

Technology-Enabled Learning: LMS Implementation Update



Project Team

Steering Committee: Fiona Black (chair) and two Deans, University Librarian, Executive Director of CLT, CIO and Project Manager

- **Technical Implementation Work Group:**
Led by Library Information Technology Services
- **Pedagogy and Course Design Work Group:** Led by the Centre for Learning and Teaching
- **Consultation and Communication Work Group:** Led by Communications staff in Dalhousie Libraries

Advisory Groups

Feedback will be sought while providing regular updates to the following advisory groups:

- Senate
- Senate Learning and Teaching Committee
- E-Learning Advisory Group
- DSU Council
- Dalhousie e-Learning Group (DELG)
- Academic committees (Deans' Council, etc.)

Project Goals

1. To ensure that the most effective technologies are used to support teaching and maximize student learning and success
2. To foster quality teaching as part of our strategic priorities and to increase flexibility and access to learning opportunities for students
3. To ensure a smooth transition from BbLearn to Brightspace

Advance e-Learning at Dalhousie

- **Links to Strategic priority 1.1:** Analytics available through Brightspace can collect institutional data to inform early alert systems
- **Links to Strategic Priority 1.4:** Needs Analyses conducted during this project provide a platform for review of departmental e-Learning needs
- **Links to Strategic Priority 1.5:** New tools such as eportfolio can foster innovation

Why move to Brightspace?

- To advance e-Learning at Dalhousie
- Faculty survey results suggested a lot of dissatisfaction with our current LMS
- Student survey results suggested that students would like faculty to make greater use of the LMS
- BbLearn was planning a system overhaul
- Brightspace was the preferred choice of Dalhousie and the consortium

Advantages of Brightspace

- The platform is created by Canadian company D2L, which has a strong Canadian user community
- A course builder tool that helps you develop your course space
- Drag and drop functionality
- An ePortfolio tool that is integrated into the entire system for students, making it easier to add items as they learn. This tool is available to the whole community – students, faculty, staff, as well as to students after they graduate
- Advanced analytics features at both the course and institutional level

High Level Timeline

Phase 1:

Brightspace was configured and training of staff, including instructional designers and Faculty support staff began. Early adopters in self contained programs were identified. **(APRIL - JUNE 2015)**

Snapshot of Fall courses taken and migration process began. **(JUNE 2015)**

Training began for pilot participants **(MID SUMMER 2015)**

Small pilot of live courses. **(SEPTEMBER 2015)**

Phase 2:

Participants in self contained programs for Phase 2 were identified. **(JULY 2015)**

Snapshot of Winter courses for Phase 2 participants were taken and migration process began. **(OCTOBER 2015)**

Training begins for Phase 2 participants **(OCTOBER 2015)**

The system will open for others for development of course content **(OCTOBER 2015)**

Snapshot of Summer 2015 courses taken and migration process begins. **(NOVEMBER 2015)**

Phase 2 pilot of live courses begins. **(JANUARY 2016)**

Phase 3: Full implementation

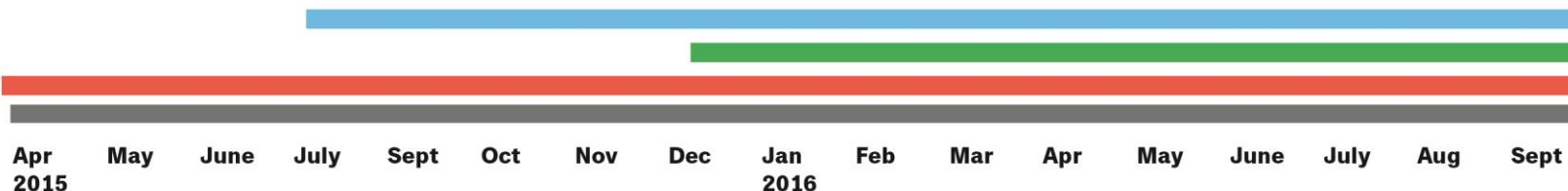
Training begins for summer courses **(DECEMBER 2015)**

Training begins for full implementation of Brightspace **(JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2016)**

Snapshot of remainder of Winter 2016 courses taken and final stage of migration begins **(MAY 2016)**

Online community spaces (non-academic) fully migrated **(MAY 2016)**

Brightspace fully implemented at Dalhousie **(MAY 2016)**



Plagiarism Detection Software

- Dalhousie's current offering (SafeAssign), is licensed through Blackboard. SafeAssign will no longer be available after April 2016
- A plagiarism detection software consultation workgroup has been formed to investigate options

Phase One Update

- Phase one early adopters include the Faculty of Agriculture, Centre for Advanced Management Education, School of Social Work and the Faculty of Architecture and Planning
- Course migrations happened over a three week period in the summer in conjunction with training
- Winter courses are already migrated

Phase Two Update

- Phase two early adopters include the School of Occupational Therapy, Postgraduate Medical Education, Faculty of Engineering (3rd year and above), all remaining Graduate Management programs (with the exception of the CRMBA program), CNLT 5000 and the School of Journalism at the University of King's College
- Course migrations are taking place this fall along with training