


Digital Education



UCL E-Learning Newsletter

October issue

Issue 53, October 2017

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

A new academic year, an upgraded Lecturecast Service

Over the summer, the UCL Lecturecast system was upgraded to a more user-friendly and interactive interface, providing students with more tools to support their learning. When viewing a recording, students can now:

- Make notes and download them for reference
- Post questions
- Bookmark content- this allows students to revisit a particular slide or scene and any notes that have been made
- Flag content that may be confusing – flagged content is highlighted to the Tutor(s) associated with the course
- Engage in discussions relating to the lecture with other students on the course

Further changes have been made to enhance learning and teaching and to make learning more interactive and engaging for students.

[Find out more about the Lecturecast upgrade.](#)

Sneak a peak at the new (more accessible) UCL Moodle theme

As part of a wider [Accessible Moodle project](#), a new UCL Moodle theme is being designed to make it more accessible for those with disabilities. The new theme will be rolled out to all staff and students in the next major upgrade of UCL Moodle in summer 2018. However, we plan to pilot the new theme with students and staff beforehand and once we are confident it works as intended, we will give everyone the option of switching to the new theme in advance of it becoming the default theme for UCL Moodle.

HPSC3052 Nature, Technology and the Environment

Search courses

UCL

Home Events My Courses This Course Help Services

Hide Blocks Full screen

Turn editing on

Moodle Home / HPSC3052

HPSC3052 Nature, Technology and the Environment (H2)

Home (H3)

This course explores the intersection of history of technology and **environmental history**. This is the history of the material world, both natural and artificial. It explores historiography – what are the methods for exploring and interpreting this intersection – and it examines and discusses case studies. Topics may include: large-scale technological systems; invasive species in history; commodity culture; nature and technology; pollution; hydropower; artificial life; nature and bureaucracy.

Tutor
Email
Office
 22 Gordon Square,
 room 2.2
Contact
 0207 679 3521
Office Hours
Teaching Assistant(s)

Recent Activity
 Activity area: Tuesday, 10 July 2017, 4:03 PM
Full report of recent activity...
 No recent activity

Your Progress

- How to use this course**
- Module syllabus** 113.7KB Word document
- Module syllabus**
Please refer to the **module syllabus** for the aims, objectives and description of this course. This also contains the tutor contact information and readings.
- STS Student Handbook**
Please refer to the Student Handbook for assessment guidelines and support services.

Communication corner

- Communication statement**
- Announcements**
General news and announcements from staff
Note: students can't post or reply to messages in here - please use the forum in the Discuss section (if available).
- Social forum**

Open all Close all

Instructions: Clicking on the section name will show / hide the section.

- Discuss
- Have your say
- Course materials
General resources are available here for you to view / download. There are also specific resources within each relevant area of the course.

Navigation

- Dashboard
- Site home
- UCL Moodle
- Current course
- HPSC3052
 - Participants
 - Course blog
 - Notes
 - Badges
- My courses

MyFeedback

The MyFeedback dashboard allows students and their personal tutors to view feedback and grades across modules in one place.

Go to **MyFeedback**
Provide your views on the MyFeedback tool

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 Powered by: Moodle 3.1

[Read more about the new accessible UCL Moodle theme.](#)

The right way to link to guides in the Moodle Resource Centre

If you are linking to our guidance on the UCL Wiki (thank you) there is something to know. Avoid using the long link in your browser's address bar, since it is formed from

the page's title, and inevitable some titles need to change. Instead here's how to find the permanent link:

- Either log into the wiki and use the Share link.
- Or click the Ellipsis (dot-dot-dot, ...) icon for a menu, select Page information, and then copy the link from that page.

That link won't break.

New policy: lecture materials are made available 48 hours in advance

In July UCL Education Committee approved policy that lecture materials be made available to students 48 hours in advance. As well as **benefiting students whose first language is not English**, this measure helps to fulfill our responsibilities for the 2010 Equalities Act. We need to ask ourselves:

1. 'Do all staff, when designing activities, whether in teaching and learning situations or in providing general services, automatically seek to **ensure access requirements for disabled people?**'
2. 'Do we have policies and procedures in place which ensure that those adjustments which can be anticipated in advance are addressed by all staff, for example providing handouts in advance in an electronic format?'

[See our guide on making lecture materials available in advance.](#)

[Read about background to the decision.](#)

Learning

E-Learning Case Study

Filming role-played mental health consultations for assessment

The Anna Freud Centre's Nick Midgley and Fiona John explain why they introduced filmed role-play assessment to a first-year Master's module. Students carried out a role-played family consultation with actors and were filmed in order to assess their clinical skills in as realistic a context as possible.



[Find out more about filming role-played mental health consultations.](#)

The [UCL Teaching and Learning Portal](#) contains news, resources, case studies and more to help you develop your teaching at UCL.

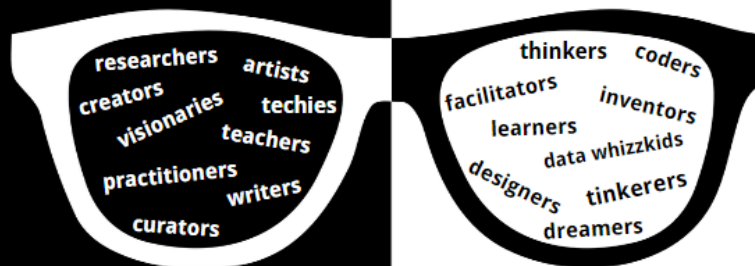
[Submit a case study to the UCL Teaching and Learning portal.](#)

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

#Learnhack: Bring Your Talent to Solve a Challenge!

24-26th November

#LearnHack



Calling all researchers, creators, artists, techies, visionaries, teachers, writers, curators, thinkers, designers, learners, tinkerers, inventors, coders, dreamers, facilitators...

We welcome all ideas and skill levels. All that's required is an open mind and a willingness to get involved in some way.

Find out more at www.learnhack.it

Develop your digital skills this academic year

ISD Digital Skills Development has released new dates for the autumn term. As usual, we are offering a wide range of courses covering Excel, Matlab, LaTeX, Photoshop and more. This term we have some new workshops in Excel for students. These take a new approach to learning by presenting you with a problem to be solved and encouraging you to use your prior experience, web searches, in-application help and fellow participants to find a solution to the task.



[Find out more about digital learning opportunities this term.](#)

Transforming Assessment Webinar Recording now available

Student Self-assessment: rationale and practice

4 Oct 2017

This session explored findings from four years of research into student's self-assessment against criteria in courses using an online marking system at the UNSW Business School. The webinar covered the purpose of student self-assessment, observations on student self-assessment accuracy and student attitudes and

practices. Approaches improve student self-assessment accuracy were also covered in light of the systemic embedding of self-assessment practice at the UNSW Business School.

[Watch the webinar and download resources.](#)

Tech focus

Did you know...?

The new Lecturecast system comprises of three elements

- [The Lecturecast Scheduler](#): this allows you to schedule recordings for confirmed CMIS (i.e. UCL's online timetabling and room booking system) booked events.
- The [Lecturecast Connector block](#) – available on every Moodle course when you '**Turn editing on**'. This allows you to link your Moodle Course to a section in Lecturecast that contains the recordings for your course.
- Lecturecast Active Learning Platform (ALP) – This is where recordings are hosted. The ALP interface provides functionality that goes beyond just hosting recordings and allows you to create and add resources that include interactive slides and view learner analytics. For students, it allows them to flag and bookmark content as well as take notes, participate in discussions and respond to interactive slides.

We have developed new training resources including video and step-by-step guides to get you started using the new system, and are currently developing more advanced guides which will be available soon.

Guidance is available via the [Lecturecast Resource Centre](#).

TechQual+ Survey at UCL

The survey was run at UCL in 2016 for the first time and the feedback provided by students and staff resulted in changes being implemented. ISD are running the survey again in December 2017 and need your help to advertise it to your students, encouraging them (and you!) to complete it. All respondents will be entered into a prize draw with a chance to win some great prizes!

The TechQual+ core survey contains 13 items designed to measure the performance

of the following areas: 1) Connectivity and Access, 2) Technology and Collaboration Services, and 3) Support and Training.

[Read more about the TechQual+ survey - see how student / staff feedback has bought about change](#)

Questions

Does the Moodle Word Table Quiz format support calculated questions?

Word table allows you to develop quiz questions in Word (including images and LaTeX) and then import them into Moodle, to save you time. However, Word Table format can only support simple quiz question types, so no, calculated questions are not supported. The list of supported question types is available in the [Word Table quiz import miniguide](#), which you can access from the Moodle **Staff Help** menu.

Have you got ideas or experience here?

If so, please do share them, either [via the Twitter hashtag #elearningUCL](#) or via the [Moodle Users forum](#).



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Twitter



Website

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