Improving Instructor-to-Student Interaction using D2L Brightspace Tools

Table of Contents

| Short Course design and theory | 1 |
|--|----|
| Import course package | 2 |
| Course materials contained in the course package | 2 |
| Course materials that would be recreated in the destination course | 3 |
| Grade scheme | 3 |
| Name | 3 |
| Short Name | 3 |
| Ranges | 3 |
| Groups | |
| Intelligent Agents | 5 |
| "Welcome email" | ε |
| "Posted at least once to 'Introductions' discussion topic" | 8 |
| "No course access for 4 days" | 10 |
| "User achieved Award Certificate of Completion" | 11 |
| Awards | 13 |
| Release Conditions | 14 |

Short Course design and theory

The *Improving Instructor-to-Student Interaction using D2L Brightspace Tools* short course is designed to allow participants to navigate through the course at their own pace. The course is online and asynchronous. The course focuses on introducing and re-introducing the use of specific D2L Brightspace features and tools (including Classlist, Email, Intelligent Agents, and private Discussions) to improve instructor-to-student interactions in an online course.

The course **content** provides the learning objectives, course schedule and expectations, facilitator contact information, and course structure (modules).

For each **content module**, participants are provided learning materials (reading assignments, videos, articles) in which they apply their learning in the required assigned activities. To complete an activity,



participants demonstrate their learning by selecting from one or more scenarios, or by choosing their own scenario. In the **assignment folder**, participants upload screenshots, documents, and/or relevant information related to how they would complete the scenario. As a reflection activity, participants may discuss workflows and effective practices with their peers in a **discussion topic**. The discussion is open to all participants, and is optional to complete.

In its entirety, the short course could be completed within **6-9 hours**, each module taking 2-3 hours of work per week.

Theory

The short course only contains **due dates** on assigned activities. There are no other start, due, or end dates that participants would see in their interactions with the course materials. Instead, learning materials and activities are fully available to participants from the start of the class. In this way, it allows the participant to explore how students can interact with course materials at any time and at their own pace.

With this course structure, we've found a few advantages and disadvantages:

Advantages:

- Participants can navigate through the course at their own pace
- Participants see all content, course materials, and assigned activities at the start of the course

Disadvantages:

- Participants may feel overwhelmed by content; everything is available at once
- Participants may not be motivated to complete learning materials without having due dates

Back to top

Import course package

The *Improving Instructor-to-Student Interaction using D2L Brightspace Tools* course zip package can be imported into a D2L Brightspace course. The majority of course materials and activities can be imported. However, related materials (such as release conditions and intelligent agents) are not exportable from D2L Brightspace. The following lists outline (1) items that can be imported from the course package, and (2) items that would be recreated within the destination course.

Course materials contained in the course package

- Content modules/topics (54 items)
- Course files (116 items)
- Discussion forums/topics (11 items)
- Assignments (3 items)
- Grade categories/items (6 items)
- Announcements (4 items)
- Course appearance (course image and banner setting)



Course materials that would be recreated in the destination course

- Grade scheme (1 course scheme)
- Groups (1 category)
- Intelligent Agents (4 items)
- Awards (1 item)
- Release Conditions (7 items)

The remaining sections of this document detail the recreation of items within the destination course. These include the grade scheme, groups, intelligent agents, course awards, and release conditions.

Back to top

Grade scheme

In the gradebook, we created the following course grade scheme and used it as the default grade scheme.

Name: Complete, Incomplete, Not Completed

Short Name: C/IC/NC

Ranges:

| 1. | Not Completed | 0% Start | Red color | 69% assigned value |
|----|---------------|-----------|--------------|---------------------|
| 2. | Incomplete | 70% start | Yellow color | 90% assigned value |
| 3. | Complete | 91% start | Green color | 100% assigned value |

| Edit - Complete, Incomplete, Not Completed | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------|-------|---------------------|--------|--|--|--|
| Gene | eral | | | | | | | |
| Name * | Name * | | | | | | | |
| Comp | Complete, Incomplete, Not Completed | | | | | | | |
| Short Name C/IC/NC Ranges | | | | | | | | |
| # | Symbol* | Start %* | Color | Assigned Value % | Remove | | | |
| 1 | Not Completed | 0 | • | 69 | | | | |
| 2 | Incomplete | 70 | • | 90 | ŧ | | | |
| 3 | Complete | 91 | • | 100 | i | | | |

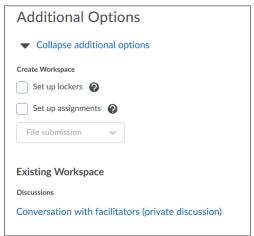
Back to top



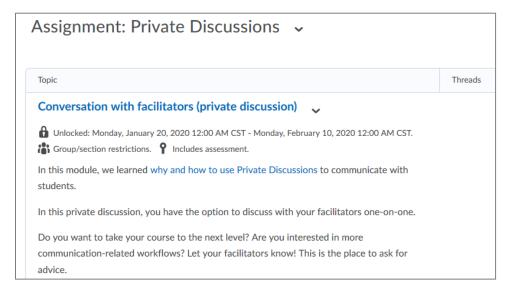
Groups

There is one group category, named *Conversation with facilitators*, in the course. The group category enrollment type is 'single user, member-specific groups' and associated with the 'Conversation with facilitators (private discussion)' discussion topic.

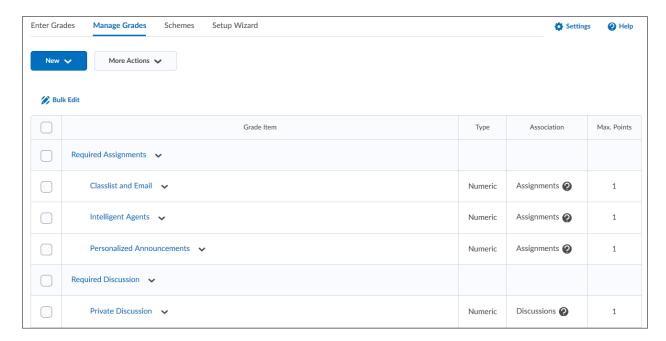




The group discussion is a required element of the course. The discussion is associated with the 'Private Discussions' grade item in the gradebook.





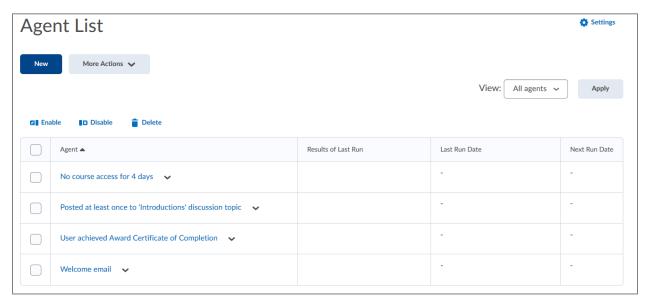


Back to top

Intelligent Agents

In the course, there are four intelligent agents:

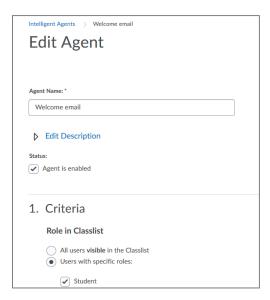
- "Welcome email"
- "User achieved Award Certificate of Completion"
- "Posted at least once to 'Introductions' discussion topic"
- "No course access for 4 days"



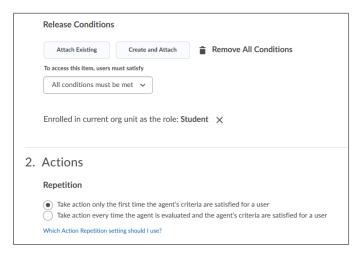


"Welcome email"

The "welcome email" IA is sent to users after the participants have been enrolled in the class.

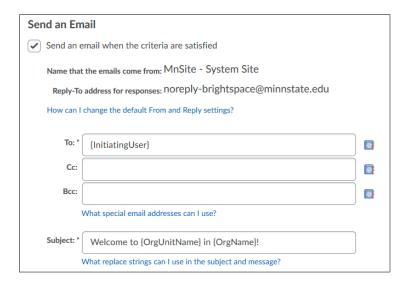


The IA's criteria is a release condition: Enrolled in current org unit as the role Student. The IA's repetition is 'Take action only the first time the agent's criteria are satisfied for the user'. This ensures that participants are only sent the IA email once within the course.

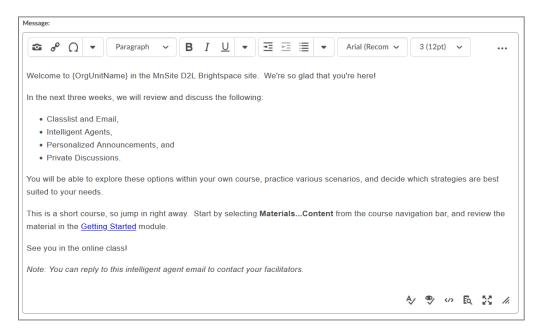


The IA's email is sent TO {InitiatingUser} with the subject line 'Welcome to {OrgUnitName} in {OrgName}!'

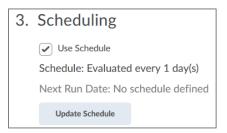


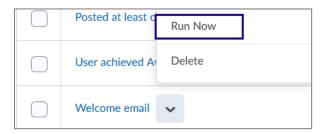


The IA's email message uses the {OrgUnitName} replace string and a quicklink to the course's 'Getting Started' content module.



Once all participants have been enrolled in the course, you may manually run the intelligent agent to send the welcome message immediately to participants. Otherwise, you can set a schedule to run the IA on a daily basis; when a new participant is enrolled in the course, the IA is set to the user the following day.



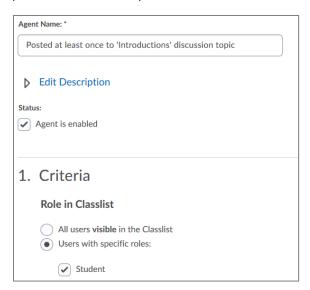




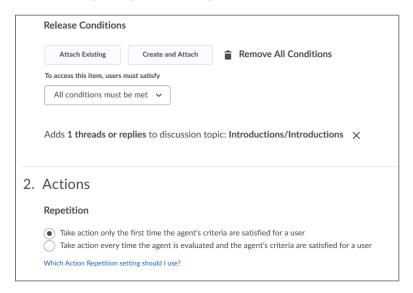
Back to top

"Posted at least once to 'Introductions' discussion topic"

The "Posted at least once to 'introductions' discussion topic" IA is sent to participants when they have posted a thread or replied to a thread in the Introductions discussion topic.

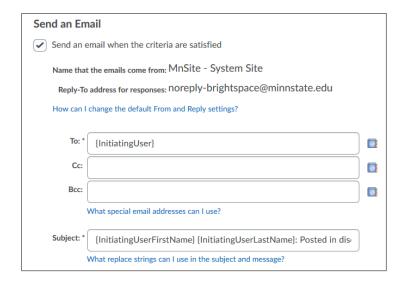


The IA's criteria is a release condition: Adds 1 threads or replies to 'Introductions' discussion topic. The IA's repetition is 'Take action only the first time the agent's criteria are satisfied for the user'. This ensures that participants are only sent the IA email once within the course.

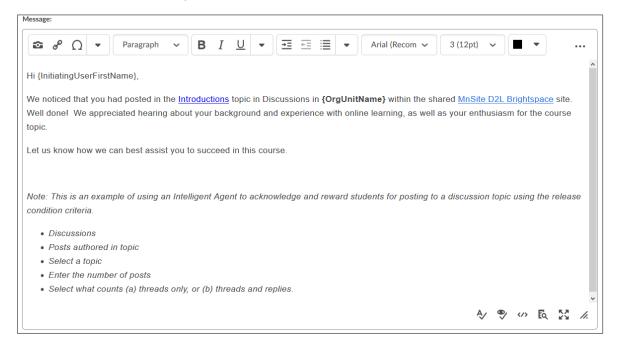


The IA's email is sent TO {InitiatingUser} with the subject line: {InitiatingUserFirstName}, you've posted to a discussion within {OrgUnitName}

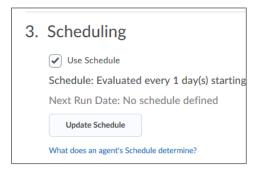




The IA's email message uses the {InitiatingUserFirstName} replace string and a quicklink to the course's 'Introductions' discussion topic.



The IA is run on a schedule and checks once daily throughout the course.

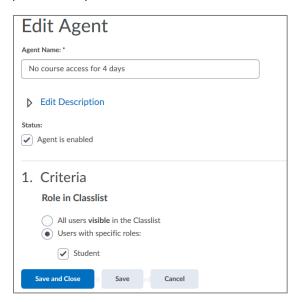




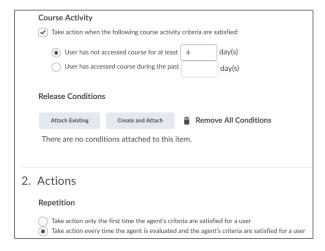
Back to top

"No course access for 4 days"

The "No course access for 4 days' IA is sent to participants if they have not access the course within the past four days.

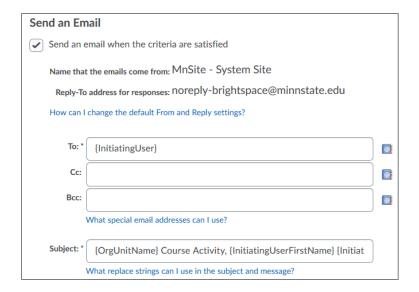


The IA's criteria is Course Activity: "User has not accessed course for at least 4 days". The IA's repetition is 'Take action every time the agent is evaluated and the agent's criteria are satisfied for the user'. This ensures that participants are only sent the IA email once within the course.

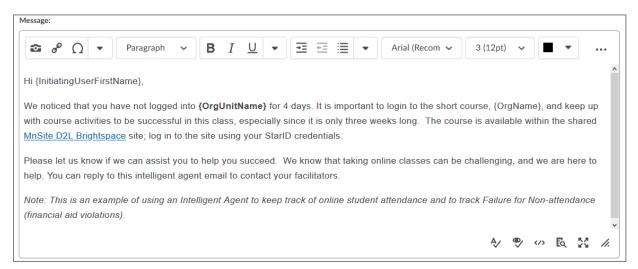


The IA's email is sent TO {InitiatingUser} with the subject line '{OrgUnitName} Course Activity, {InitiatingUserFirstName} {InitiatingUserLastName}'

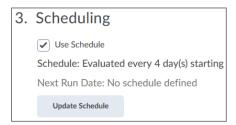




The IA's email message uses the {InitiatingUserFirstName} and {OrgUnitName} replace strings, along with a quicklink to the course homepage.



The IA is run on a schedule and checks every four days throughout the course.

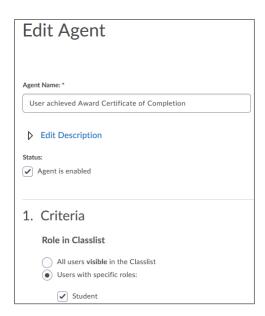


Back to top

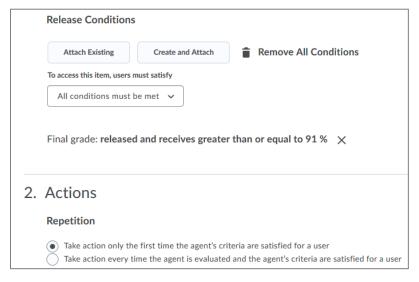
"User achieved Award Certificate of Completion"

The "User achieved Award Certificate of Completion" IA is sent to a participant if the user has achieved 91% or greater on the final grade, and the final grade has been released to the user.



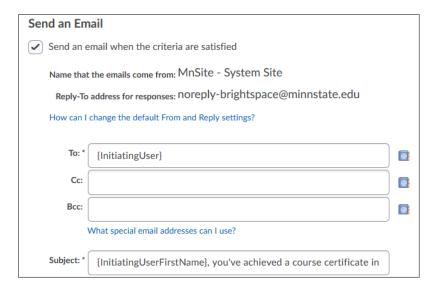


The IA's criteria is Course Activity: "User achieved Award Certificate of Completion". The IA's repetition is 'Take action only the first time the agent's criteria are satisfied for the user'. This ensures that participants are only sent the IA email once within the course.

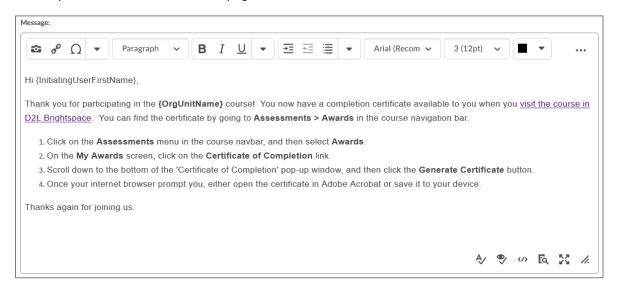


The IA's email is sent TO {InitiatingUser} with the subject line: '{InitiatingUserFirstName}, you've achieved a course certificate in {OrgUnitName}'

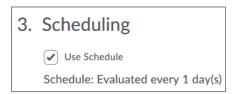




The IA's email message uses the {InitiatingUserFirstName} and {OrgUnitName} replace strings, along with a quicklink to the course homepage.



The IA is run on a schedule and checks once a day throughout the course.

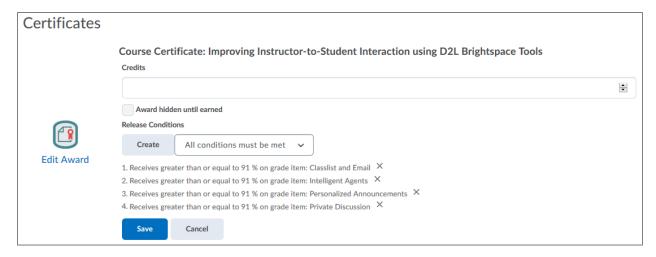


Back to top

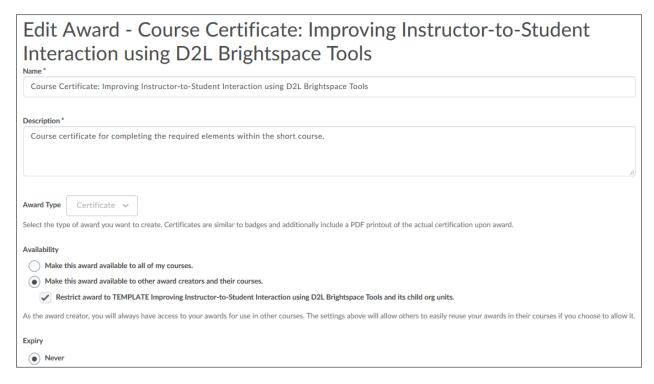
Awards

In the course, there is one course certificate awarded to participants upon their successfully completion of all required course elements. The certificate is released to the user when they meet all conditions and received 91% or greater on the four (4) grade items.





The award is restricted to the course and never expiries.



Back to top

Release Conditions

In the course, we used seven (7) release conditions. Four (4) release conditions were associated with the <u>course award</u>, and the remaining release conditions were individually associated with three (3) intelligent agents.



| Gı | rades | |
|-----|---|---|
| | Receives greater than or equal to 91 % on grade item: Classlist and Email | |
| | Receives greater than or equal to 91 % on grade item: Intelligent Agents | |
| | Receives greater than or equal to 91 % on grade item: Personalized Announcement | s |
| | Receives greater than or equal to 91 % on grade item: Private Discussion | |
| | | |
| Dis | scussions | |
| | Adds 1 threads or replies to discussion topic: Introductions/Introductions | |
| Cla | esslist | |
| | Enrolled in current org unit as the role: Student | |
| Gra | ades | |
| | Final grade: released and receives greater than or equal to 91 % | |

Back to top

