

## Educational Technology Corner

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

### Tech Tips

Set up your [Brightspace Community](#) account. This is a great resource for troubleshooting and design tips.

You can schedule Zoom sessions for you students directly through the Brightspace interface? Zoom is integrated with Brightspace, so the meeting link will post directly to the Brightspace course calendar when schedules via Brightspace. Questions? Please reach out to [OEI](#) if you are interested in learning more about this platform.

### Virtual Reality

The Office of Educational Improvement has been busy working to set up Virtual Reality Hardware and VR use in medical education.

Our efforts are focused on the [Academicus Platform](#) for medical education. This platform allows an instructor to create a sense for communication or critical thinking practice. Instructors can also create recording to discuss procedures and processes. There is also a library of created VR scenes that can be used for training.

Please reach out to [OEI](#) if you are interested in learning more about this platform.

### Brightspace

- Video: [How to get your course shell ready](#)
- Video: [December 2021 Release notes](#)
- Video series: [Gradebook set up and management](#)
- Video: [Evaluate and Assess with Rubrics](#)

### Brightspace Learning Environment – Supported browsers | Updated

With this release, Brightspace Learning Environment's browser version check now displays warnings for browsers earlier than the following versions:

- Chrome 93 (released in August 2021)
- Safari 13 (released in September 2019)
- Firefox 91 (released in August 2021)
- Edge 93 (released in August 2021)

You can access Brightspace Learning Environment with older versions of our supported browsers; however, D2L does not test Brightspace Learning Environment against these older versions. This means you may encounter unexpected user interface behavior and appearance or broken and unsupported functionality. In most cases, D2L does not fix software defects experienced in unsupported browser versions. For an optimal experience that offers better performance, accessibility, and security, D2L

strongly recommends that all users access Brightspace Learning Environment with the latest version of a supported browser.

### [Brightspace Learning Environment – Improved viewing features in Audio-Video player | New](#)

To improve the functionality of the Audio-Video player in Brightspace Learning Environment, multi-bitrate streaming, and search functionality are now available.

Multi-bitrate streaming allows high-definition videos to be played at standard definition to reduce the bandwidth necessary for users to watch videos.

The new search functionality allows users to locate key words in video captions and quickly navigate to those sections.

### [Calendar – Improvements to Date and Time Selection Web Components | Updated](#)

Released in Brightspace Platform March 2021/20.21.3 Release Notes, this release updates the date and time picker in Brightspace Learning Environment to include the following usability changes:

The *Set to Today* button is renamed to Today. The Today button continues to set the date and the time based on the context. For example, choosing Today for an End Date sets the current date and sets the time to 11:59 PM.

Added a Now button that sets the current date and time. The Today and Now buttons only appear when a date and time are required. When only a date is required, only the Today button appears and functions the same as the Now button.

The Today, Now, and Clear buttons are center-aligned in the date and time picker.

### [Content - Link to Content Report in Lessons | New](#)

This release adds a link to the Content Reports page for courses using the new Content experience (Lessons). To access, open the settings menu by clicking the gear symbol next to +New Unit, and click View Reports.

## Tophat

Please reach out to [OEI](#) if you are interested in learning more about in class polling, review and homework setup, and other features of the Tophat system.