



Center for Teaching and Learning Newsletter

SPECIAL ISSUE

Welcome Back!

During the Summer, Information Technology, the Office of Online Learning and Services, and the University Libraries have been busy updating software and adding new technology tools for faculty and students. Here are some of the highlights:

Classroom Technology

During the previous academic year, Information Technology and the Provost's Office met with faculty to review the technology installed in St. John's classrooms. From these meetings, a new technology standard was drafted and implemented for this academic year. The new technology standard includes: bright high definition projection, widescreen projection screen, document camera, confidence monitor, touch enabled monitor, lecture capture enabled, web conferencing enabled, and wireless presentation. Fourteen classrooms will be fully installed by Spring 2016.

Blackboard Hosting and Updates

The university has relocated the Blackboard Learning Management System service from our campus to servers managed by Blackboard, Inc. The relocation was necessary to support the growing demand for this service and will insure stable access in the future. At the same time, updates were made, as well as preparations for new Blackboard functionality in the Spring.

[Making Bb Course Available to Students](#)

[FAQ](#)

Digital Measures Activity Insight

This is a customizable online system that allows faculty to create CVs and other reports on their teaching, research, and service. You can enter accomplishments in one location that can be then used for multiple purposes, including the AFAR report for full-time faculty, who will receive accounts in late September. Adjunct faculty accounts will be part of the second phase of the roll-out.

WebEx

The university has invested in [WebEx](#) software for all faculty to allow them to host virtual meetings and events, to collaborate online with students and colleagues, and to communicate with individuals around the world. WebEx is now available for full-time faculty; adjunct faculty will receive accounts later in the semester. Students will also be receiving accounts with more limited functionality.

lynda.com

The Office of Human Resources is offering an online library of training programs to full-time faculty. The one-year trial period with [lynda.com](#) includes unlimited access for faculty to over 3,300 video courses, some with corresponding interactive exercises. Popular training modules include Blackboard, WordPress, WebEx, MS Word, MS PowerPoint, and MS Excel. The content is up-to-date, there are beginner to advanced courses, and there is the option to watch complete courses or selected sections. If you haven't yet activated your account, contact the eStudio at estudio@stjohns.edu or ex. 6402. If you are an adjunct faculty member, eStudio can arrange for you to have a lynda.com account on a monthly basis.

Respondus

Given the importance of academic integrity at SJU, the Office of Online Learning and Services is pleased to announce two new tools to assist faculty in maintaining honesty and integrity in the online testing environment. Respondus LockDown Browser is a custom browser that locks down the testing environment within Blackboard. Respondus Monitor integrates webcam technology allowing faculty to confirm students' identities and monitor their activity during testing. A short [video](#) provides an introduction. Both tools are available for Windows, Mac, and iOS platforms.

CampusGuides Version 2

CampusGuides software is offered to all faculty through the University Libraries. The new version has an updated interface with more functionality. This easy-to-use tool can create course webpages, as well as websites to highlight your research or present information for your department or program. To obtain an account, just email campusguides@stjohns.edu.

Toolkit

Useful Links

[CTL Webpage](#)

[CTL Forum](#)

[CTL Events](#)

[IT Website](#)(More content to come)

[Tech Guide for Full-time Faculty](#)

[Tech Guide for Adjunct Faculty](#)

[Preparation to Teach Online](#)

[University Libraries](#)

NOTE: Copyright for Educators & Librarians is now available On-Demand

If you haven't taken a MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) before, Coursera's "[Copyright for Educators & Librarians](#)" class is a great one to start with! Excellent course, knowledgeable course instructors (Lisa Macklin, Anne Gilliland and Kevin Smith – all have both JD & MLS), and now available in an "on-demand" format.

Fall 2015		Spring 2016	
September 2 (W)	First Day of Classes	January 18 (M)	Martin Luther King, Jr., Day University Holiday
September 5 (S)	No Classes	January 20 (W)	First Day of Classes
September 7 (M)	Labor Day – No Classes	January 26 (T)	Last Day to Drop/Add Classes
September 9 (W)	Monday Classes Meet	February 9 (T)	Last Day to Drop a Class
September 9 (W)	Last Day to Add/Drop a Classes		(without a transcript notation)
September 22 (T)	Last Day to Drop a Class (without a transcript notation)	February 10 (W)	Monday Classes Meet
September 23 (W)	Withdrawal Period Begins	February 10 (W)	Withdrawal Period Begins
October 12 (M)	Columbus Day – No Classes	February 15 (M)	Presidents' Day – No Classes
October 20 (T)	Mid-Term Grades Due	February 22-27 (M-S)	Spring Break – No Classes
November 9 (M)	Last Day to Withdraw from a Class or Apply for a Pass/Fail Option	March 12 (S)	Mid-Term Grades Due
November 25-28 (W-S)	Thanksgiving Recess – No Classes	March 24-28 (R-M)	Easter Recess
December 8 (T)	Feast of the Immaculate Conception -No Classes	April 6 (W)	Last Day to Withdraw from a Class or Apply for a Pass/Fail Option
December 10 (R)	Study/Snow Day	May 2 (M)	Last Day of Classes
December 11 (F)	Study/Snow Day	May 3 (T)	Study/Snow Day
December 12 (S)	Saturday Classes Held	May 4 (W)	Study/Snow Day
December 14-19 (M-S)	Final Exam Week	May 5 (R)	Ascension Thursday – University Holiday
		May 6-12 (F-R)	Final Exam Week