

Designing Your Course Environment

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GeorgiaState University | COLLEGE OF LAW

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Course Information

Our Food and Drug Law course will meet in room 244 in the College of Law, from 1:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. As our casebook, we will use *Food and Drug Law: Cases and Materials* (4th ed. 2014, ISBN: 9781609301750), by Peter Barton Hutt, Richard A. Merrill, and Lewis A. Grossman (*FDA Law*). Most of our assigned readings will be in *FDA Law*, but we will also read statutory provisions, regulations, other agency documents, and news and scholarly articles. Supplemental readings will be posted on on this website.

The syllabus, which provides your assignments as well as additional course information, is attached below. I look forward to seeing you in class soon.

Attachment(s):
Syllabus---Food and Drug Law Spring 2016.... (162.66 KB)

Show All News Items

Brightspace Instructions

Welcome Admin,

Only you as the instructor can see this message. The purpose of this widget is to provide you assistance in building your Brightspace course.

You are not required to use this as your course management site, but you are required to post your course's syllabus and first reading assignment here at a minimum.

To edit the news item below, click the downward triangle next to the "Course Information" title and click edit. While inside the editor, 1) include your class meeting times/dates, location, and where you will post course information (TWEN/LEXIS/here/etc.); 2) attach your course syllabus; and 3) include your first reading assignment. To add an attachment, scroll down the page while inside the editor, under the Attachment section click "Add a File" to insert your your syllabus or other attachments, you can add as many files as you'd like.

Instructor Resources

Site Tools
Respondus License Information
Respondus Installation
Skillsoft: Online Training
Lynda: Online Training
Brightspace Training Resources

Site Shortcuts
Content
Import / Export / Copy Components
Classlist
Discussions
Dropbox
Grades
News
Quizzes

1. Simplify your Page

Consider removing widgets from the homepage that you will not use. Also, remove links in the navigation to tools that you will not use. This helps:

- Draw attention to the technology you will use
- Reduce confusion amongst students about what technology you will *not* use

2. Customize Page Content & Layout

Your course homepage is comprised of widgets such as the *Content Browser*, *News*, & *Calendar* widgets.

- Consider creating custom widgets to highlight important content, interactive spaces, or ways to get help. In this example, we've created an *Office Hours sign up* widget.
- Arrange the widgets in terms of importance on the homepage moving from top left, down to the right.

3. Keep it Current

Need to update your course materials, encourage participation in a discussion, or show pride in your students through praise? Use the News tool. It's the unsung hero tool in Brightspace.

- Students receive an immediate email notification about new postings
- You can make it personal by quickly inserting video using Kaltura
- You can make sure that content changes are easy for students to find on the home page

These are not the only ways in which you can customize your Brightspace course, but they are the most important to consider in terms of learning. **For more information on how to edit your course page, please visit:**

<http://teaching.technology.gsu.edu/?p=742>

Or, make an appointment with an instructional designer at the CII by calling 404.413.4700.

Organizing Your Content

The screenshot displays the LMS interface for a course. The top navigation bar includes 'Course Home', 'Assessments', 'Communication', 'Resources', 'Learning Tools', and 'Edit Course'. The main content area is titled 'Table of Contents' and shows a hierarchical list of course modules. On the left, a sidebar menu shows the overall course structure with item counts. Three callouts highlight specific organizational techniques:

- 1**: A box around the 'Overview: Principles of Assessment' module, which contains two submodules: 'Your Principles' and 'Zaption'.
- 2**: A box around the 'Your Principles' and 'Zaption' submodules, illustrating how content is broken down into smaller units.
- 3**: A box around the 'Topics' module, which contains six submodules: 'Reading as Assessment', 'Lecture as Assessment', 'Quizzing in an Assessment Rich Course', 'Projects', 'Organizing an Online Course for Assessment', and 'Brainstorm/MindMeister'.

1. Organize for Studiers

Create *Modules* in a structure that matches a Google search. For students on the go, accessing content on mobile devices, they will find the content they are looking for more quickly if it is named according to the topic name, not an arbitrary name like Week 3, or Chapter 3. This also will help you move a course from semester to semester and when textbooks change. So, win-win. In this example, you can see that content is broken down according to *Topics*, with each topic as a *submodule*.

2. Include Assignments and Non-Content Materials

In order to simplify the online experience, it can be beneficial to include all of your course work in the content browser. After you create your *Quizzes*, *Discussions*, or *Dropboxes*, come to the *Content* tool to *Add Existing Activities* into the browser. This saves your students some clicks, and helps ensure that assignments are completed.

3. Don't Overwhelm

A full screen of content, with supplemental materials, and options of all types can be daunting to students. So, when you add all of your materials to your course, as suggested above, make sure to use some of the techniques in the example on the left: hide some content from the overall course structure by using submodules, or create *Release Conditions* that only allow content to be displayed once students have completed a certain task (like viewing content or completing a quiz). In this example, the *Topics* module is broken down into 6 *submodules*.

These are only a few of the most general ways that all courses could be benefitted through design. To learn more about how your course could be organized for you and your students, call the CII at 404.413.4700.