Getting Started with D2L Brightspace

D2L Brightspace is the primary online tool that you will use to access course materials whether you are in a face-to-face, hybrid, or participating in a fully online course. Here are a few tips you should know to help you get started.

Accessing D2L Brightspace

There are multiple ways to access D2L Brightspace:

- [https://anokaramsey.learn.minnstate.edu/](https://anokaramsey.learn.minnstate.edu/) will take you directly to D2L Brightspace. If you are using the direct link, we recommend that you bookmark this web address to access it more easily in the future.
- Through [https://www.anokaramsey.edu/](https://www.anokaramsey.edu/)
  - Click **Current Students** at the top of the website.
  - Click **D2L Brightspace**.

Accessing Your Courses within D2L Brightspace

Once you have logged in to D2L Brightspace, there are multiple places you can access your course that allows you to switch between courses more easily:

**Course Selector / “Waffle”**

While in D2L Brightspace, at the top of the page you will see the **Course Selector** or **“Waffle”** as it is often referred to. Clicking on this icon will show you a list of your active courses. You can click the **thumbtack** icon next to any course in this list to pin it to the top for quicker access. Use the **waffle** to quickly jump between courses without going back to the homepage.
My Courses

The My Courses widget on the D2L Brightspace homepage will show you images of all your courses. Click on an image to access the course. Small icons also appear on the course tiles when you have assignments to submit, unread discussion posts, and quizzes you have yet to take.

Navigating Your Courses within D2L Brightspace

Within your courses in D2L Brightspace, you will use the navigation bar towards the top of the page to navigate to different tools (discussion, assignment upload) that may be used in your course. This navigation bar also includes links for other support services if you need them.

- **Home** icon will take you to the My Home page where you can view your courses.
- **Course Title** (e.g. First-Year Experience) will take you to the course home page where you can view your instructor’s Announcements.
- **Materials** dropdown brings you to Content where you can access course material such as links to PDFs, Word documents, Powerpoint presentations, Excel spreadsheets, YouTube or Kaltura MediaSpace audio/video and publisher links.
- **Communication** dropdown allows you to access tools to communicate with others in your course, such as viewing other’s emails in Classlist, participate in online Discussions, or view the instructor’s course Announcements.
- **Assessments** dropdown displays tools like Assignments where you can submit papers, Quizzes where you can take online tests, and Grades where you can view the grades given to you by your instructor.
- **Resources** link to useful academic resources such as eServices, Disability Services, Technology Services, and more.
- **Get D2L Help** link to receive D2L help wherever you are at within your course.