



How to Communicate Asynchronously with Students in D2L

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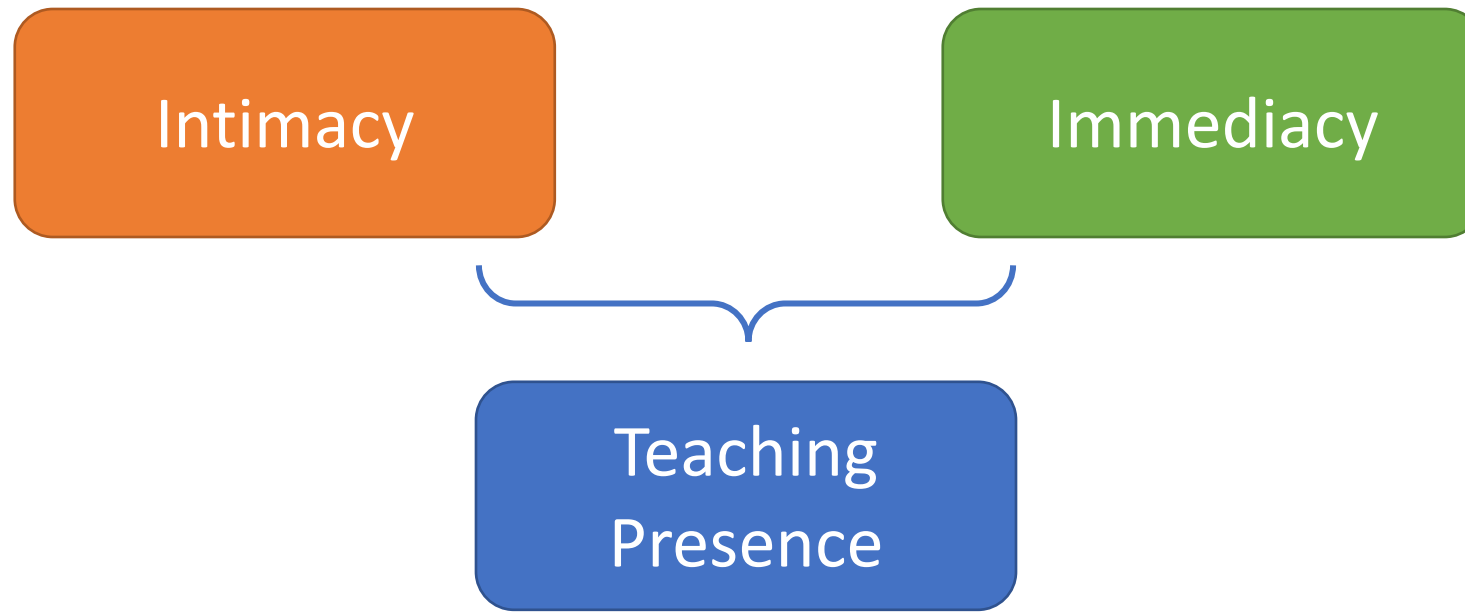
May 14, 2020

Agenda

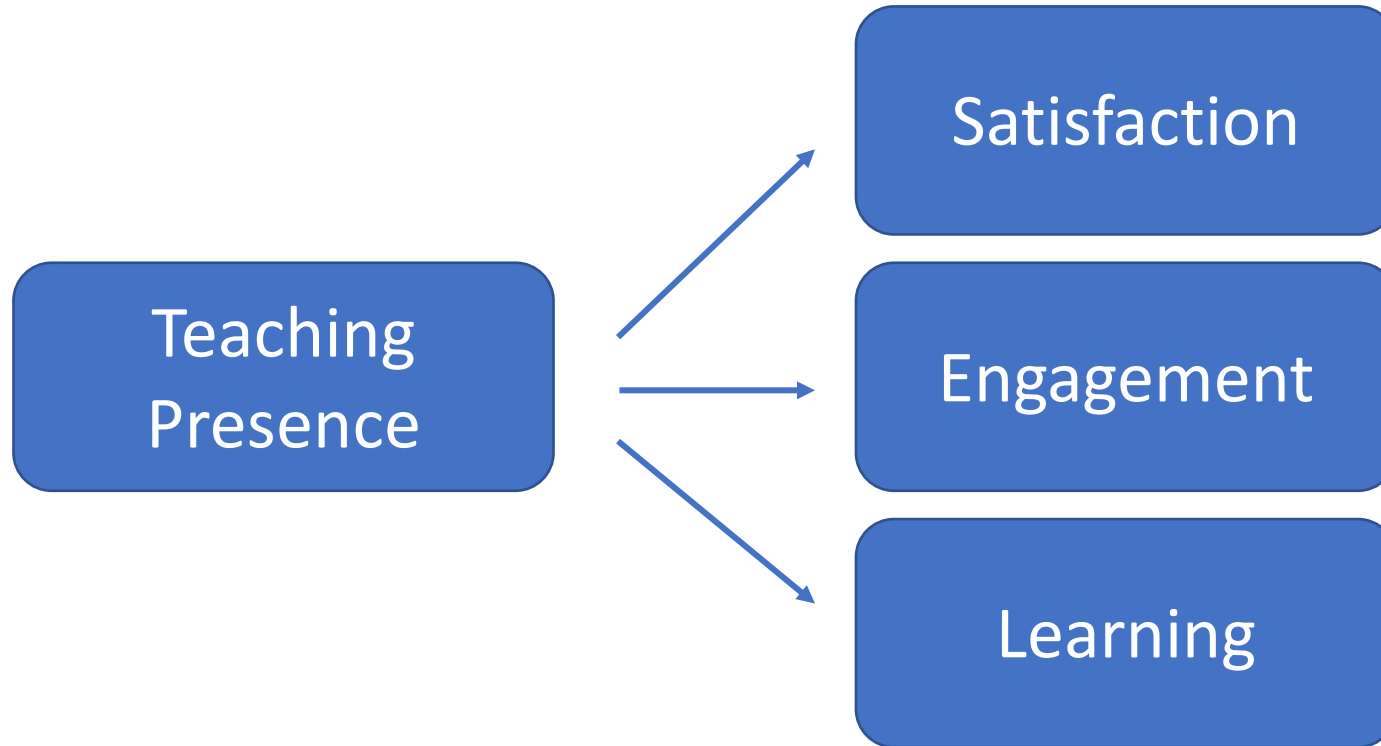
- Teaching presence
- Demo

What is Teaching Presence

- How much students feel like their instructors are “with them” in online course.



What is Teaching Presence



Some Strategies for Promoting Teaching Presence in D2L

Let students know that you are a person:

- Show your personality
- Share your stories/pictures/favorite quotes
- Embrace your mistakes

Some Strategies for Promoting Teaching Presence in D2L

Where to show your presence in D2L?

- Emails
- Online discussions
- News Widget/Activity Feed
- Badges
- Intelligent Agent

How to show your students that you care?

- Personalized Text

Before the class starts

- Do not design an online course that you will be “never online”
 - e.g., a pass through for publisher content class.
- A welcome message
 - Express your excitement that they have decided to take the class with you
 - Your background
 - Syllabus, text book
 - Start date (*60% students do not know an exact start date of online courses*)
 - Looking forward to working with them
- Email, News Widget/Activity Feed

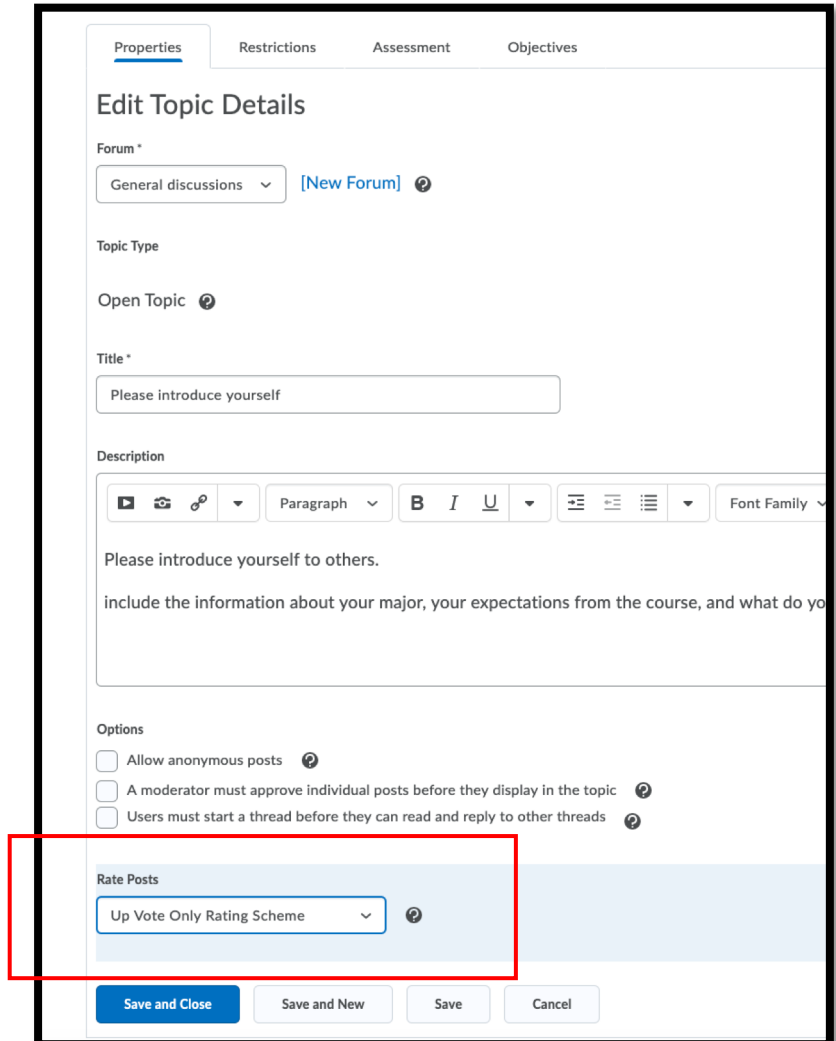
During the first week

- Introduction discussion
- Icebreaker activities
- Discussion board

Beyond the first week

Provide constant feedback

- Always use motivational tone
 - “Don’t feel self-conscious about ‘thinking out loud’ on the forum. This is a place to try out new ideas after all.”
- Enable up-voting function in online discussions in D2L, and try to give each student an up-vote to show your support.



The screenshot shows the 'Edit Topic Details' form in D2L. The 'Properties' tab is selected. The form includes fields for Forum, Topic Type, Title, and Description. The 'Options' section contains three checkboxes: 'Allow anonymous posts', 'A moderator must approve individual posts before they display in the topic', and 'Users must start a thread before they can read and reply to other threads'. The 'Rate Posts' section is highlighted with a red box and contains a dropdown menu set to 'Up Vote Only Rating Scheme'. At the bottom are buttons for 'Save and Close', 'Save and New', 'Save', and 'Cancel'.

Properties Restrictions Assessment Objectives

Edit Topic Details

Forum *
General discussions [New Forum] ?

Topic Type
Open Topic ?

Title *
Please introduce yourself

Description
Please introduce yourself to others.
include the information about your major, your expectations from the course, and what do you

Options
☐ Allow anonymous posts ?
☐ A moderator must approve individual posts before they display in the topic ?
☐ Users must start a thread before they can read and reply to other threads ?

Rate Posts
Up Vote Only Rating Scheme ?

Save and Close Save and New Save Cancel

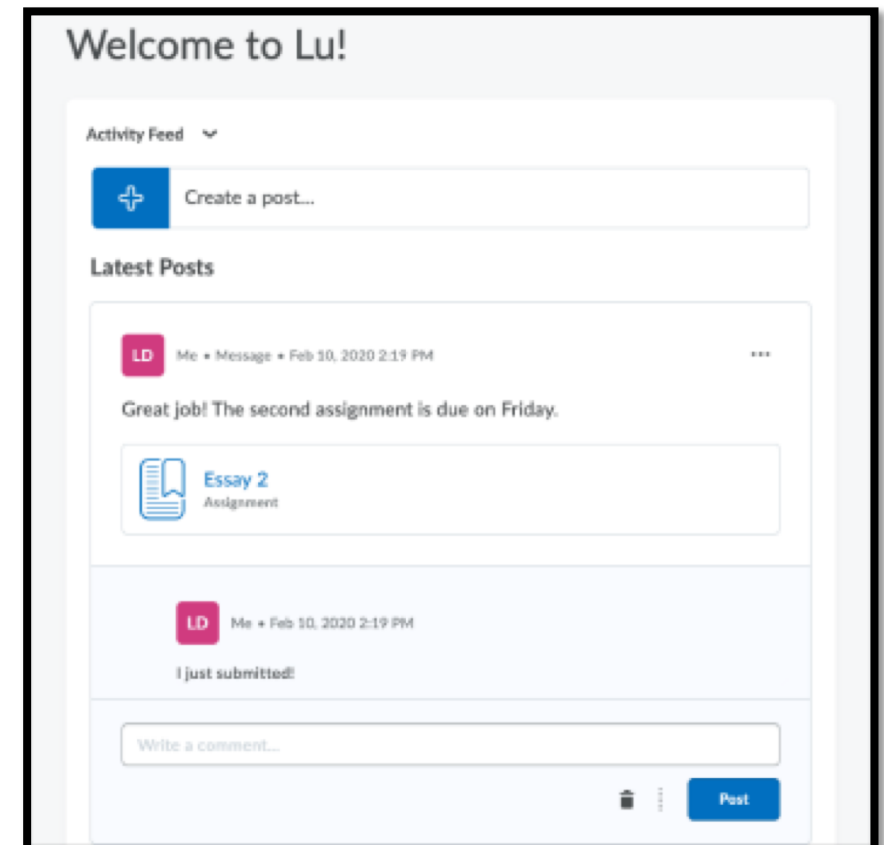
Beyond the first week

“Teach” courses constantly

- A summary of trending issues for each unit
 - Common questions
 - Misunderstandings
 - Praise good behaviors, achievements, etc.

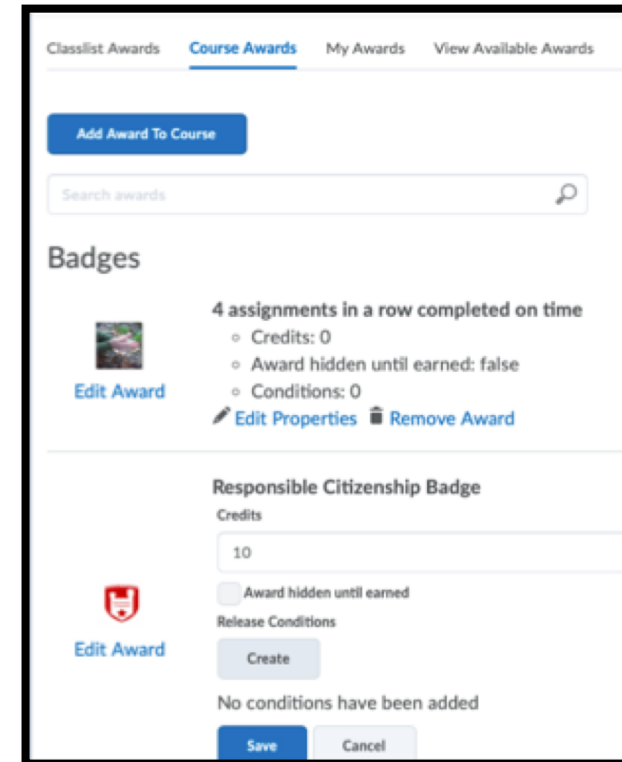
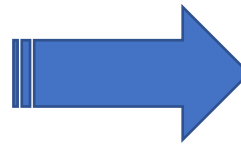
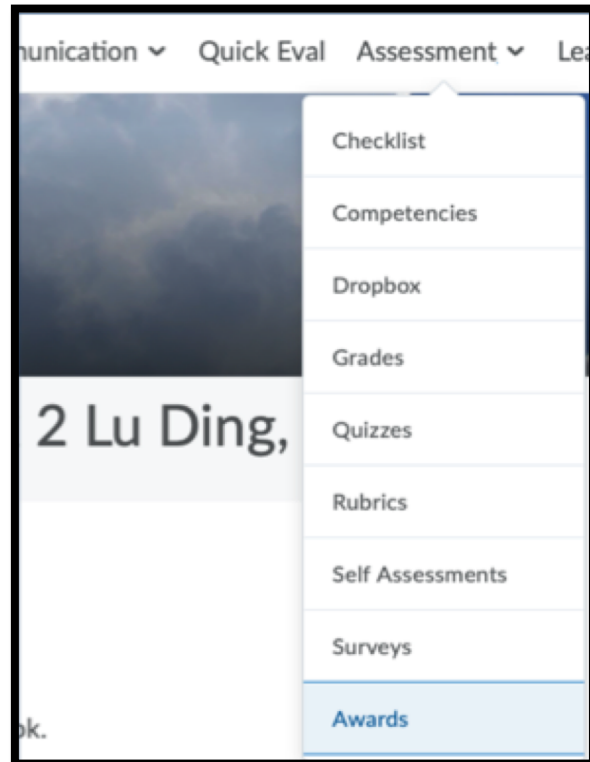
Activity Feed

News Widget



Beyond the first week

- Reward students badges




Beyond the first week

Intelligent Agents

- Tell instructors who are no shows or low scores.
- Email students good behaviors & high achievements.


Agent Criteria

 **Login Activity**

☐ Take action when the following login criteria are satisfied:
Login Activity

☒ User has not logged in for at least day(s)


☐ User has logged in during the past day(s)

 **Course Activity**

☐ Take action when the following course activity criteria are satisfied:
Course Activity

☒ User has not accessed course for at least day(s)

☐ User has accessed course during the past day(s)

 **Release Conditions**

Attach Existing

Create and Attach

 Remove All Conditions

There are no conditions attached to this item.

Beyond the first week

Personalized Text

- D2L does it for you!
- News: Headline, content
- Discussions: subject and message
- Content topics: when you create a new file
- Dropbox: folder instructions & feedback
- Quizzes: all custom boxes
- Checklist: name and description

Take away

- A welcome message – Email
- An introduction discussion/icebreaker discussion – Discussion board
- Constant “teaching” – News widget/activity feed
- Badges & Up-voting function
- For higher-performers – Intelligent Agent send automatic emails to students
- For “No shows” or “Low scores” – Intelligent Agent send automatic emails to instructors

Demo

