

Educational Technology Corner | August 2020

Get the latest updates on educational technology, including Brightspace, TopHat and more.

Tech Tips

Did you know that you can install Microsoft Apps on multiple devices? Start by logging into Office 365 via the InfoScope Icon, or, alternatively, [this link](#). In the upper right corner, you will see an install link. Per MCW agreement, you can install Office apps on up to 5 computers, and 5 mobile devices.

Did you know that you can create a webcast with PowerPoint? PowerPoint files can be saved as .mp4 files, which will then play in a Video player. Here are instructions on how to [set up your recording](#) and [save to the correct file format](#).

Brightspace

[Brightspace Continuous Updates June 2020](#)

Brightspace August Release Notes

Checklists – Copy a checklist | New

Instructors can now perform copy actions for checklists. You can copy a whole checklist, a checklist category (including all items within it), or individual items in a checklist.

Classlist – User experience changes | New

When adding participants to a classlist using the Enrolling Existing Users interface, search results now include users who are currently enrolled in the course.

Email - Interface improvements and enhanced filtering option | New

Email now features the following enhancements for improved usability:

The Compose Email screen now includes a second Send button for enhanced usability. The Email Inbox is redesigned to display the Search Options area to the left of the screen. As well, the Advanced Search Options feature of the Inbox now enables filtering by Read and Unread messages.

Notifications - Deleted content links to message | New

Notifications for content that is subsequently hidden/deleted/conditionally released are now removed from the Brightspace notifications area on the minibar. Notifications that arrive via email or text notifications, or in Brightspace Pulse push notifications, now provide a link to the Course Table of Contents with a message that states 'Item not available'. Previously, clicking the link created a 404 Not Authorized error.

Question Library – Attach files in written response questions | New

When creating a written response question, instructors can now allow learners to upload files in their answers and include embedded images. Learners can also record audio or video

responses when answering written response question types. Written response questions are available in surveys. When grading a quiz, similar to the behavior in the Discussions tool, instructors can download and open these attachments in another tab. When learners are reviewing their quiz submissions, if they are allowed to view their quiz responses, they can view their uploaded attachments. The maximum file size for a single file or embedded image attached to a quiz response is set to 102400 KB (100MB). The maximum file size for all files attached or embedded in a single quiz question response is set to 102400 KB (100MB).

VoiceThread

VoiceThread is a Multimedia platform to encourage interaction. This platform is integrated with Brightspace.

To use this tool, the Instructor starts by posting a concept or idea. Students reply via phone, video, or text. Everyone can post images or files as supporting documentation, and everyone can reply to posts within the VoiceThread, creating a lasting digital conversation.

For more information on how to link this tool to your course, please contact lmshelp@mcw.edu.

Panopto Discussions

Remember to navigate to your course Panopto folder after your lecture. Students have quickly adopted the use of this tool. You may have some interesting questions.

Top Hat

Top Hat Pages is being successfully uses as an alternative to classroom polling. Top Hat pages is a digital worksheet in the Top Hat system. You can easily [create a Page](#), import your already existing questions, assign a score, and assign access to students. Pages is easy to access, gives visual answer data. You can offer feedback via Top Hat or via Brightspace.

Aquifer

[Onboarding resources](#) have been added, to help faculty make the most of the Aquifer system. An [overview of how to track student work](#) has also been added.