



March issue

Issue 34, March 2016

A monthly newsletter for UCL E-Learning Champions, and anyone else interested in learning technology, in five sections: **Need To Know**, **Learning**, **What's on**, **Tech Focus** and **Questions**. Please pass around and ask colleagues to subscribe via the link at the bottom.

Need to know

Getting service status updates

Any planned disruptions to Moodle, MyPortfolio, Lecturecast or Turnitin are posted in the 'Service news' area on the front page of Moodle before you log in. If you suspect an unplanned disruption, you can check the status of Turnitin at <https://wiki.ucl.ac.uk/x/E4QiAw> and the status of other services at ISD News <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/isd/news>. Note the Twitter accounts embedded on those pages, also a reliable source of updates.

Need more options in your Moodle text editor?

You can decide which editor you use by changing the setting in your Profile (click your name where it appears as a link) > Edit Profile > Preferences > Text Editor. TinyMCE is good for formatting and extra options with tables, while Atto is best when you're working with equations.

Learning

Matt Jenner, Digital Education's Distance Learning Facilitator, reflects on [lessons learned developing a Mooc](#).

[Professor Adam Gibson sets out](#) how his team assessed his biomedical engineering students' work on a wiki using a rubric they developed for the purpose.

[Sign up to the UCL Teaching and Learning newsletter](#) to read news, features, practical information and a column by the Vice-Provost (Education).

What's on (and what's gone...)

It's off to work we go: the role of universities and employers in developing digital skills for employability

Indications are that workplace skills are better developed outside the traditional functional skills development model designed for the more specific occupations of the past, and instead perhaps should focus on real-world learning experiences and novel approaches to help graduates develop the workplace skills needed today.

Who is responsible for developing these digital skills for employability – the university, the employer or the student?

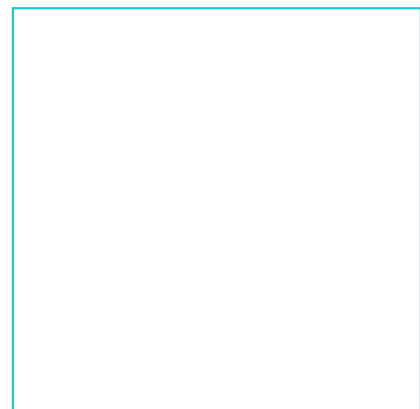
This event will explore the issues around technology, digital skills and employability in order to provide an opportunity to reflect on evidence, good practice, challenges and opportunities.

Thursday, 9 June 2016 from 14:00 to 16:30, UCL.

[Register for the event](#).

Blended Learning Essentials Mooc

The second run of Blended Learning Essentials: Getting Started is just getting underway on Futurelearn. There's still time to join. This is a course that UCL has created in collaboration with the University of Leeds, the Association for Learning Technology and a host of other partners. Many of the approaches work for higher education. A follow-on course, Blended Learning



Essentials: Embedding Practice, will follow on and extend your learning.

[Find out more...](#)

Why We Post: the Anthropology of Social Media - UCL Mooc

Discover the varying uses of social media around the world and its consequences for politics, relationships and everyday life.

[Find out more...](#)

The Many Faces of Dementia - UCL Mooc

Gain a unique insight into dementia through the stories, symptoms and science behind four less common diagnoses.

[Find out more...](#)

Open Educational Practices

UCL has a [new Open Education Special Interest Group](#) chaired by Simon Mahoney (Department of Information Studies).

The Association for Learning Technology ran a number of online events with recordings at <https://www.alt.ac.uk/about-alt/special-interest-and-members-groups/open-education-sig>

- What next for Jisc and UKOER in a post-Jorum world?
- Transforming OER into accessible OER.
- OER16: Preview and publicity.

Tech focus

Did you know...?

The [UCL E-Learning Baseline](#) is a set of expectations about digital education in response to student feedback. Observing the Baseline will help you create digital education spaces, resources and activities which are convenient for, usable by, and accessible to both students and staff.



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Questions or comments? Email Digital Education at digi-ed@ucl.ac.uk or call the ISD Service Desk 020 7679 5000 (ext. 25000).

Can't read this email? [Read this and previous newsletters on the UCL Wiki](#).