Online Learning Tools

Below is a list of learning tools for providing lectures and assessing students online. If you have questions regarding any of the tools listed, or would like some help using one of them, please contact the Instructional Support Coordinators (sas-isc@uwaterloo.ca).

LEARN
- Main place for course content
- All the other tools listed below are integrated with LEARN
- Great way to communicate with students through “Announcements” and “Forums”
- Essentially a One-Stop Shop for your students to gather information regarding your course
- Provides the options to post/upload course material in a variety of formats, administer assignments and run quizzes/tests

Find list of possible learning tools in LEARN (integrated tools also included)
Mobius

- STEM focused platform
- Currently used in many online courses at the University
- Has the option of both providing lessons and assignments
- A lot of flexibility in how to provide the lessons (e.g. narrated slides, math app) and questions
- Contact Paul Kates for access
- UWaterloo Help Page
- Paul Kates’ Guide

Office 365

- Does not integrate with LEARN, but can upload the saved material on LEARN
- All students have access to Office 365
- List of full Office 365 suite applications
- Powerpoint
  - You can also record the presentation within the application
- OneNote
  - Automatically saves while you’re writing
  - Able to write, draw on the pages
  - Can record audio and video
  - Upload files, create multiple folders/pages all within one
  - Great application to use during live streams
- Microsoft Teams
  - Great for virtual office hours
Forums

- Great way for communicating with students and gathering student questions
- Can receive notifications/emails every time a post/question has been made
- Organize based on topic
- Platforms:
  - Piazza
    - Can mark questions as resolved or unresolved
    - CTE information
  - LEARN discussion board
  - Microsoft Teams (not integrated within LEARN)

Live Streams

- Can be used for creating virtual classrooms
- Live streams can be recorded and posted to LEARN
- Can show a video of yourself while also sharing screen (e.g. for showing PowerPoint slides of the material, writing notes)
- Keep Learning Strategies
- Tool Comparison from IT
- Platforms available: Adobe Connect, WebEx, Bongo
  - Adobe Help Page
    - requires Adobe Flash Player
  - Bongo Help Page
    - can have students create video assignments
    - Access on LEARN by choosing “Virtual Classroom” on “Connect”
  - WebEx Help Page (link on LEARN page)

Online Assessments

- There are various ways of assessing students, but adjustments need to be considered
- Since students have access to their notes and online resources, it is worth considering the following adjustments
  - Adjusting questions: creating more open-ended questions, rewording questions to use slightly different wording than in examples
  - Multiple versions: Creating a pool of questions, where each student gets a random selection of those questions
- LEARN
  - Easy access for students
  - Can create Multiple Choice, short or long answer questions (long answer questions may be difficult to type up)
  - Can randomize questions/choose from a pool of questions
  - Allows the option to provide access for a certain amount of time (i.e. 10 days)
  - Choose “Quiz” option in LEARN to set up test
  - Students can save and come back to quiz any time between start and end date
  - Can choose to have students submit solutions in the dropbox with test questions posted in LEARN (only require internet access when uploading to the dropbox)
  - Requires internet access while completing quiz
• **Crowdmark (Assigned Assessments)**
  - Can use for assignments or take-home exam
  - Students upload their answers that they either write on paper or type up on Word doc or Google doc
  - Can set a due date for the assessment (students can no longer upload after the due date)
  - Only requires internet access when getting the test questions and when uploading their solutions
  - [Assigned Assessment Workflow](#)
  - [Best Practices from Crowdmark](#)

**Online Learning Help Pages**

- [Strategies from Keep Learning](#)
- [Paul Kates’ List of Learning Tools](#)
- [Online Teaching Help from CSCF](#)
- [Digital Assets Group (video lectures)](#)
- [Information from Math Faculty](#)