeedGrader





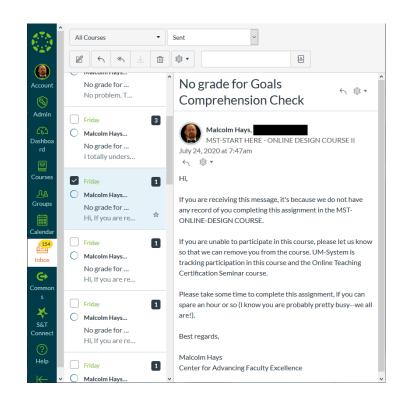
Why is communication important?

- Instructor presence
 - In an online course, how will students know they are being heard and listened to?
- Student presence
 - o In an online course, how will you know if students are listening to you?
- Student-student interactions
 - Students can learn from each other
- Instructor-student interactions
 - Instructors help students stay on track with their learning process



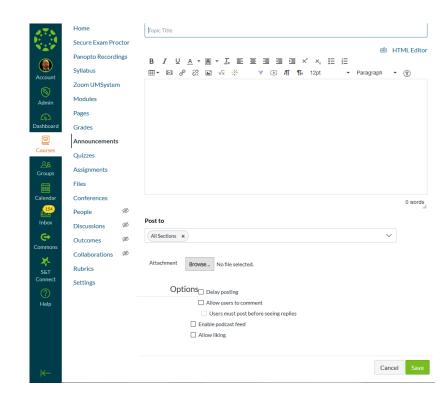
Inbox

- Internal mail system within Canvas
- Sends emails to students' & instructors' external email account (Gmail/Outlook/etc.)
- Great for managing conversations within a course



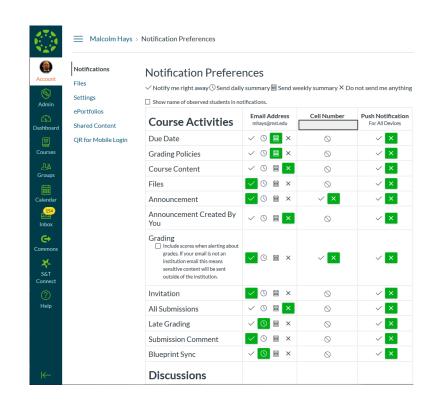
Announcements

- Mostly one-way communication channel
- May be differentiated based on Sections
- May be delayed for future release



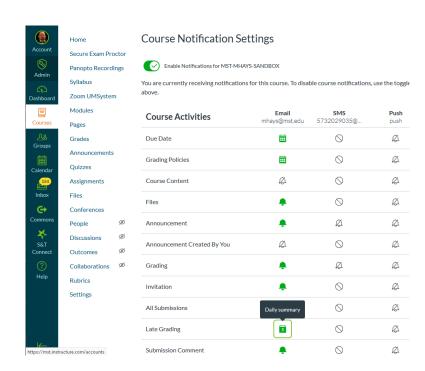
Notifications

- Personalized for each user
- Managed at two-levels
 - Account level
 - Course level



Notifications

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Why is organization important?

- Logical progression of materials for students
 - Easy to find resources
- Motivate student engagement
 - Keep students focused and moving forward
- Minimize distractions for students
 - Reduction of cognitive load

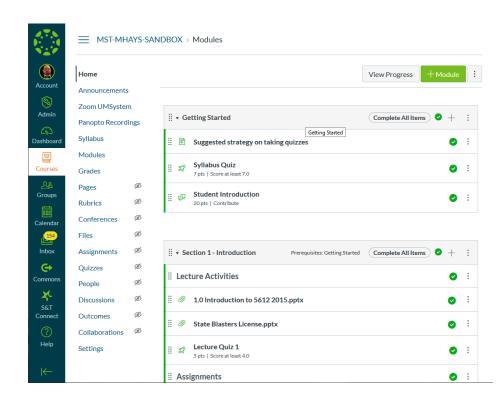
Teachers are designers. An essential act of our profession is the design of curriculum and learning experiences to meet specified purposes.

-- Wiggins and McTighe, *Understanding by Design* (2005)



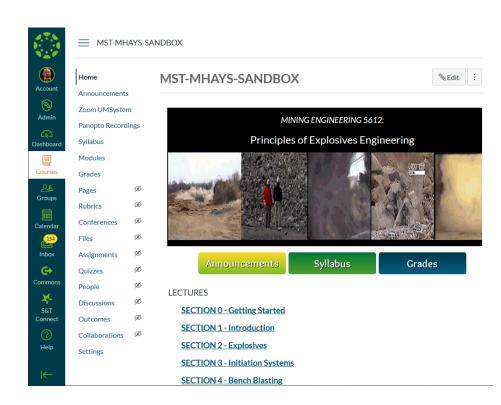
Modules

- Simple, yet efficient
- Link to other content in Canvas (Pages, Quizzes, Quizzes, Panopto Recordings, etc.)
- Guided progression through course



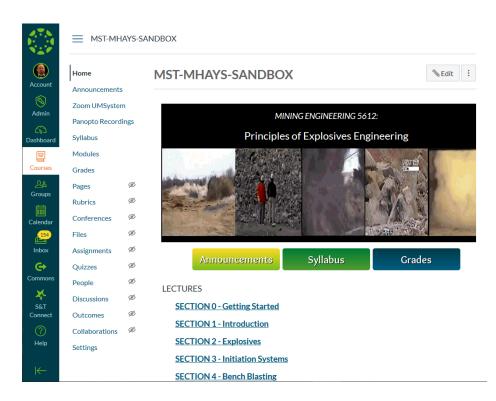
<u>Pages</u>

- Lots of flexibility for content
- Much more engaging visually
- More time & effort to create than modules



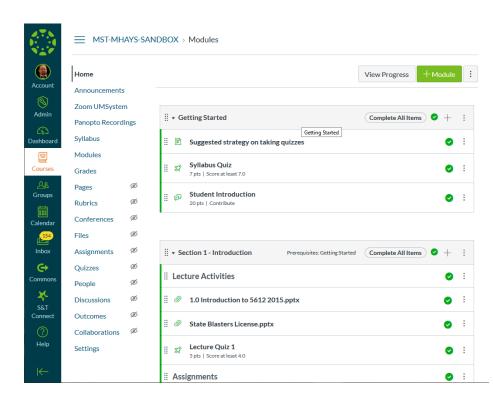
Files

- RECOMMENDED:
 - Hide FILES from students
 - Link to FILES from MODULES
 - Organize files into folders



Course Menu Navigation

- REMOVE/HIDE what isn't being used
- ADD/KEEP what is being used



Assessments



Why assess students?

- What are you measuring/evaluating? Why?
- Are your assessments formative? Or summative?
- How many assessments are enough?
- What will students learn about themselves through your assessments?
- Do your assessments measure your student learning outcomes?

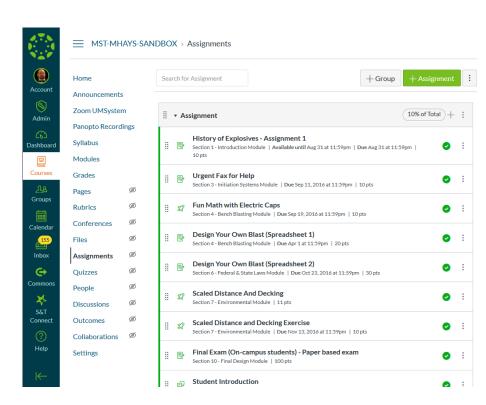
"Evaluation without development is punitive. Development without evaluation is guesswork."

Theall, M. (2007, June 11). Basic issues in good evaluation practice. Invited presentation at the Academic Impressions Institute's Using Faculty Evaluation Data for Decision Making, Boston, MA.



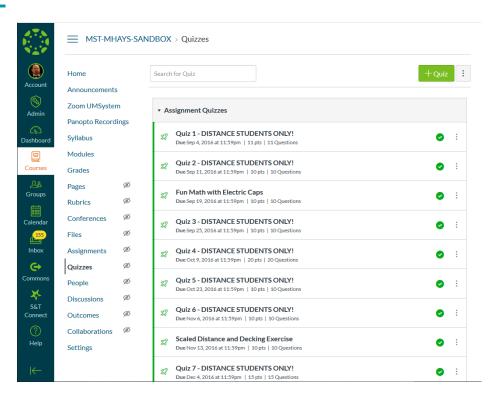
<u>Assignments</u>

- Variety of submission types
- Similarity-checking options
- Allow for peer-review
- Can be assigned to groups
- Allow for weighted grading



Quizzes / Exams / Tests

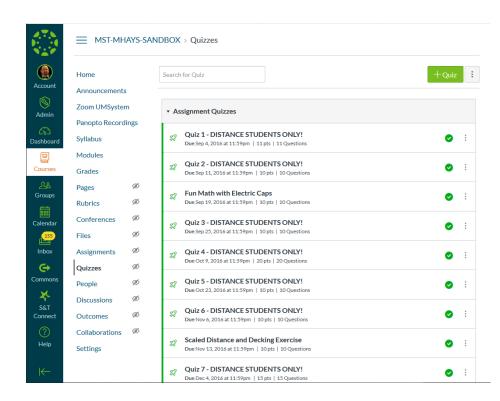
- LOTS of question types!
- Randomization options
 - Shuffle answers
 - Question banks
- Feedback options
- Quiz Analytics
- Moderate Quizzes for different student needs
 - Students with disabilities





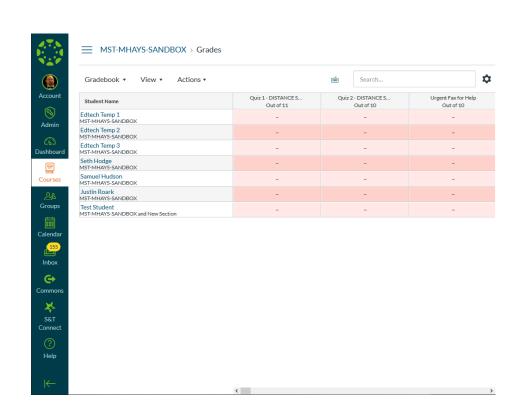
Surveys

- Graded or Ungraded
- Anonymous responses
- Same options as Quizzes



<u>Grades</u>

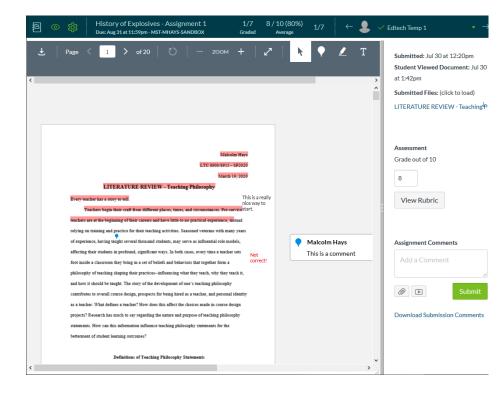
- ALL columns must be set up as Assignment!
- Late grade policies
- Grade History for each student
- Export grades into Joe'SS
- Message student(s) who...





SpeedGrader

- Quickly grade student submissions
- Annotate
 PDF/DOCX/PPT/etc.
- Provide detailed feedback
- Grade Assignments,
 Quizzes, Discussions





Canvas Request System



What is the Canvas Request System?

- Managed by UM-System Office of eLearning
- Available at: https://canvasrequest.umsystem.edu/
 - Course Combo combine sections of courses
 - Course User Assignment add users to non-Registrar courses
 - New Course request a "DEV" shell (empty course)
 - Course Copy request a course copy for courses in which you are NOT the instructor
 - Delayed Grade Sections Used for "Incompletes"
 - Test Student Accounts Does not apply to S&T



FINAL THOUGHTS



Need Help?

Google search for "Canvas Instructor Guides"

https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/tkb-p/Instructor

IT Help Desk

573-341-HELP or https://help.mst.edu

Missouri Online - Teaching Tools (https://teachingtools.umsystem.edu)

• teachingtools@umsystem.edu / canvas@umsystem.edu / 855-675-0755

Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence

• <u>cafe@mst.edu</u> / <u>https://cafe.mst.edu</u> / 573-341-6713



REMEMBER TO PUBLISH YOUR COURSE!





QUESTIONS?

Online Webinars:

https://teaching.missouri.edu/events

Contact us: cafe@mst.edu

Phone: 573-341-6713

https://cafe.mst.edu

