

umTECH NEWSLETTER



Volume 5 Issue 3



THE
canvas
CORNER

MARCH 2025 REVIEW

THE LATEST IN CANVAS UPDATES

IMPORT CONTENT- IMPORT CONTENT PAGE ENHANCEMENTS (INSTRUCTOR)

The Import Content page is updated to the latest version of InstUI, Instructure's internal design language. The import button text is updated to Add Import to Queue, and when an instructor's timezone differs from the course timezone, both the local and course time zones are displayed.

This update enhances the user experience by updating the Import Content page to the latest InstUI version, providing a modern and consistent design. It also clarifies the import process with updated button text, improving workflow efficiency. The user interface and the import button text are updated to Add Import to Queue on the Import Content page. When the Adjust Events and Due Dates option is selected, the local and course dates and times are displayed.

DISCUSSIONS - DEFAULT VIEW SETTINGS (ALL USERS)

When creating or editing a discussion, instructors can configure the default view settings, including thread collapse/expansion and sorting options for students, with the ability to lock these preferences if needed.

This feature allows instructors to structure discussions following their teaching approach, guiding student engagement and interaction. Instructors can configure the default discussion view by setting the default thread state [1] and locking it for students [2]. They can also define the default sort order [3] and choose to lock it [4] by checking the Lock Sort Order for Students box.

To learn more about the Canvas updates, [please see our website](#).

Options

☐ Convert content to New Quizzes ?

☐ Adjust events and due dates

Clear **+ Add to Import Queue**

Content imports

Content import files cannot be downloaded after 500 days.

Content Type	Source Link
Canvas Common Cartridge	basic-written-communications-export (5).imsc

Beginning date:

Jan 1 at 12am change to Mar 1 at 12am

Local: Jan 1 at 12am
Course: Dec 31 at 9pm

Local: Mar 1 at 12am
Course: Feb 28 at 9pm

Ending date:

Jun 1 at 12am change to Oct 1 at 12am

Local: Jun 1 at 12am
Course: May 31 at 8pm

Local: Oct 1 at 12am
Course: Sep 30 at 8pm

+ Substitution

Clear **+ Add to Import Queue**

☐ Enable podcast feed

☐ Graded

☐ Allow liking

☐ Add to student to-do

☐ This is a Group Discussion

View

Default Thread State 1

☒ Expanded

☐ Collapsed

☐ Lock thread state for students 2

Default Sort Order 3

☒ Oldest First

☐ Newest First

☐ Lock sort order for students 4

NEW QUIZZES - MULTIPLE SELECTIONS IN HOT SPOT QUESTIONS (ALL USERS)



Instructors can enable multiple selections in Hot Spot quiz questions: Instructors can define multiple correct hot spot areas and students can select various areas on an image in response to the quiz.

Auto grading will evaluate the student's selections based on the defined correct answers. The feature supports regrading functionality. User response attempts are limited to the number of hotspots the instructor sets.

Note: Questions made before this change support editing to accept multiple hotspots.

This feature offers greater flexibility in how instructors assess student knowledge. Instructors can select multiple areas for Hot Spots quiz questions.

TAF FUNDING

The university has found funds to alleviate the strain in TAF funding for this year. However, the committee was cautioned that next year will be financially challenging, and cost-saving measures will be crucial.

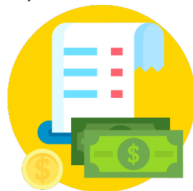
SOFTWARE RENEWALS

The following software contracts renewed in February 2025:

Exxat - \$5,000, HSS (Health Resources and Services Administration)

OpenLM - \$4,000 DAS (Desktop Application Services)

Digication - \$2,800 SPH (School of Public Health)



ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY UPDATE

The committee on revising the Acceptable Use Policy are making changes based on the feedback received from TLAC. The revised draft aims to be clear and concise while also considerate of the need for accessing software for research purposes.

QUESTIONS/SUGGESTIONS/ISSUES

Course Email Issues

For faculty with many years of experience and multiple course sections, managing email groups in Outlook can be challenging. After discussing these concerns, members of TLAC proposed several improvements to make the process more user-friendly and efficient. ITS will be reviewing these suggestions and will share their findings soon.

Technical Support

To help ITS serve you more effectively, we encourage you to include screenshots or videos when reaching out with questions. These visuals help our technical team quickly and accurately understand the issue, ensuring a smoother experience for faculty. Screenshots, in particular, provide clear context, minimize confusion, and speed up the resolution process.

Submitting Feature Suggestions to Canvas

Faculty have inquired about ways to submit suggestions to UM3D for Canvas. TLAC recommends that course lists in Canvas be retained for only two academic years. In response, UM3D is working on a suggestion page that will allow faculty to submit their feedback directly within Canvas.

USE CAUTION WHEN INSTALLING SOFTWARE

To protect your device and personal information, always install software from trusted sources. Downloading from unverified websites or unknown developers can expose your system to malware, viruses, and other security threats. These risks can compromise your data, slow down your device, or even allow hackers to gain unauthorized access. To stay safe, rely on well-known vendors, official websites, and reputable app stores. Be sure to read user reviews and check for security certifications before downloading any software, and ensure it's regularly updated with security patches.



Information
Technology Services

100 Administration Bldg., Memphis, TN 38152 | 901.678.8888

For more information or to inquire about technical reports, contact umTech@memphis.edu | memphis.edu/umTech