# Welcome New Faculty! Brightspace Quick Start

New Faculty Orientation
August 20, 2024
Presented by
The Center for Teaching & Learning



### **Goals for the Session**

Provide an overview of Brightspace's navigation & features

Highlight some Brightspace features that are aligned with equitable teaching principles

Outline concrete next steps

Address general questions



### **AGENDA**

#### What Can You Do with Brightspace?

- Brightspace Feature Overview
- But Wait, There's More!
- Accessible Course Materials Ally

#### **Finding Your Way In Brightspace**

A Quick Tour: Course Home Page, Table of Contents, & Finding Course Tools

#### **Equity Principles & Brightspace Tools**

- Creating a Welcoming Environment Announcements, Quiz, Survey
- Reduce Extraneous Cognitive Load Syllabus Area
- Help Students Stay Organized Calendar, Due Dates, Completion Tracking

#### **Concrete Next Steps & Questions**

### FEATURE OVERVIEW

Tools for quizzes, tests, assignments, and discussions

Customizable gradebook

Ability to provide text (inline comments & rubric), audio, and video feedback

Tools to help students stay organized such as Calendar, Checklists and Completion Tracking

Integrated with UVM's Student Information System

Ability for you to experience your course as a student, using the Student View Account feature

Accessibility features to help identify and correct inaccessible course materials

## BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE!

iClicker (sync data from class session to Grades)

Yellowdig

Gradescope

Perusall

TurnItIn

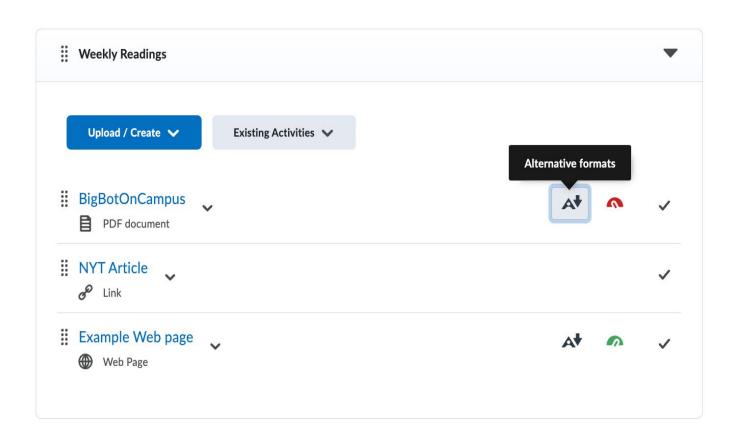
Respondus Lockdown Browser & Monitor

Publisher's Building Blocks

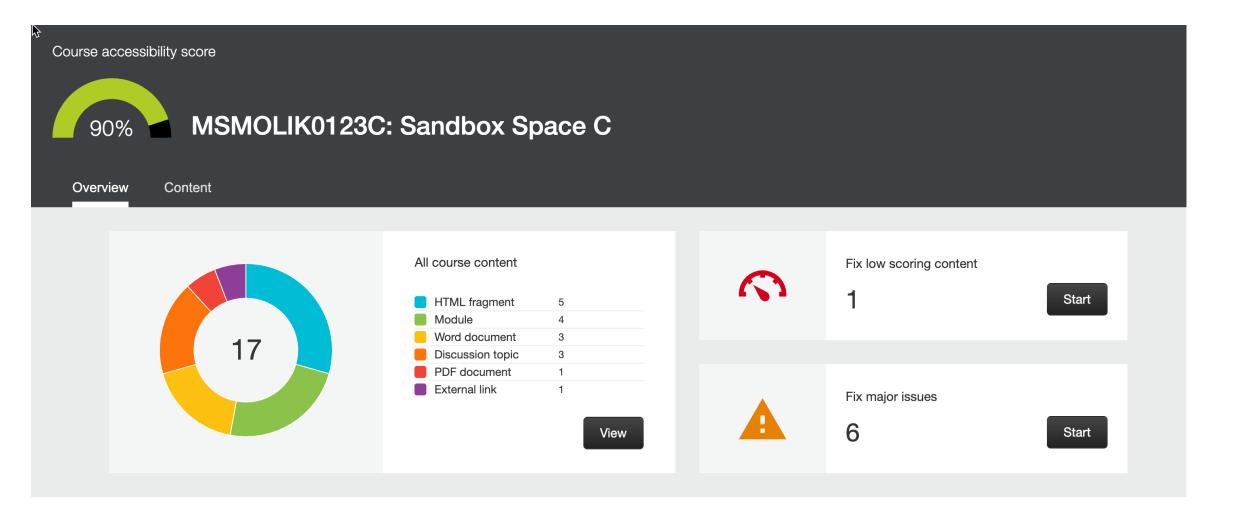
Ally

#### **EQUITABLE ACCESS TO COURSE MATERIALS - ALLY**

#### **Instructor Tools**

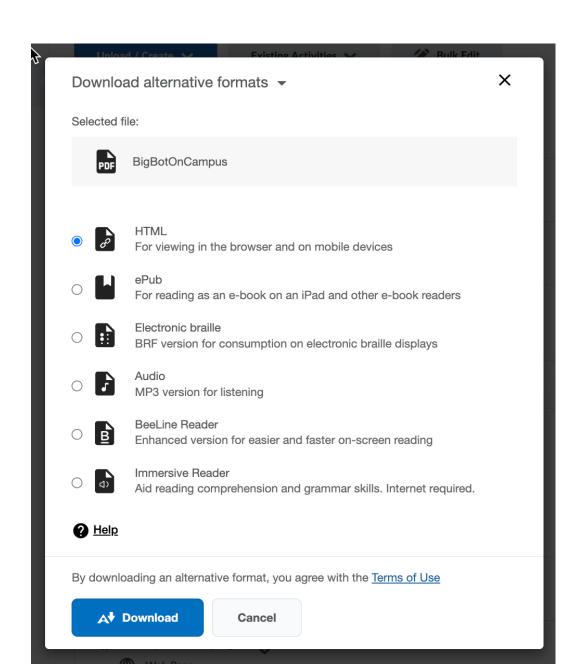


## ALLY – COURSE LEVEL REPORT

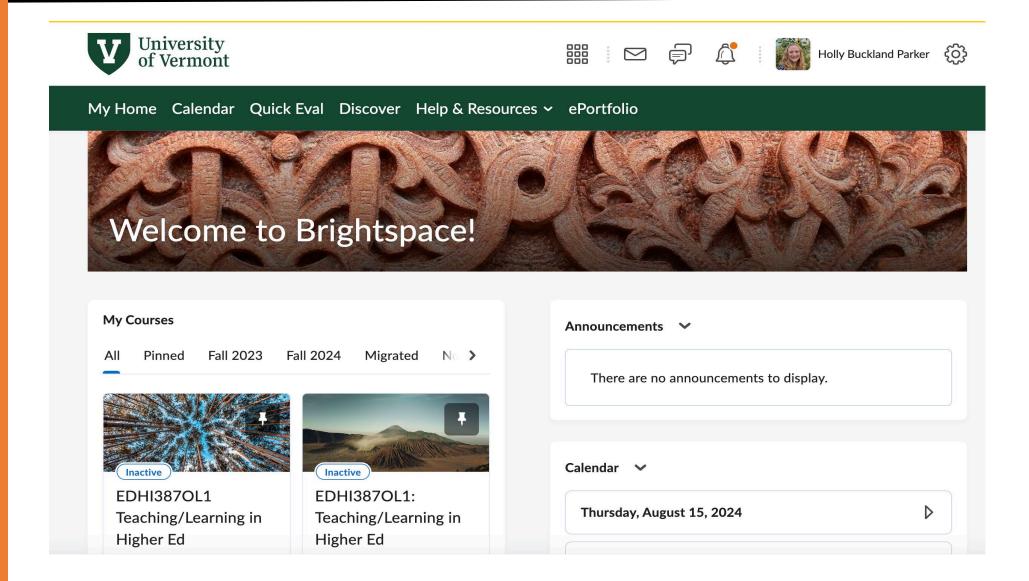


#### **ACCESSIBLE COURSE MATERIALS - ALLY**

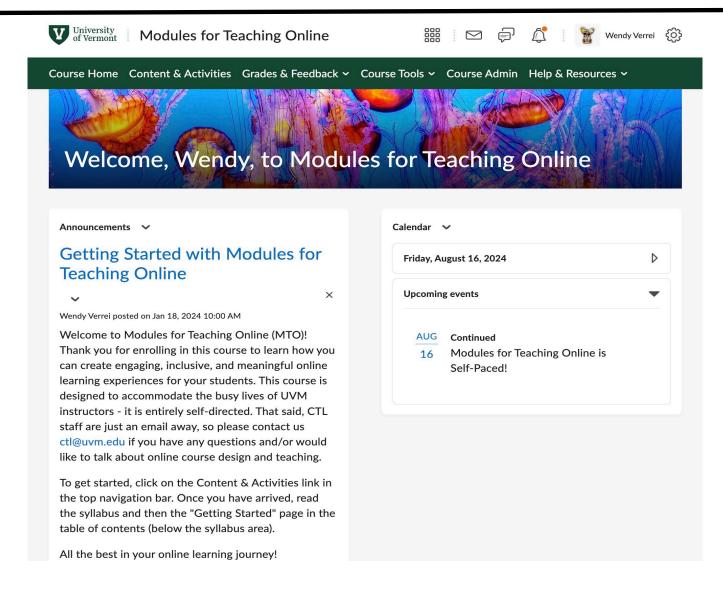
### **Student File Download Options**



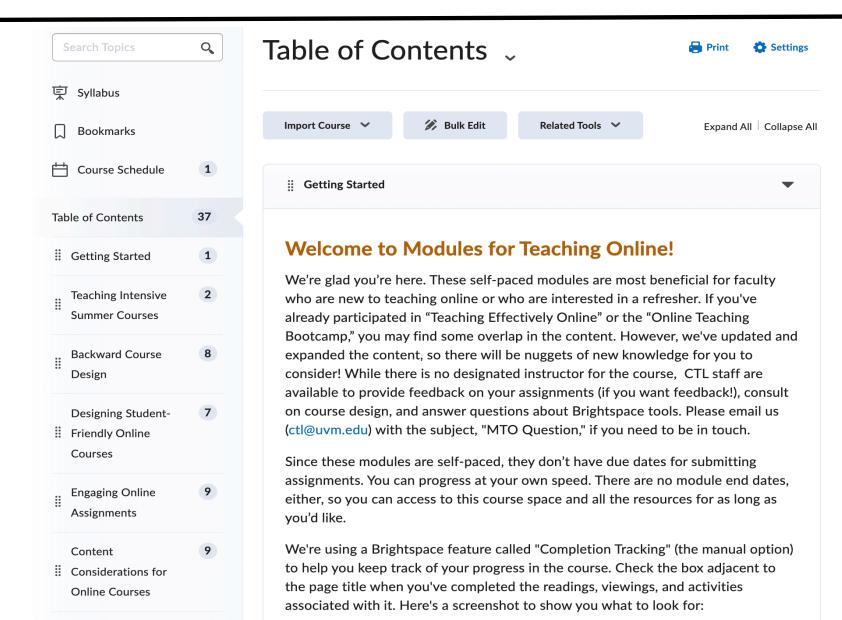
## QUICK TOUR – FINDING YOUR COURSE BRIGHTSPACE.UVM.EDU



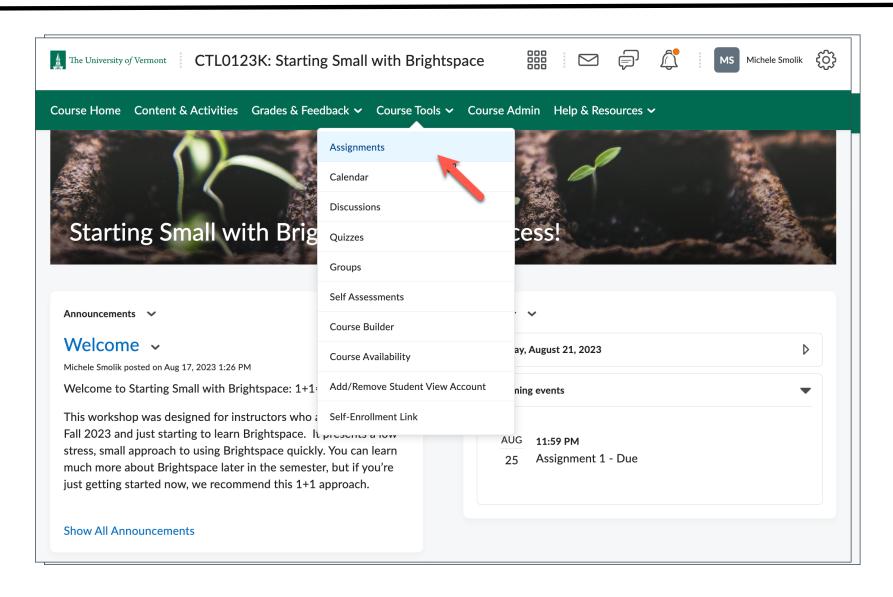
## QUICK TOUR- COURSE HOME PAGE



## QUICK TOUR - CONTENT & ACTIVITIES



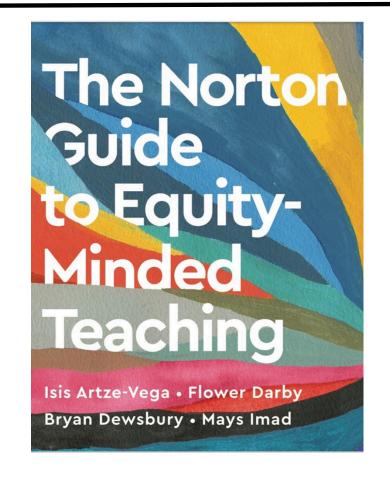
## QUICK TOUR- FINDING COURSE TOOLS



# EQUITY PRINCIPLE: CREATING A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

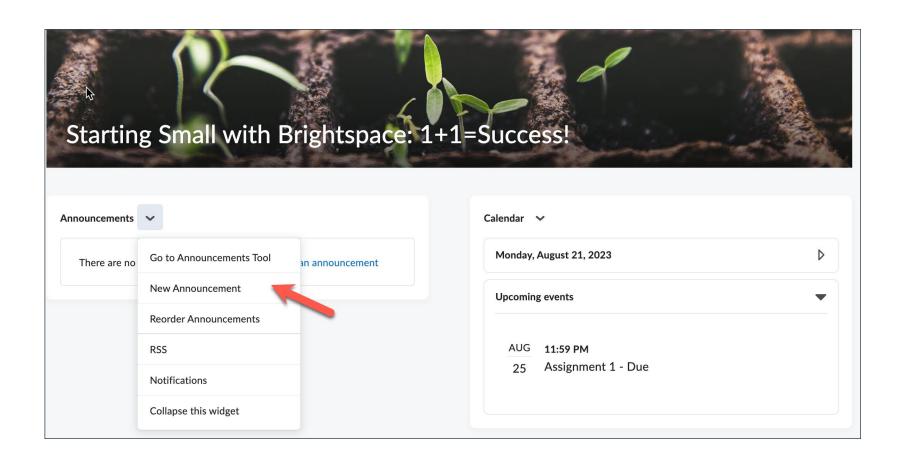
"In her text College Belonging: How First-Generation Students Navigate Campus Life Lisa Nunn .... reminds us that 'belonging is something that communities provide for individuals; it's not something that individuals can garner for themselves.' Thus, it is on us to leverage the power of our teaching and regular interactions with students to help them develop a sense of belonging in our classes and institutions."

Sending students regular Brightspace Announcements is one small way to help cultivate a welcoming environment and a sense of belonging.

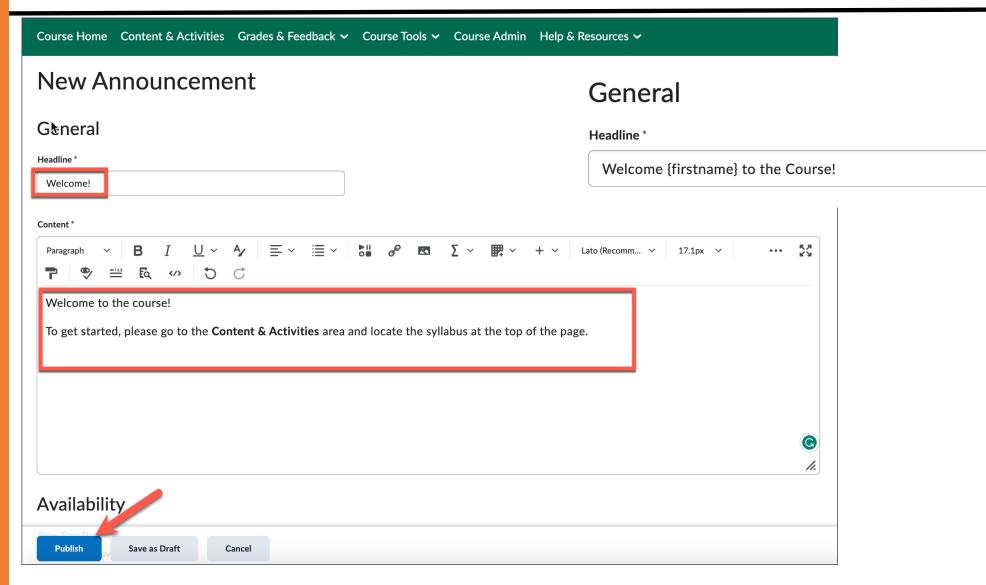


Artze-Vega, I., Darby, F., Dewsbury, B., Imad, M., 2023, The Norton Guide to Equity Minded Teaching, p.122.

## ADD AN ANNOUNCEMENT



## ADD AN ANNOUNCEMENT

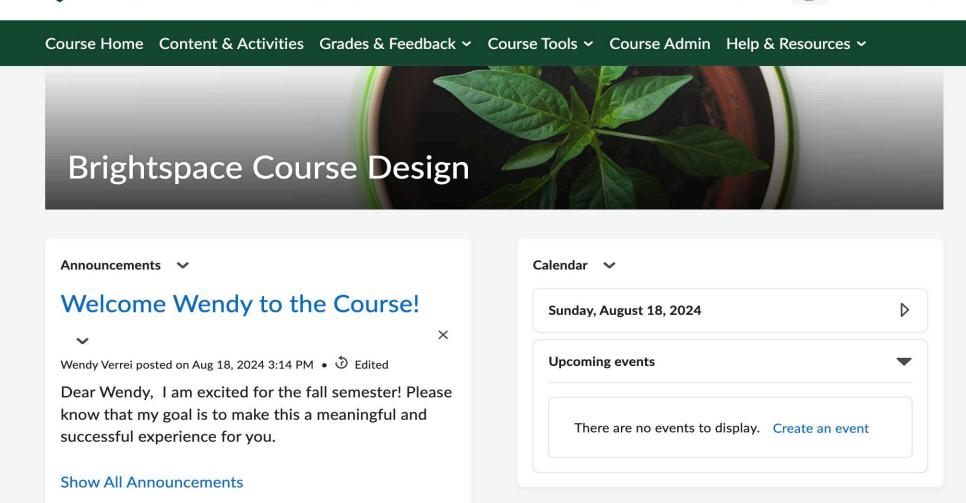


## PERSONALIZED ANNOUNCEMENT PUBLISHED TO HOME PAGE



CTL0123D: Brightspace Content





## Using Brightspace Quiz or Survey Tools to Get to Know Your Students

#### Survey

- Anonymous by default (you can see responses but cannot connect responses to students)
- Requires manual entry of points for completion/incompletion
- Two options for viewing student submission (aggregated student responses and individual attempts)

#### Quiz

- Connects student names to responses, so completion can be a graded assignment
- Grading can be automatic
- Easily connect to Grades

# EQUITY PRINCIPLE: REDUCE EXTRANEOUS COGNITIVE LOAD

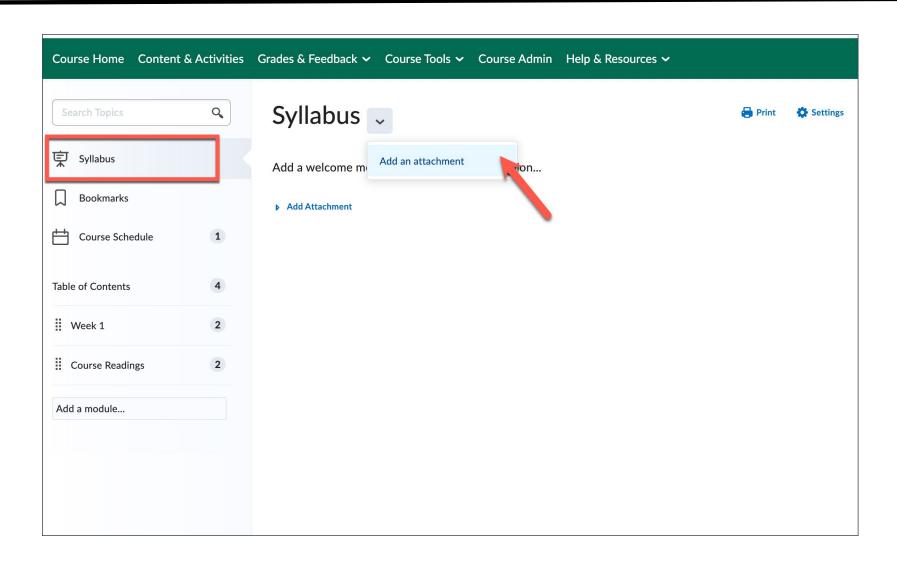
Cognitive load theory breaks the types of thinking needed for a college course into two types:

**Intrinsic** cognitive load – needed to engage in and understand the actual course content.

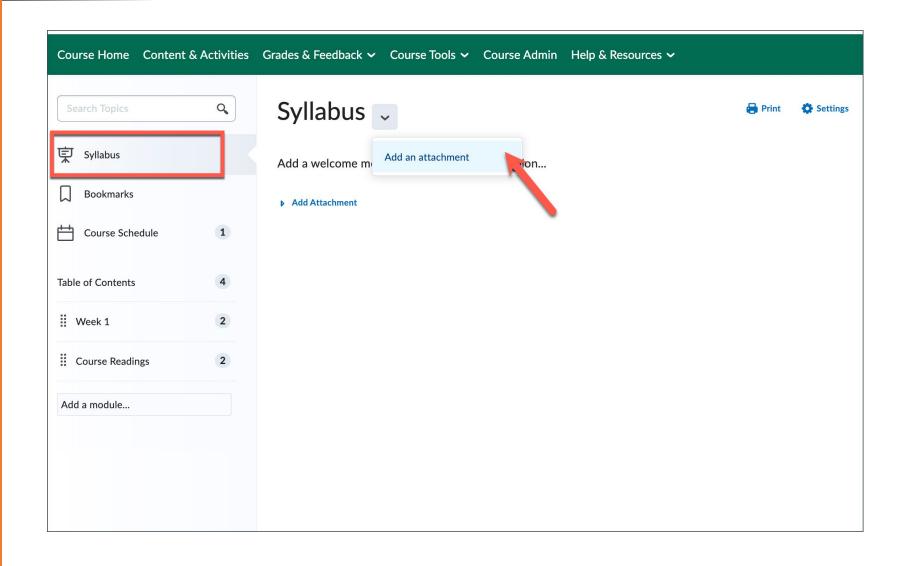
**Extraneous** cognitive load - needed to manage the learning process (i.e., finding important content and references, figuring out where assignments are)

Faculty can minimize "extraneous" cognitive load and help students focus on learning what is important. Brightspace can help!

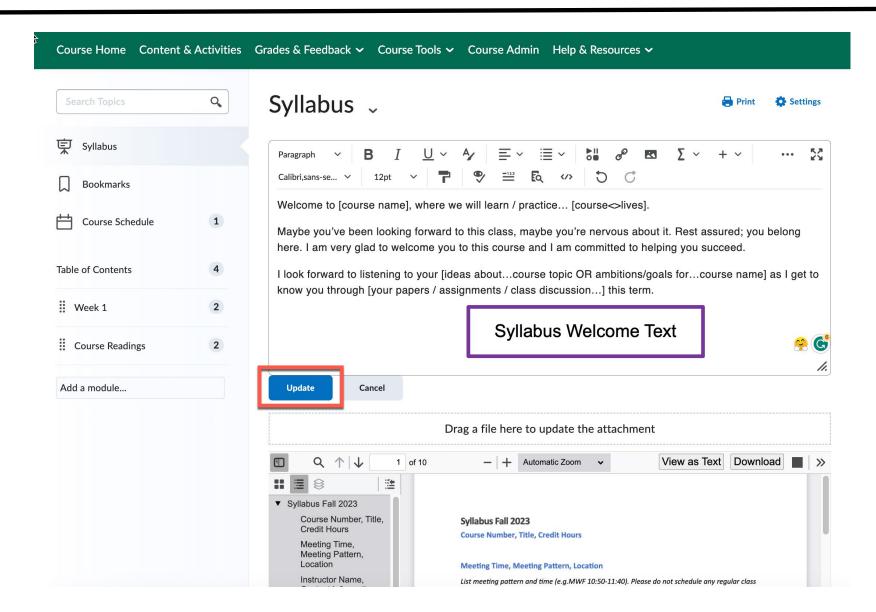
## MAKE THE SYLLABUS EASY TO FIND



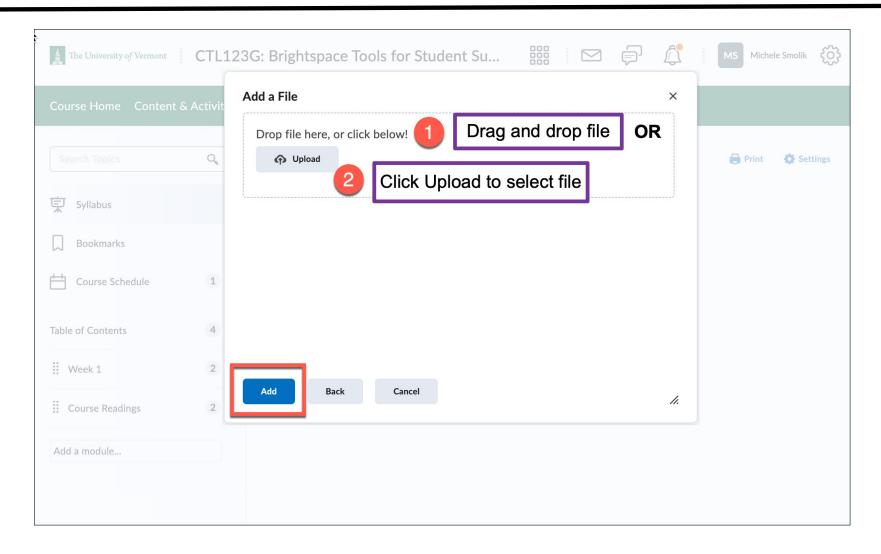
## ADD A SYLLABUS



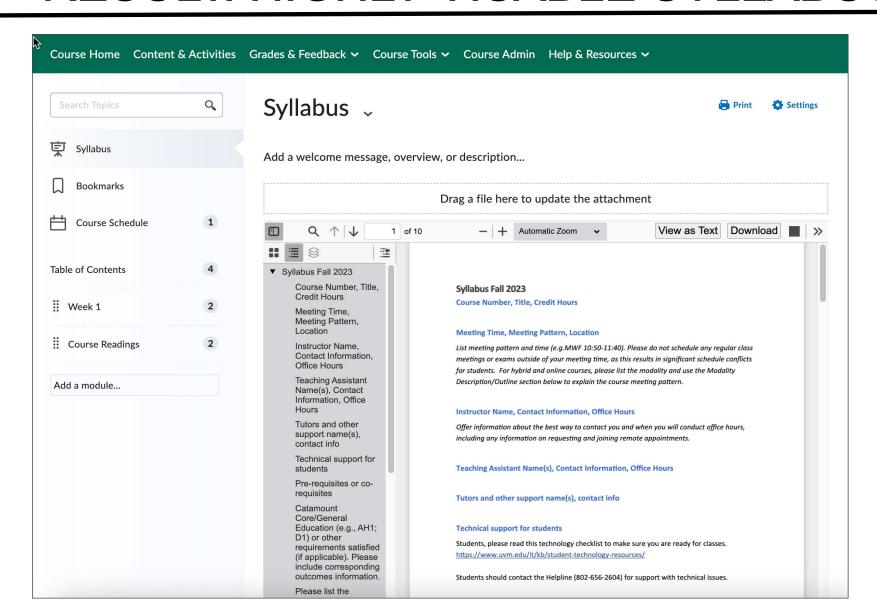
### **ADD A SYLLABUS**



## ADD A SYLLABUS



## RESULT: HIGHLY VISABLE SYLLABUS!



# EQUITY PRINCIPLE: HELP STUDENTS STAY ORGANIZED

Depending on their backgrounds and experiences, students enter college with differing levels of metacognitive skills (understanding how one learns).

Part of metacognitive development is helping students to monitor and plan for their learning, especially what is due when.

Brightspace tools can support this development!

#### Brightspace Features: Calendar, Due Dates, Completion Tracking

#### Calendar

- Highly visible (on Course Home Page)
- Consolidates due dates for your course (and their relationship to other courses' due dates)
- Tools for personal tasks

#### **Due Dates**

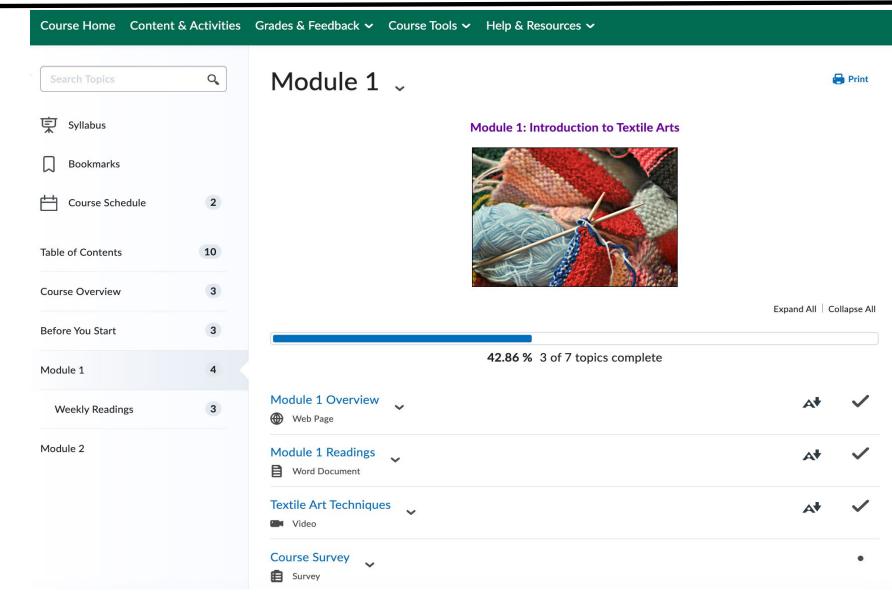
- Ubiquitous throughout Brightspace
- Automatically published to Calendar



#### **Completion Tracking**

- Intent is to help students monitor their own progress
- Instructor & Student views

## Student View: Completion Tracking

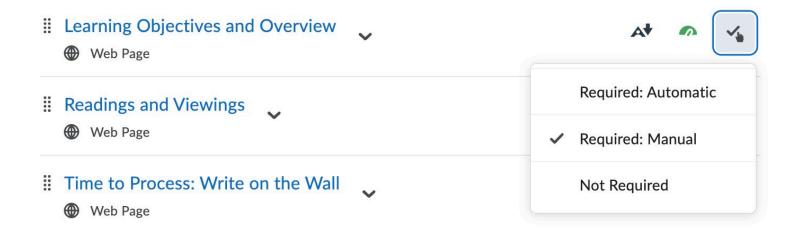


## Settings for Completion Tracking

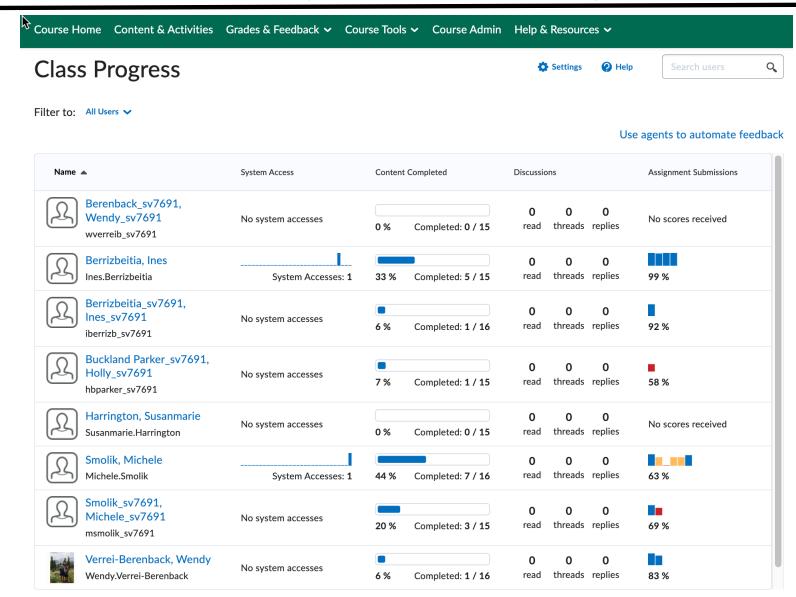
#### 1. Course Level



#### 2. "Item" Level



## Completion Tracking



## **5 CONCRETE NEXT STEPS**

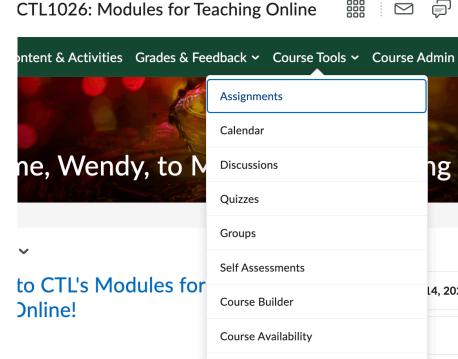
- 1. Upload your syllabus
- 2. Set up your Gradebook before adding graded assessments
- 3. Hide Content While Building Your Course Look for the eye





- 4. Make Your Course Available Under Course Tools
- 5. Contact CTL to learn more!

Attend a Brightspace workshop Schedule a consult



# MORE STEPS – ATTEND A WORKSHOP OR TWO (OR VIEW A RECORDED SESSION)

Aug 21 – Setting Up Grades

Aug 21 & 29; Sept 6 – Metacognitive Strategies to Improve Student Learning

Aug 22 – Course Design, Quick Start, Assignments

Aug 23 – Discussions

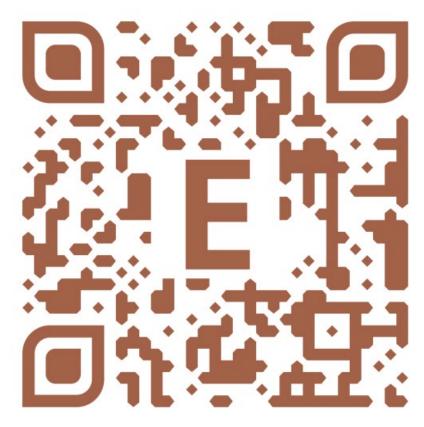
Aug 26 – Quick Start

Aug 27 - Setting Up Grades

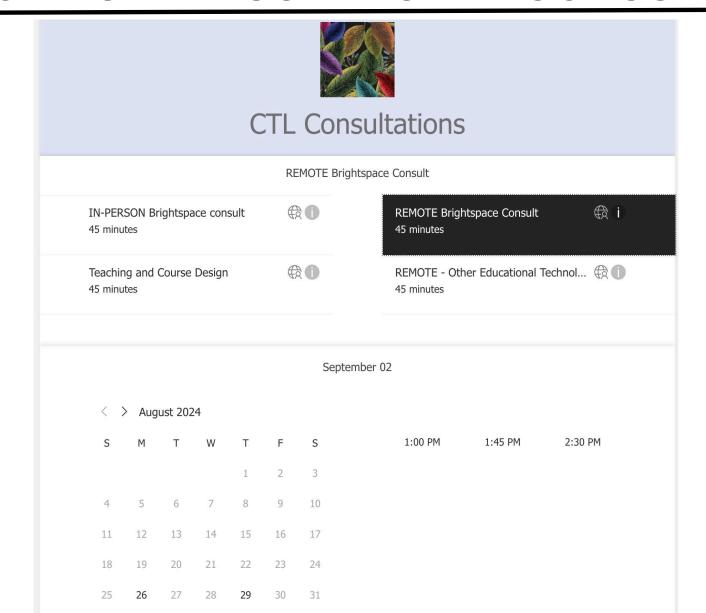
Aug 28 – Assignments

Aug 29 – Quizzes

Aug 30 – Course Design



### ONE MORE STEP - SCHEDULE A CONSULT



## QUESTIONS?



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