

PLATO/Brightspace Connections-

Faculty - Back to Campus - Fall Edition 1

PLATO/Brightspace Navigation, Training and Questions

Thursday 8/28/2025 from 9:30 am to 10:00 am in Zoom <https://westfield-ma.zoom.us/j/95351417497>



Welcome back to campus.

Please join us on Thursday, August 28, 2025 from 9:30 to 10:00 am in Zoom for our first edition of **PLATO/Brightspace Connections** which will focus on navigating our new LMS PLATO/Brightspace. Also in this edition, we will cover new tools, tutorials and training opportunities, support resources, and much more.

We will also cover Discussion adjustments, Rubrics, requesting your Fall content and updates and information that we suggest you provide in your Syllabus.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you are teaching in the Fall, PLEASE request your previous content or the 15 Week Template NOW so we can load your courses: [Fall Course Content Request Form](#)

CIT has several training options for you:

- **Convert your PLATO course into Brightspace** – if you have previously taught in PLATO/Blackboard please complete this training ASAP! You can find it on your My Courses list in PLATO/Brightspace (\$200 stipend upon completion).
- **New to WSU and Teaching a Face-to-Face course in Brightspace** – if you are new to WSU and teaching a face-to-face course, please email us at cit@westfield.ma.edu so we can load you into this training and get you started (Quick 1 Hour Training).
- **Virtual Web Camp** - If you are teaching on online, hybrid, remote sync or a hi flex course you will need to complete the Web Camp training. For more info visit [Web Camp Application and Information](#) (\$750 stipend upon completion).
- **Individual trainings in person or in Zoom** - for those who have specific training needs see our Support Team list below and feel free to email or use a Calendly link to set up a time to meet.

You can also suggest a training by submitting this form: [Training Request Form](#)

New Tools

- Edpuzzle
- ePortfolio
- InfoBase Learning Cloud (previously Atomic Learning and Hoonuit)
- Panopto Video
- Perusall
- Pulse App for Brightspace
- Readspeaker
- Respondus LockDown Browser & Monitor
- Respondus Testing
- ThinkingStorm Free eTutoring (previously SmartThinking)
- VoiceThread

Coming in Late September or Early October

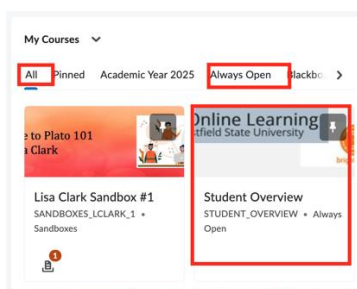
- Copleaks (Plagiarism tool replacing Safe Assign)

Suggested changes/updates for your Syllabus

Due to the change from Blackboard to Brightspace, and updated tools in the system, we recommend that you update your Syllabus with the following information:

- **NEW PLATO Login –**
To log into the NEW PLATO system students **should not use an old bookmarked link**. This will take them to the wrong system. To login, go to www.westfield.ma.edu/plato. On that page click on the Log Into PLATO button. Log in there with your WSU credentials.
- **Can't log in?**

If you have trouble with the log in process please contact Technology Support for assistance:
<https://westfield.ma.edu/offices/technology-support>
- **PLATO/Brightspace Email Tool**
The Email tool in PLATO/Brightspace allows you to send emails from within the system to WSU email. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** When you send an email from Brightspace, or when you receive an email from the Brightspace system it will come from this address email@westfieldedu.brightspace.com. You will want to allow email from this address.
- **Course Navigation**
In your very first Announcement, be sure to let students know that they will need to click on CONTENT in the blue nav bar to find the course information and assignments.
- **InfoBase Learning Cloud - (previously Atomic Learning and Hoonuit)**
Infobase Learning Cloud offers thousands of step-by-step training and tutorial videos on a multitude of software applications. This includes mobile devices, operating systems, social networking, web design, topics such as copyright, plagiarism, Internet safety and much more.
- **Thinkingstorm FREE Online Tutoring (previously SmartThinking)**
You can now find this tool in Plato Help & Resources in the blue nav bar inside of PLATO/Brightspace.
- **Student Overview Course in PLATO/Brightspace**
All students have access to the **Student Overview Course** in their My Courses widget when they first log in. They may need to sort by ALL or Always Open to find it.



This course will give students an overview of the new system, showing them how to navigate their courses, post in discussions, submit assignments, use all of the tools, and much more. We highly recommend that your students access this course, watch the navigation videos and review the tutorials and instruction sheets for all tasks that they are required to do in your course.

PLEASE ANNOUNCE THE ABOVE INFORMATION TO YOUR STUDENTS.

We highly recommend that you announce the above information to your students in your face-to-face classes, and/or in the PLATO/Brightspace Announcements tool so they are aware of these changes and updates.

Meet your Support Team and learn about Training Options.

Lynn Zayac, Director and Instructional Designer

lzayac@westfield.ma.edu (413) 572-8142

Lisa Clark, Faculty Training Specialist

lclark@westfield.ma.edu (413) 572-8249

Schedule a Zoom Meeting: <https://calendly.com/lclark-23>

Joe Axenroth, LMS Admin/Instructional Technologist

jaxenroth@westfield.ma.edu (413) 572-5664

Valerie DePina, Online Training Specialist

vdepina@westfield.ma.edu (413) 572-8430

Sam Petrone, Assistant LMS Admin

spetrone@westfield.ma.edu (413) 572-8306

Schedule a Zoom Meeting: <https://calendly.com/spetrone-westfield>

Cam Young, Help Desk, Training, and ADA Tech Specialist

cyoung@westfield.ma.edu (413) 572-8130

Schedule a Meeting: <https://calendly.com/cyoung-westfield>

Ryan Haines, LMS Training Specialist,

Assistant Supervisor for ADA, Faculty and Student Support

rhaines@westfield.ma.edu (413) 572-8144

Schedule a Zoom Meeting: <https://calendly.com/rhaines-wsu>

ADA Services in Brightspace Courses

Kevin Marafuga, Supervisor for ADA - kmarafuga@westfield.ma.edu

Ryan Haines, Assistant Supervisor for ADA and Training - rhaines@westfield.ma.edu

Streaming Services

Sam Petrone - spetrone@westfield.ma.edu

Cam Young - cyoung@westfield.ma.edu