Reflection for the Integration of LTI Tools in OWL Brightspace

Purpose of the Reflection
This tool has been designed to help instructors reflect on the suitability of an LTI eLearning tool or application prior to requesting and OWL Brightspace Integration. The reflection questions are based on the three areas or “domains” of the Community of Inquiry Framework, which was designed to help create engaged and meaning learning experiences in digital spaces. Ultimately, your choice of an LTI tool should enhance one or more of the domains and align with your instructional goals while considering other factors that may offset benefits for choosing the tool, such as additional required instructor or student time to set up, manage, or learn to use it. You do not need to submit a response to these questions to request an OWL Brightspace LTI integration.

If you haven’t already, take a moment to explore the digital tools currently supported by Western Technology Services that are currently integrated with OWL Brightspace. It may be that one of these tools will already meet your teaching and learning goals.

Domain 1: Cognitive Presence or the way in which instruction enables meaning creation through interaction with others and the course materials
1. What are the learning outcomes for your course?
2. How will the tool help achieve these learning outcomes? What would be “lost” in the learning process or ability to demonstrate the course outcomes if students could not use this tool? Is there another tool already available to you that would enable you to accomplish the same outcomes?
3. How difficult is it for students to learn to use the tool and/or how complex is it to use? Could the effort to learn the tool or complexities within the tool distract or detract from students focusing on the course content? If so, are there simpler tools or teaching approaches that would enable students to successfully meet the course outcomes?
4. How often do you expect to use this tool in your course(s)? Does the number of times it will be used offset the amount of time students will need to learn how to use it?

Domain 2: Teaching Presence or the design, management, and communication elements of your course
1. How will this tool help you as an instructor? Consider things like time management, classroom management, course administrative tasks, communication to students etc. What would be “lost” or need to be implemented if you didn’t have access to the tool?
Is there another tool or teaching approach already available to you that would enable you to accomplish the same outcomes?

2. How will this tool help your students manage their learning? Consider things like time management, goal-setting, communicating with you, tracking their progress etc.. What would be “lost” or need to be implemented if students didn’t have access to the tool? Is there another tool or teaching approach already available to you that would enable you to accomplish the same outcomes?

3. Does the time and effort needed to learn and use the tool still allow you and/or your students to use it meaningfully?

Domain 3: Social Presence or the ability for learners to meaningfully interact with others

1. How will this tool help build a sense of community or connection among your students? What would be “lost” or need to be implemented if you didn’t have access to the tool? Is there another tool or teaching approach already available to you that would enable you to accomplish the same outcomes?

2. Does the time and effort needed to learn and use the tool still allow you and/or your students to use it meaningfully?