

Assessment Strategies: Online Exams and Student Grade Analysis

Arts ISIT Welcome Back Conference

Saul George, Support Coordinator (Arts ISIT)

Asif Sami Haque, Educational Consultant (Arts ISIT)



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Arts Instructional Support & Information Technology
Faculty of Arts



Land Acknowledgement

We would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) People.

How to Use Canvas Tools for Student Grade Analysis



Centering Question

What are our goals as educators?



Learning Outcomes

By the end of this section, I will be able to:

- ☐ Navigate the enhanced Gradebook interface.
- ☐ Apply filters, sorting, and messaging features to streamline grading.
- ☐ Access the Course Analytics function to identify student trends and at-risk learners.
- ☐ Export, interpret and chart data to inform teaching practices.

Canvas Course Analytics



Course Analytics provide instructors with information on grades for assessments and participation in learning activities.

Like most data, it is the insights or actions that you take from them that is valuable.



Improving Student Engagement



Canvas Course Analytics can help instructors:

- Isolate learning activities in their course that may need to be improved by the next offering
- Identify students that may need help through an intervention such as an email/conversation

Benefits of Messaging through Canvas

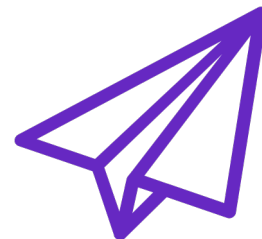


- **Filtering**
 - Sending messages through Course Analytics or Gradebook allows for filtering based on the student performance
- **Customization**
 - You may choose to remove certain students from a filtered message
- **Streamlined use of one tool**
 - Leveraging course analytics would allow you to avoid having to use multiple tools at once (ie. Workday, Excel and Canvas together)
- **Threaded Responses**
 - Messages through the platform create separate Canvas Inbox messages that are sent to students so that a threaded conversation can happen

Best Practices for Messaging



- Be mindful that a message you send should have value,
 - If you send too many messages or message a student that is not intended for them, they may tune you out
- Things to include in a message:
 1. **Canvas Course name / link:** Include the course details since students may miss it in the subject Canvas message
 2. **Assignment Name:** If you are messaging about a specific assignment, include the name of it
 3. **Consistent tone:** Try to use the tone that you use for other communications



Demo

Strengths and Weaknesses of Canvas Course Analytics



Strengths

- Filtering by section or students allow for comparisons
- Visual Representation of data
- Ability to generate CSV reports
- Average (mean) Course grade provided

Weaknesses

- There isn't a date and time filter
- Weekly data goes back 6 months but additional data can be requested
- There isn't a daily activity summary, only a weekly one
- Other measures of central tendency like median or mode have to be measured

Supplemental Readings



- A small study that examined the positive impact that emailing in the form of "nudges" helped to improve student success.

Rodrigo, R., Eyres, B., & Walton, S. (2023). Strategic interventions: Grade-based nudging in online and hybrid courses. *Teaching English in the Two Year College*, 51(1), 17-32. Retrieved from <https://www.proquest.com/scholarly-journals/strategic-interventions-grade-based-nudging/docview/2904298205/se-2>

- A program initiative that implemented an email referring students that had performance concerns or attendance issues to the Student Success Centre for additional academic support.

Gordanier, J., Hauk, W., Sankaran, C. (2019). Early intervention in college classes and improved student outcomes. *Economics of Education Review*, Volume 72, Pages 23-29, Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.econedurev.2019.05.003>



New Exam Services Overview





Learning Outcomes

By the end of the session, I will:

- Understand Arts ISIT's new exam services model
- Know when to reach out to Arts ISIT to double check my high stakes assessments that use Lockdown Browser

What gets checked?



When instructors submit a request to have their exam reviewed, the following is checked:

- Lockdown Browser settings and setting up password for early exit
- Access code to the exam
- Time limit and Assign times
- Media embeds and white links in the exam to ensure they are functional for students

Additional things that may be flagged



- Questions that are worth 0 or are inconsistent to the rest of the exam
- *Assign to* information may be confirmed if we notice inconsistencies
- If the exam is in the right assignment group
- If there are more than 100 people, setting up a staggered start may be offered

Demo



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Arts Instructional Support & Information Technology
Faculty of Arts