

LMS implementation updates, February 2023

John Georgas <000005b19249b17e-dmarc-request@LISTS.NAU.EDU>

Sun 2/19/2023 4:12 PM

To: STAFF-L@LISTS.NAU.EDU <STAFF-L@LISTS.NAU.EDU>

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Dear colleagues,

With the spring 2023 term now well underway, we wanted to share more information on our work toward adopting Instructure's Canvas as our next Learning Management System. Importantly, this update includes more information on how faculty can immediately begin migrating content to Canvas and how setbacks in our work with K16 have changed our initial planning for this term's activities.

Delays with K16-assisted migration

Due to technical and personnel challenges, our work in deploying K16-assisted migrations has undergone delays that demand changes to our near-term prioritization of how to deploy this resource. Our revised plan centers on prioritizing courses with the most immediacy of need—courses in Personalized Learning, which is scheduled to launch in Canvas in April, and courses scheduled to be offered this summer term. Fall 2023 courses will be slated for K16-assisted migration in a subsequent round of work later during this spring term.

Revised planning for K16-assisted migration

In addition to using K16 for Personalized Learning, we will be first focusing this resource on preparing for the summer 2023 launch of instruction using Canvas: All summer courses with course shell needs will be supported through K16-assisted migration in the next few weeks. The K16 tool will create a course shell in Canvas using a specified source course shell from Bb Learn and automate many of the migration tasks that would otherwise need to be done manually.

We will be reaching out to academic units and faculty that have scheduled summer courses with requests for the information needed to stage this migration, or to let us know they would prefer to self-migrate. This request will be sent no later than Friday, February 24, and we expect the migration process to be complete soon after spring break. After migration is complete, faculty should review migrated course content and ensure it is ready for summer instruction.

Continued self-migration opportunities

Once summer migrations are complete, we will communicate further planning and timelines on how K16-assisted migration will support fall 2023 courses. In the meantime, for fall 2023 courses, we encourage faculty to consider self-migration of their Blackboard courses into Canvas. This is a process that can be used immediately: There are multiple Canvas-specific [Service Now Knowledge Base articles](#) to support faculty in this process, and key resources to consult include:

- In our [pre-migration guide](#), find information on how to best prepare Blackboard content for migration;
- [Exporting from Bb Learn](#) offers guidance on exporting and downloading course content from Blackboard;
- Migrating to Canvas first requires [requesting the creation of a development shell](#);
- With a development shell created, content can be [imported into Canvas](#) using the file created during the exporting process.

Throughout the self-migration process, our support team is standing by to assist at LMS-Faculty-Help@nau.edu.

Continued learning opportunities

As we've previously shared, we are offering robust [opportunities](#) for faculty to continue building their Canvas skill set, including the *Growing with Canvas* course: With the support of course facilitators, participants will gain more experience in how to integrate Canvas features into course designs while completing hands-on assignments—there are five available cohorts, and full-time faculty completing this training are eligible to receive a training stipend.

We hope that after our snowy beginning, the spring semester is off to a great start!

All the best,

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John Georgas
Senior Vice Provost, Academic Operations
Northern Arizona University
vpao@nau.edu