Desire2Learn 9.1

Overview

In early January 2011 the LRCCD will be upgrading to the newest version of the D2L System, 9.1, that will bring us many improvements to existing functions and some new tools as well.

Improvements:

- Accessibility
- Course Builder
- Navigation
- Classlist
- Discussion
- View Progress
- Manage Files Interface
- Time Zones
- HTML Editor

Changes in Detail

Accessibility

- D2L No longer uses frames for navigation and layout. Frames, which are multiple webpages sewn together into one browser window, make bookmarking difficult and also can complicate the use of accessibility software.
- Pages provide more information to assistive technologies when reading D2L sites, such as tabs, context menus, page landmarks, error and confirmation messages.
- The National Federation of the Blind, one of the world's leading advocates for Internet access by blind Americans, has awarded the Gold Level NFB-NVA Certification to Desire2Learn for Desire2Learn® Learning Suite 9.1.

Course Builder

Course builder lets you create and manage a course structure, upload files, create and edit content and its connection to other tools such as the gradebook, dropbox, and quizzes, all in one place.

Navigation

The navigation bar is now easier to read:

- larger fonts
- option of text only, image only, or both
- when windows are re-sized, the navbar will wrap

Classlist

From the classlist you can now:

- See user profile pictures (if uploaded).
- Link to user profiles.
- See the last date on which a user accessed your course, not just the entire D2L system.

Discussion

- User profile pictures will display next to each message.
- When grading by clicking the grade icon within a discussion, a textbox displays allowing you to enter feedback as well as a score

View Progress

- User Progress will include date of last course access (again, not just the entire system).
- Classlist Withdrawals Report will include direct access to User Progress.
- View Progress is now available from the gradebook and when selected, you will see all the feedback/comments you have left for the student.

Manage Files Interface

The Manage Files interface has been made much more readable and intuitive, as well as now allowing several new and improved actions from that view:

- Easier to copy and paste files
- Files and folder names can be edited in place
- HTML and TXT files can be edited directly with a WYSIWYG editor
- Unicode filenames are supported
- Files can be previewed directly

Time Zones

In User Preferences, users can now choose their local time zone rather that being bound to Central time.

HTML Editor

- The same editor is used across browsers and regardless of Mac and Windows operating systems.
- Both LaTeX and MathML are options in the equation editor.
- Adding URLs is easier.
- Embedding media is much easier.