CanvasCon Online

Do Faculty and Students Use the LMS App? App-solutely! Ways to Support Students and Faculty Who Use the Canvas App

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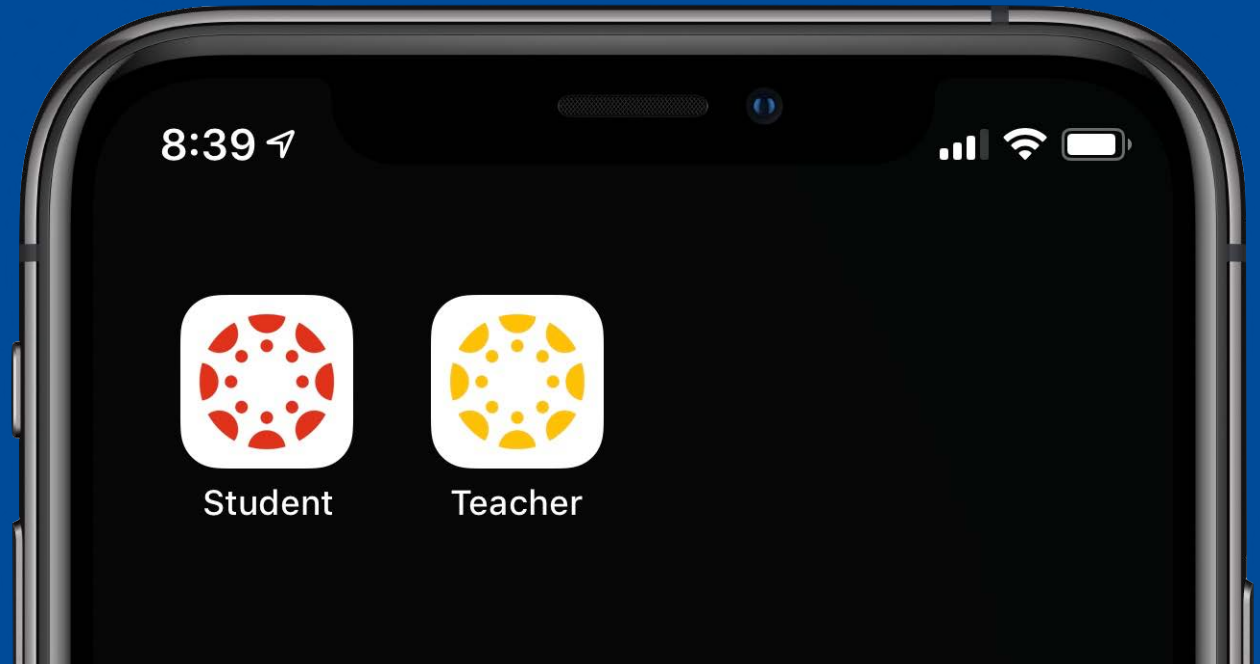


Who We Are

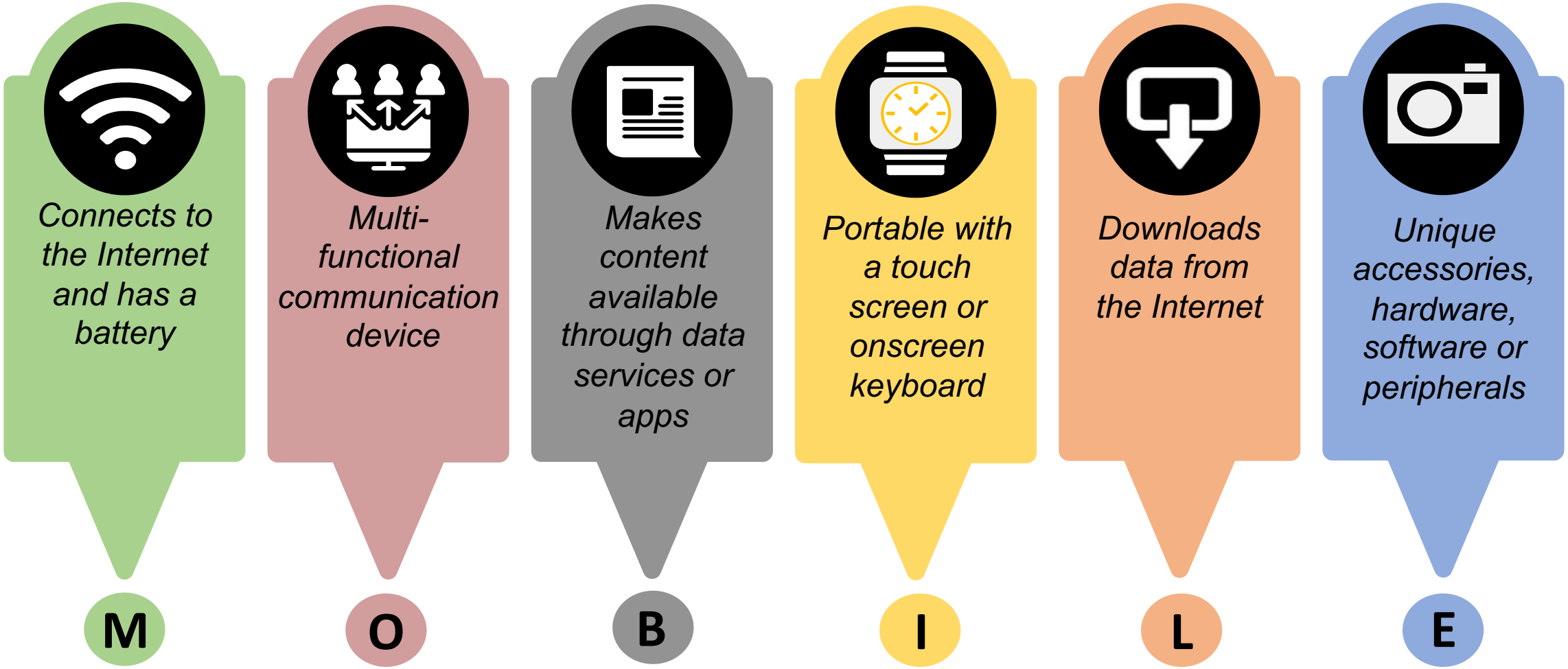
The Virginia's Community College System (VCCS) is made up of 23 community colleges across the commonwealth.

- 15,000+ faculty and staff
- 220,000+ students

Lord Fairfax Community College (LFCC)

- 400+ faculty (~100 full time)
- 12,000+ students. (~5,000 active Fall 2019)

Describing “Mobile Device”



Describing “Mobile Learning”

Cost Effective: *Existing content can be leveraged and reused*

M

Convenient: *Information is easily accessible and not limited to any one place or time*

O

Engaging: *Interactions can be personalized to facilitate motivation and engagement*

B

Collaborative: *Learners can communicate in a wide variety of ways*

I

Bite-Sized: *Smaller content and digestible chunks of information*

L

Accessible: *Classroom is everywhere and anywhere*

E

From LMS Implementation To App Awareness

Focus for 2019

Last year we transitioned over 4,000 courses and all users from Blackboard to Canvas in the span of 12 months.

Focus for 2020

This year our focus is on continuous improvement and course refinement including awareness for using more Canvas tools - such as the Canvas app.

Participants: 338

Faculty

Students

Faculty Using the App

Students Using the App

Teacher App

Announcements
58%

Inbox
58%

Calendar
38%

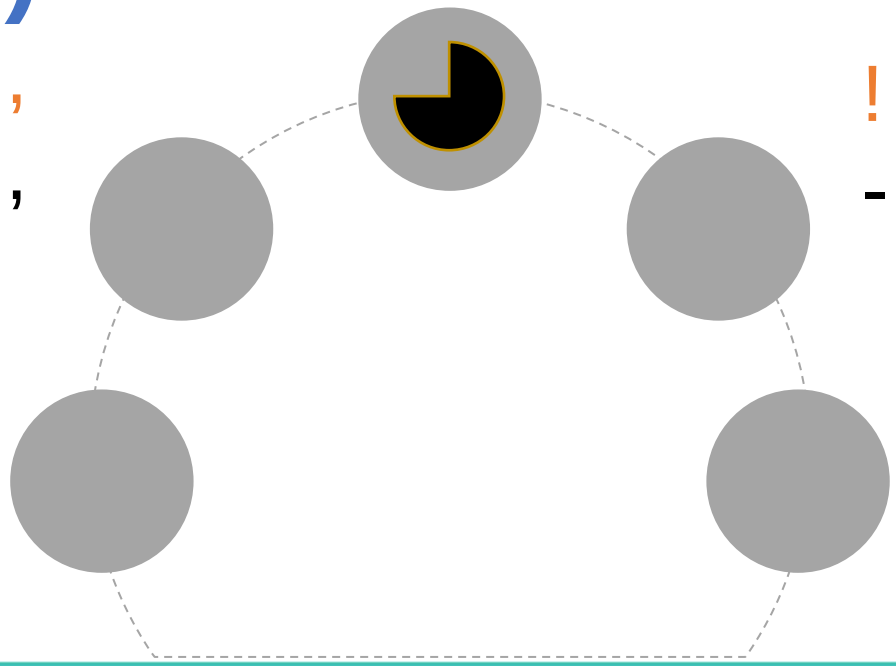
Student App

Grades
97%

Assignments
89%

Announcements
83%

App Frequency



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Student's Positive App Feedback & Challenges

Positive Feedback: Students were using the app primarily to keep track of assignments and stay up to date with the course.

“The thing I like most is that I always have my phone on me … I am always updated with my classes. ”

“I love being able to check something quickly within Canvas.”

Challenges: Students expressed a desire for more consistency in how instructors use the Calendar and other built in features.

“I wish all professors were required to utilize the calendar.”

“The app refreshes itself when my phone goes to sleep so I need to make sure I hit “submit” or it deletes everything I’ve drafted.”

Teacher's Positive App Feedback & Challenges

Positive Feedback: Teachers were using the app primarily for convenience.

“I like that it lets me feel connected - when I need it - especially when I am away from my office/computer … I can respond to students in an efficient way or even quickly grade using the rubric.”

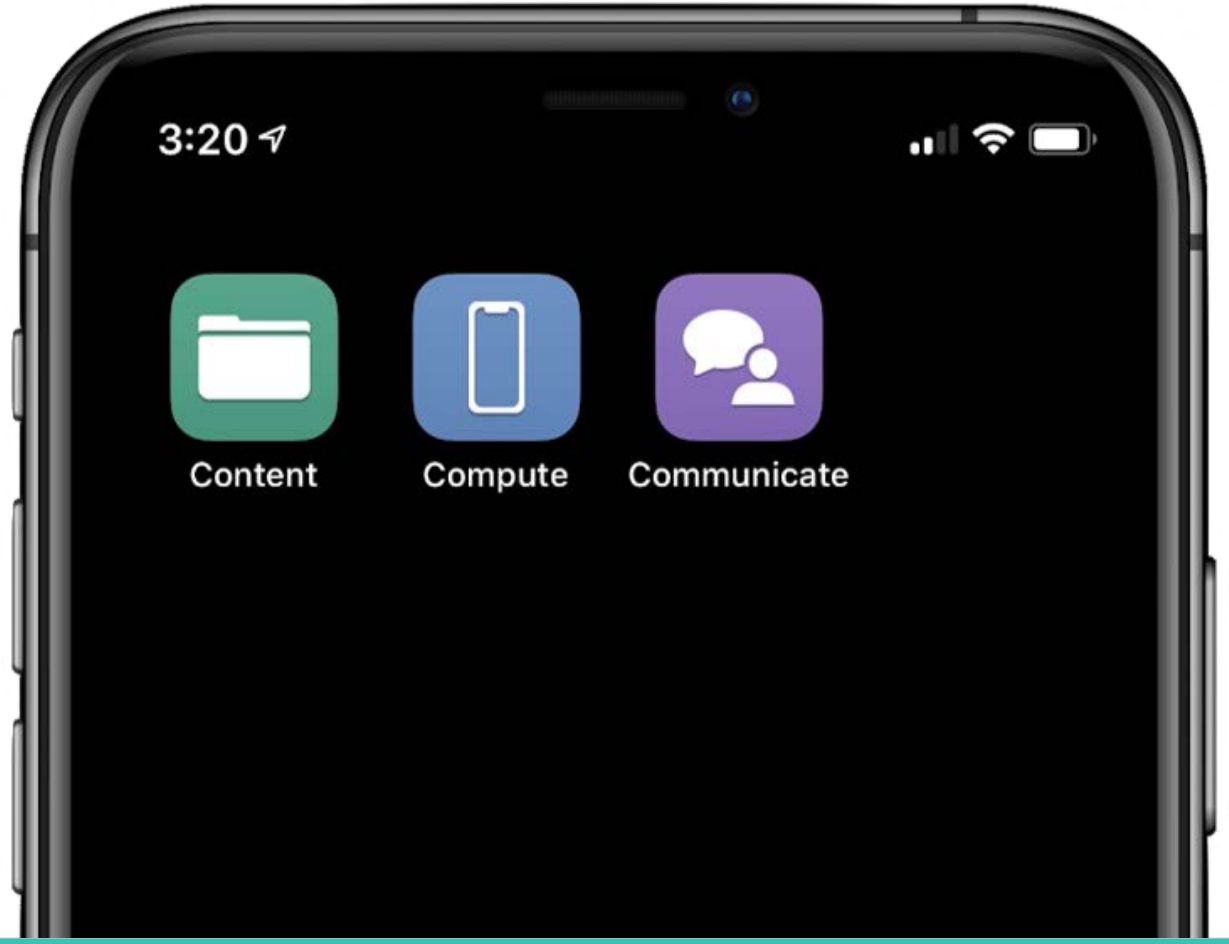
*"It’s easy to make changes to assignments, extend due dates, or correct errors ...*cough* like when I forget to publish something (Oops!)"*

Challenges: The teachers expressed a need to become more familiar with the app and more time to learn it.

“I want to be able to publish an announcement to multiple courses at once - like when it snows.”

“I have cross-listed courses so its complicated to navigate on a tiny screen.”

Faculty Next Steps and Design Considerations



Content

Content Barrier

- The never-ending scroll
- Directions unique to interface
- Static content

Design Consideration

- Microlearning, and searchable content or links to longer descriptions
- Directions need to be location agnostic
- Responsive content, Canvas Pages work best, module requirements

Compute

Computing Barrier

- File size
- Technology “crashes”
- Flash and Java don’t work well on mobile devices
- Publisher content and user experience

Design Consideration

- Large file/item downloads may require Wi-Fi
- Helpdesk and “Plan B”
- Quiz verbiage for devices

Communicate

Communication Barrier

- Mobile is what they do between doing other things
- Distracted learners or those who need more practice

Design Consideration

- Content chunking, table of contents and content access on the go
- Self-paced practice materials and a reduced number of clicks
- Use the app to check how your content appears on multiple devices

Slide Deck and Shared Resources

Pause the video

Open mobile device's camera 🤳

Point camera at the QR code 👉