**Online Learning Guidelines for Using LTI and Other Third-Party Integrations**

Publisher material can provide novel content and innovative, interactive learning experiences. Publisher material can range from individual files to whole Canvas course packs to LTIs through which students can watch videos and practice skills. Examples of LTIs in use at Oregon Tech include Science Interactive, MyMathLab, AKTIV, and Foxy Learning. We hope the below will foster fruitful discussion as faculty consider how to use third-party integrations such as LTIs.

* Publisher material can supplement – but should not substitute for – faculty instruction.
* Oregon Tech does not offer self-paced courses. Assignment schedules should be provided so that students know when assignments are due and are clear on retake, late work, and make-up work policies. If you are flexible with deadlines, revise schedule deadlines as the course unfolds (rather than providing a blanket statement about deadline flexibility). And, be sure to reach out to students who fall behind and who miss assignment deadlines.
* Be sure the Canvas Gradebook accurately reflects student performance and helps students prioritize assignments with weighted grade categories, scaled assignment points, etc.
* LTIs can help instructors shift from “sage on the stage” to “guide on the side.” Even so, faculty presence remains crucial to student success. Consider:
  + A “Welcome” or “Start Here” page in Canvas can provide important course information and instructions for how to use an LTI.
  + Weekly objectives can provide useful context by indicating how the week’s work fits with the previous and subsequent weeks’ work and how it supports course objectives.
  + Weekly discussion boards can give students a place to ask questions and to work with their classmates and instructor on better understanding the material. They also support a sense of class community, which correlates with student success.
  + Weekly overview videos or pages can respond to class trends, reinforce the material with which students are struggling the most, and address common student questions.
  + Emailing students who are falling behind or who miss a week’s assignments is a great way to support students and to identify and mitigate barriers to success. [Canvas New Analytics can help identify these students.](https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Instructor-Guide/How-do-I-send-a-message-to-an-individual-student-in-New/ta-p/1187)
  + Recommend (or even set up) study groups for students. Host and facilitate study sessions for students on Zoom.
  + Hold open office hours on Zoom that don’t require students to set an appointment ahead of time, and provide a little extra credit to students who attend. Or, you might require each student meet with you on Zoom a couple times a term; you could talk about course progress or even work with the student on homework so that you can provide direct, personal feedback and guidance (and so that they get comfortable asking you for help).

Faculty are our subject matter experts, so we’d love to hear about your best practices and the innovative work educators in your field are doing with LTIs and other third-party integrations. Online Learning welcomes any examples you’d care to share so we can disseminate these good ideas to other faculty also using LTIs.