

In the spotlight: Summer online course evaluations



FROM THE DIRECTOR



Spanish moss drifts lazily in the summer breeze while empty classrooms await the rush of returning students this fall. But despite the slow-paced appearance of campus, exciting changes are happening at a rapid pace! The move to Canvas is in full swing and a university-wide pilot of online course evaluations is in progress.

This summer several instructors have offered to teach courses in Canvas as part of the pilot program. Feedback from faculty and students has been overwhelmingly positive, and their experience has helped us identify areas for further improvement. See how Canvas will work for you and sign up for workshops, which will be offered this summer and fall.

Course evaluations are being conducted fully online through EvaluationKIT for the summer terms. We are thrilled to have the opportunity to participate in this pilot and are eager to hear **your feedback**. Over the last year, instructors who have taken advantage of EvaluationKIT for online evaluations have seen dramatic increases in students' response rate, and we believe this will be a positive change for the university.

Change can be both exciting and challenging. The support teams in the Office of Distance Learning and the Testing Center are eager to help you along the journey. Please take advantage of our workshops, consultations, and help desk to ensure you get the most out of these new services!

Sincerely,
Robby Fuselier
Interim Director

IN THE NEWS

Course evaluations are online this summer with the adoption of EvaluationKIT.



The university has approved the use of this fully online system as the exclusive tool for SPCI course evaluations for the Summer 2017 term.

Evaluations are automatically ordered and administered through the students' email and Blackboard and Canvas sites. Although summer evaluations are not mandatory, they will be ordered for all qualifying courses. If you or your department would prefer to opt out, you can learn more about **managing enrollments**.

With EvaluationKIT, instructors and administrative staff can integrate custom questions into the survey, with the goal of improving feedback. Additional benefits include better LMS integration, mobile-friendly convenience, and a significantly higher response rate than the previous system.

CANVAS TRAINING



With summer in full swing, now is the perfect time to learn more about Canvas. To help meet your Canvas training needs, we have developed a series of face-to-face workshops and live webinars, as well as an online instructor training course.

Workshops and Webinars

These in-person and online sessions cover the following topics:

- Orientation
- Course design using modules
- Page design and the Rich Content Editor
- Communication tools
- Assignments, rubrics, and grades
- Design Tools: Beginner and Intermediate
- Libraries and Canvas integration (webinar only)
- Canvas Commons, open educational resources, and copyright (webinar only)

“The orientation, modules, and Rich Text Editor sessions focus on transitioning from Blackboard to Canvas,” said John Braswell, educational technology instructor for the Office of Distance Learning (ODL). “These sessions, which are offered via in-person and online format, should give instructors a great foundation for course building in Canvas.”

To view the dates and reserve your spot for any of these sessions, visit our [Registration page](#).

Online Instructor Training

If you want to train on your own time, take advantage of the [Canvas Instructor Training Course](#) located in your Canvas interface. (You will need to log in with your FSUID to access the course.) This self-paced, nine-module course includes an introduction to Canvas and describes how to build your course and how to use Canvas with your students.

“This training course is a comprehensive reference guide that prepares instructors for delivering a course successfully in Canvas,” said course designer Liying Miao of ODL’s Instructional Development Faculty. “We’ve gotten feedback from faculty who have benefitted from the videos and links to resources.”

Additional Training Options

- **Departmental sessions.** To schedule a date and time for a Canvas training session at your department, contact John Braswell at jbraswell@campus.fsu.edu or 850-645-0469.

- **Webinar recordings.** Recordings of the webinars listed above can be found in the online **Canvas Instructor Training Course**. Inside the course, click Bb Collaborate from the main menu and click the dashed lines to reveal the Collaborate menu. Select Recordings and set the date range to begin May 1 to see all recordings.
- **Canvas Week videos.** Missed out on the original run of Canvas Week? You can catch reruns in these **recorded training sessions** (courtesy of the FSU College of Business).
- **Video tutorials.** The Canvas Community offers a range of **video resources** for instructors, covering topics such as assignments, courses, discussions, modules, and the syllabus.

TECHNOLOGY TIPS

Need help working with technology – Canvas, in particular? Here we provide links to support articles that can assist you with your LMS and its surrounding technologies.

- One of the first steps of your Canvas move is to learn about course migration. **This article** explains your migration options.
- If you have a “leader” role in a Blackboard organization, you can read about the best way to **handle your organization** in our move to Canvas.
- **Getting Started: Instructor Edition** gives you the basics of Canvas.
- Find out how to change your **default email address** in Canvas.
- Here’s a step-by-step look at **how to build your new Canvas course**.
- As you build your course, the **FSU Libraries research guide** offers information on integrating library resources and services in Canvas.
- Wondering how to use icons and colors in the Gradebook? **This document** provides a closer look.

One-on-One Technical Consultations

Not sure how to make the move to Canvas? You can **schedule an individual consultation** with our ODL Technical Support specialists for help. These one-on-one appointments will provide you with a personal approach to your Canvas questions and concerns.

Have questions? We can help! **Contact** ODL Technical Support.

ABOUT US

Here are a few of the ways the Office of Distance Learning serves instructors, students, and administrators:

- online course and program development
- budget management for online programs
- instructor and mentor training
- instructional technologies and media
- LMS technical support
- test administration and proctoring services
- course evaluations
- scanning services

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