The Results Are In! Feedback from the Spring 2019 Survey

As you may recall, the WashU Canvas Project Team distributed a survey to all instructors who taught in Canvas during Spring 2019. The goal of the survey was to find out how the WashU adoption of Canvas is faring. Here’s what we learned.

We’re happy to report that, overall, WashU instructors are satisfied with their Canvas experience. Instructors who responded to the survey, 17% of all those who received it, when asked to rate their overall satisfaction with Canvas, reported an average approval rating of 3.99 out of a possible 5 points. Likewise, respondents reported favorable experiences with Canvas Support, rating the usefulness of support an average of 2.6 out of a possible 3 points.

![Overall Experience Chart](chart1.png)

![Canvas Support Chart](chart2.png)

Respondents also posed questions and provided detailed feedback on a variety of topics. We have identified the top five (listed below) and included links to articles and videos that address each.

**Gradebook**
- Video Overview | How-to Article | Instructor Guide | Canvas Insider Newsletter (4/24/19)

**Conversations (Inbox)**
- Video Overview | How-to Article | Instructor Guide | Canvas Insider Newsletter (2/27/19)

**Content Organization**
- Modules: Video Overview | How-to Article | Instructor Guide | Canvas Insider Newsletter (2/05/19)
- Pages: Video Overview | How-to Article | Instructor Guide

**Assignments**
- Video Overview | How-to Article | Instructor Guide | Canvas Insider Newsletter (3/13/19)
Thank you to everyone who responded to the spring survey! We will distribute another survey at the end of the Fall 2019 semester. We look forward to your participation and feedback.

**Effective Content Organization Leads to Student Success**

How to organize course content is one of the most common questions instructors have about Canvas, particularly those who are accustomed to Blackboard. To answer this question, we’ve added a Content Organization section to the Hello Canvas website that collates relevant resources.

Canvas is based on the concept of modules. Modules are containers that organize learning materials in your course, regardless of type (i.e., pages, files, assignments, external links, etc.). Modules offer a way for you to guide students through your course by controlling the order in which they interact with learning materials.

In Canvas, you choose how to subdivide or “chunk” your course content into modules and how to name the modules. Some common approaches include organizing chronologically by week or class date, topically by unit or subject, and categorically by type of learning material. Illustrations are provided on the Hello Canvas Content Organization page. Students will likely find it easier to navigate courses containing substantial materials when the courses are organized chronologically or topically.

Another organizational decision to consider is what you’d like to display on your course Home Page. What do you want students to see when they first open your course? By default, new course shells are set to display the Modules Index Page, the list of modules in your course, on the Home Page. However, you may choose to set the Home Page to one of several other choices, including a custom Front Page or the Syllabus.

The question of content organization is really a question of course design. Your course will be most effectively organized and designed when you invest time to consider how your students will navigate your course, specifically when and how they will use the learning materials. In the end, successful course design enables student academic success.
Refining the Structure of Modules

Modules allow you to organize the flow of a course and control how students interact with learning materials. But, how do you organize materials within a module? You can add Text Headers to serve as sub-sections of a module or to describe one or more module items. You can also indent module items to reflect the hierarchy of module items. Remember, you can edit an item to change its displayed name to one that better communicates its purpose.

Students Get Support Tool

No instructor wants to field Canvas questions from students at 1:00 am. But, how can students get the help they need in a timely way? Direct your students to Canvas 24/7 Support.

Canvas offers technical support 24 hours per day, 7 days per week to all instructors, staff, and students. Like instructors, students may phone Canvas 24/7 Support directly or send questions using an instant-message chat session. To access help, click the Help button on the Global Navigation Menu in Canvas.

We encourage you to inform students about Support at the start of each course and at regular intervals throughout the semester.

Keep up to date at HelloCanvas.wustl.edu
Contact us at HelloCanvas@wustl.edu
All issues will be archived on mycanvas.wustl.edu.