

LMS Evaluation

[IDT 5030 Emerging Trends in Instructional Technology and Simulations, Goldsmith Learning]



LMS Needs Analysis



Goldsmith Learning.

Overall Objective

This LMS evaluation is for a course that presents various strategies and techniques for teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL). This TESOL course is designed to provide current methodologies for teaching English Learners (ELs) of different ages in many learning contexts. While exploring best practices for teaching listening, speaking, reading, and writing, including grammar and vocabulary, learners will comprehend how to create effective and communicative language classrooms for all learners. In addition, learners will examine what best practices mean in teaching English in the 21st century as an international language and incorporating modern technologies.

User Personas

Who are the primary and secondary users of the Learning Management System (LMS)?

PERSONA #1: TESOL Student



Description

- Age: 21 years of age or above
- Gender: [M/F]
- Job role: TESOL student
- Technical skills: Varied
- Learner preferences: None
- Attitude towards training: Receptive to asynchronous online learning setting

PERSONA #2: Project Manager, Subject Matter Expert (SME), Course Developer



Description

- Age: 21 years of age or above
- Gender: [M/F]
- Job role: Project Manager, Subject Matter Expert (SME), Course Developer
- Technical skills: Varied
- Learner preferences: None
- Attitude towards training: Receptive to asynchronous online learning setting

LMS Requirements

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Core Requirements

What are the functional and technical requirements of the Learning Management System (LMS)?

REQUIREMENTS

Functional Requirements

1.1	Deliver online training	Deliver online courses and learning experiences asynchronously
1.2	Track learning	Track course completion and learner experiences
1.3	Content management	Manage, store, and track courses and learning content
1.4	Reporting	View user friendly reports on basic learner activity
1.5	Registration	Robust learner registration
1.6	Custom learning paths	Auto-enroll students into pre-defined curriculum based
1.7	Online assessments and surveys	Build, deliver, and track online quizzes, and learner surveys
1.8	In-person classroom	Manage and track in-person classroom experiences
1.9	Scalable and affordable costs	Scale financially as learner registrations increase
1.10	Pre-training	Deliver, manage, and track pre-training activities
1.11	Post training	Deliver, manage, and track post-training activities
1.12	Content resources	Load personal training resources (documents, videos, etc.)
1.13	Reminder emails	Send "reminder emails" to students and supervisors

Technical Requirements

1.14	Course API	Import and track other content sources through APIs
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1.15	SCORM support	Support SCORM learning content
1.16	Other system integrations	Connect to other HR systems through APIs to manage personnel
1.17	Overall storage	Unlimited bandwidth to store learning assets and content
1.18	Cloud	Cloud based application
1.19	Simple user interface (UI)	Easy to use, and intuitive user interface
1.20	Mobile friendly	Easy to use native app mobile experience

NAME: Canvas Learning Management System

Canvas offers various features to institutions, such as mobile learning, a global community, open-source code, and integrations. Several reviews noted the simplicity of Canvas both as an administrator and user. The pricing of Canvas is difficult to discover and is based on tiers, the number of users, and some additional paid features. The Canvas user interface benefits from custom templates to give it a more robust look and feel, which may require graphic designers to produce. Canvas has over two hundred LTI tools course developers can use to customize courses and monitor engagement with classes or individual students. The Forbes Advisor ranked Canvas 4.2 out of 5 stars. Moreover, Canvas earned a 4.54 out of 5-star rating on the Software Advice website with 3,617 user reviews.

OVERALL PRODUCT RATING	
Product Category	Product Score (A, B, C, D, F letter grade rating)
Features	A
Support	A
Costs	B

REQUIREMENTS RATINGS		
Functional Requirements		
Requirement Name	Ranking (1-poor, 2-average, 3-excellent)	
1.1	Deliver online training	3
1.2	Track learning	3
1.3	Content management	3

1.4	Reporting	3
1.5	Registration	3
1.6	Custom learning paths	{Enter Ranking}
1.7	Online assessments and surveys	3
1.8	In-person classroom	{Enter Ranking}
1.9	Scalable and affordable costs	{Enter Ranking}
1.10	Pre-training	{Enter Ranking}
1.11	Post training	{Enter Ranking}
1.12	Content resources	{Enter Ranking}
1.13	Reminder emails	3
Technical Requirements		
1.14	Course API	{Enter Ranking}
1.15	SCORM support	3
1.16	HR System import	{Enter Ranking}
1.17	Overall storage	3
1.18	Cloud	3
1.19	Simple user interface	2 (User interface benefits from custom templates to give it a more robust look and feel.)
1.20	Mobile friendly	3

Pricing

What are the costs and pricing structure of the Learning Management Systems (LMS)?

The pricing of Canvas is difficult to discover and is based on tiers, the number of users, and some additional paid features.

TOTAL SCORE = x/20

NAME: Moodle Learning Management System

Canvas offers various features to institutions, such as mobile learning, a global community, open-source code, and integrations. Several reviews noted the simplicity of Canvas both as an administrator and user. The pricing of Canvas

is difficult to discover and is based on tiers, the number of users, and some additional paid features. The Canvas user interface benefits from custom templates to give it a more robust look and feel, which may require graphic designers to produce. Canvas has over two hundred LTI tools course developers can use to customize courses and monitor engagement with classes or individual students. The Forbes Advisor ranked Canvas 4.2 out of 5 stars. Moreover, Canvas earned a 4.54 out of 5-star rating on the Software Advice website with 3,617 user reviews.

OVERALL PRODUCT RATING	
Product Category	Product Score (A, B, C, D, F letter grade rating)
Features	A
Support	B
Costs	A

REQUIREMENTS RATINGS	
Functional Requirements	
Requirement Name	Ranking (1-poor, 2-average, 3-excellent)
1.21 Deliver online training	3
1.22 Track learning	3
1.23 Content management	2 (With its plug-in-based design, the open-source aspect of Moodle can appeal to tech-savvy course developers but prove overwhelming to newcomers.)
1.24 Reporting	3
1.25 Registration	3
1.26 Custom learning paths	{Enter Ranking}
1.27 Online assessments and surveys	3
1.28 In-person classroom	{Enter Ranking}
1.29 Scalable and affordable costs	{Enter Ranking}
1.30 Pre-training	{Enter Ranking}
1.31 Post training	{Enter Ranking}
1.32 Content resources	{Enter Ranking}
1.33 Reminder emails	3
Technical Requirements	

1.34	Course API	[Enter Ranking]
1.35	SCORM support	3
1.36	HR System import	[Enter Ranking]
1.37	Overall storage	3
1.38	Cloud	3
1.39	Simple user interface	3
1.40	Mobile friendly	3

Pricing

What are the costs and pricing structure of the Learning Management Systems (LMS)?

Free

TOTAL SCORE = $x/20$

NAME: Bright Space Learning Management System

Brightspace offers numerous features that are touted to increase user accessibility and stimulate engagement. It includes portfolios, assessments, virtual classrooms, contextual feedback, badges, and delivering personalized feedback via video. The Forbes Advisor ranked D2L Brightspace 4.4 out of 5 stars stating that it appeals to K-12 and higher education markets. The pricing of Brightspace is a challenge to discover, and "Its UI is not as nice as some of its competition" (Hennigan, 2023). On the g2.com website, D2L Brightspace earned a 4.3 out of 5-star rating with 479 user reviews. Several reviews presented elements of D2L Brightspace as being a robust yet simple-to-use LMS. For instance, the Shlomi Lavi review stated, "Brightspace advanced analytics provide valuable insights into learners' progress, engagement, and performance, allowing instructors and administrators to personalize learning experiences and measure the effectiveness of their courses" (Lavi, 2023). Lastly, Brightspace fosters accessibility and inclusion by offering content, tools, and features for learners with disabilities.

OVERALL PRODUCT RATING

Product Category	Product Score (A, B, C, D, F letter grade rating)
Features	A
Support	A
Costs	B

REQUIREMENTS RATINGS

Functional Requirements

Requirement Name	Ranking (1-poor, 2-average, 3-excellent)
1.41 Deliver online training	3
1.42 Track learning	3
1.43 Content management	3
1.44 Reporting	3
1.45 Registration	3
1.46 Custom learning paths	{Enter Ranking}
1.47 Online assessments and surveys	3
1.48 In-person classroom	{Enter Ranking}
1.49 Scalable and affordable costs	{Enter Ranking}
1.50 Pre-training	{Enter Ranking}
1.51 Post training	{Enter Ranking}
1.52 Content resources	{Enter Ranking}
1.53 Reminder emails	3

Technical Requirements

1.54 Course API	{Enter Ranking}
1.55 SCORM support	3
1.56 HR System import	{Enter Ranking}
1.57 Overall storage	3
1.58 Cloud	3
1.59 Simple user interface	2 Its UI is not as nice as some of its competition."
1.60 Mobile friendly	3

Pricing

What are the costs and pricing structure of the Learning Management Systems (LMS)?

The pricing of Brightspace is a challenge to discover.

TOTAL SCORE = $x/20$

Recommendation

What are your final results based on the product reviews and scorings?



#1: Canvas

TOTAL SCORE =

97%

#2: Moodle

TOTAL SCORE =

97%

#3: Bright Space

TOTAL SCORE =

97%

Rollout Plan

What is your LMS rollout plan?

LMS Rollout Plan

Task	Estimated Delivery Date
Identify needs and requirements	05/01/2023
Evaluate vendors	05/15/2023
Test and pilot candidates	06/01/2023

Select LMS	06/15/2023
Content development and migration	09/01/2023
Implement LMS	10/01/2023
Functional Test	10/15/2023
Launch LMS	11/01/2023
Deliver Communications and Training	12/01/2023

Communication & Change Management Plan

Communication Plan: TESOL Canvas LMS Interactive Online Course

Summary: Development of a TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) website using Canvas LMS. This communications plan was developed using the website "*Project communication plan examples, template, & how to*" by Natalie Semczuk at the Digital Project Manager.com website.

Communication Goals:

- Keep stakeholders informed of the project timeline, budget, and project needs.
- Provide clear insight into any decisions needed or roadblocks.
- Provide structured opportunities for feedback from stakeholders.
- Give stakeholders the needed information to gain acceptance of the project.

(The Digital Project Manager and Semczuk 2022)

Type of project (size and scope):

The main task of this project is to develop a TESOL interactive online course. The project has no budget, so the instructional designer will develop the entire five-module course using open educational resources and the Canvas LMS from the hosting institution. This project will be developed over seven weeks and include a lead course developer, subject matter expert, project manager, and instructional design and technology program director (Fulgencio 2017).

Project stakeholders:

Rick Goldsmith
Lead Course Developer and Instructional Designer
Daily
Weekly check-in meetings, daily emails as needed.

Dr. Tom Hancock
Subject Matter Expert
Daily
Weekly check-in meetings, daily emails as needed.

Dr. LaMetrius Daniels
Project Manager
Major Milestones
High-level timeline/budget/progress update via email
Prefers to see final approved files only.

Frequency and type of communication to be shared:

Daily, weekly, and major milestones

Daily check-ins:

A daily check-in with the subject matter expert to discuss TESOL course digital artifacts, curriculum, and instruction elements using the Canvas BigBlue Button tool for virtual meetings.

Share:

- Timeline specifics.
- Collaborate on digital artifacts.
- Collaborate on digital curriculum.
- Collaborate on digital instructional strategies.
- Links to anything to review.
- Next steps list.

(The Digital Project Manager and Semczuk 2022)

Weekly check-ins:

Weekly emails with Project Manager and Course Developer to go over progress, address questions and share any related work as it is completed.

Share:

- Timeline & budget flags.
- What has been completed.
- What is in progress.
- Any deliverables needing approval.
- Questions about deliverables.

(The Digital Project Manager and Semczuk 2022)

Weekly email reports:

Weekly emails are sent Mondays to relay project timelines, budgets, and milestone particulars.

Share:

- Budget burn.
- Timeline specifics.
- Links to deliverables approved.
- Links to edited deliverables.
- Links to anything to review.
- Next steps list.
- Waiting on list.

(The Digital Project Manager and Semczuk 2022)

Major milestone virtual meetings:

Virtual meetings are set up to present and deliver major milestone deliverables using the Canvas BigBlue Button tool for virtual meetings.

Share (3-4 days in advance):

- Agenda for the meeting
- Attendees needed for the meeting
- Links or summary of deliverable(s) being presented

Meeting format:

- Agenda review
- Deliverable presentation by the course developer
- Questions/Discussions
- Next steps review

Canvas Email (immediately after the meeting):

- Meeting notes to all attendees
- Next steps and waiting on lists
- Links to approved or shared deliverables for additional review

After deliverables are approved:

- Send an email with links to all stakeholders on the project
(The Digital Project Manager and Semczuk 2022)

Daily emails:

As needed with Rick on the stakeholder team:

- Assistance getting information from subject matter expert(s)
- Assets needed
- Minor, non-deliverable approvals (license purchases)
- Questions about project-specific items
- Review of deliverables or decisions prior to sending them to higher-level stakeholders
(The Digital Project Manager and Semczuk 2022)

Preferred communication channel:

- Canvas email
- Canvas BigBlue Button for virtual meetings
- Trello within Canvas LMS for the project timeline specifics

How will you manage the plan:

My first step is to share the plan with my team to inform them of my communication rhythm. This plan will lay out tasks and delivery dates. Also, it will furnish more context around how I will disseminate information, when, and to whom. Lastly, sharing this information with my team will help us to collaborate and facilitate the implementation of the communication plan.

My next step is to ensure my team comprehends and understands my communication plan so all stakeholders get uniform, significant, and accurate information throughout the project. Also, I will reserve any essential project meetings as soon as my plan is accepted and in place. Then, I will add

reminders to the team Trello calendar for regular check-ins and project emails so all team members can accurately track the important items described in my plan.
(The Digital Project Manager and Semczuk 2022)

References

- The Digital Project Manager, and Natalie Semczuk. 2022. "Project Communication Plan Examples, Template, & How To." *The Digital Project Manager*. November 21.
<https://thedigitalprojectmanager.com/projects/communication/how-write-project-communication-plan/#example>.
- Fulgencio, Jose L. 2017. "Communication in Instructional Design." *International Journal of Designs for Learning* 8 (2). doi:10.14434/ijdl.v8i2.22798.