Tech Snacks: Did you Know this about Canvas?

Now that faculty have spent a good chunk of time in Canvas this semester, it's worth sharing more in-depth features that could help save some time and energy in certain components of Canvas. Whether checking grade statistics, utilizing the calendar more, or adjusting notification preferences, there are several tools in Canvas to improve your experience with it.

Student Statistics in Canvas

One thing that is not quite the same as Brightspace, but still provides helpful information, is viewing student grade statistics, whether across all student work submissions, or individual assignments.

➔ To check student stats, you can click into a Canvas course, and select "New Analytics" on the course home page or side navigation menu.
➔ To check student stats in the gradebook, you can click on an individual student's name under Grades.

Announcements

Announcements in Canvas allow for more customization by faculty at the individual course level. In Canvas, instructors can:

➔ Display Announcements on a course homepage.
➔ Set permissions for students to comment on announcements in a course.

Under the course navigation, click on Settings. Here you can locate different settings and permissions that allow you to customize how students interact with announcements in your course.

Quizzes

The New Quiz tool has taken some getting used to, but there are some helpful things to be aware of to get familiar with it:

➔ Stimulus questions are a great way to display questions with embedded images.
➔ To adjust the display views upon quiz completion, you must check the "hide results from students" setting, which will prompt more options to show up.
➔ To add special access, you can make adjustments under the Moderate tab.

Notifications

You can adjust your notification settings at both the account level and the individual course level? Therefore, you can have different settings for each course (if you choose).

Calendar

The Canvas Calendar offers a variety of different features:
➔ You can add the Canvas calendar feed to your Outlook calendar. This can be helpful if you choose to allow students to schedule advising appointments through Canvas.
➔ Once Canvas Calendar appointments are created, students will need to click on "Find Appointments" to see the available options.
➔ You can move due dates by dragging assignments to a new date on the Calendar.

Custom Grading Schemes

The course settings will allow faculty to create their own grading schemes.
➔ This is useful for mastery learning or program specific grading schemes.

Importing Publisher Test Banks

Some publisher test banks will not import into Canvas if New Quizzes is turned on in the Settings under Feature Options. Turning this setting off temporarily has allowed the uploading of test banks. However, they will be imported under the Classic Quiz Question Banks.

Override Grade Book Settings

Penalties for late submission settings can be overridden in the gradebook by clicking on the students grade then clicking on the icon to the right and changing the status from Late to None which will allow manual entry of the grade.

Using "Fudge" Points for Quizzes & Extra Credit in Gradebook

What exactly are fudge points? If you want to give a student extra credit or remove points on a quiz, you have the option of manually adjusting their grade using "fudge" points (only in speedgrader). If you want an entire "extra credit" section in your gradebook that isn't assigned to a particular gradebook item, you can create an assignment that's set to zero points and use that to add extra credit points as needed.