So You Want to Go Digital?

8 Things to Look for in a Digital Learning Solution

Are you considering adding digital to your classes or moving to a different solution?

Facilitating digital learning is easier than you think, once you find a solution that works for you. When exploring your choices, make sure you look for these capabilities.

1 Complements your expertise.

2 Offers new opportunities for students to engage.

3 Provides a seamless experience for students.

4 Delivers content to students on the go.

5 Instantly identifies students who are struggling—or not.

6 Streamlines grading.

7 Allows you to dive into digital at a pace that works for you.

8 Gives you support and resources to help you—and your students—move to digital.

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1 Complements your expertise.

There is no replacing what you bring to your students. Choose a digital platform that allows you to design your class experience to reflect your teaching style and personality, rather than one that forces a cookie-cutter approach.

2 Offers new opportunities for students to engage.

Students learn in different ways, so choose a platform that lets you incorporate a variety of tools to keep their attention, including videos, maps, infographics, audio textbooks, podcasts and more. Also, choose a solution that allows students to interact with content via highlighting text or taking notes in eBooks.

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78% of students say technology use in their courses contributed to successful course completion.[1]

3 Provides a seamless experience for students.

All the bells and whistles a solution offers mean nothing if a student encounters an unfriendly interface. Seamless access through your learning management system (LMS), with an organized path to find content easily, is essential.

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4 Delivers content to students on the go.

People are constantly on their mobile devices these days, especially college students who juggle classes and may have jobs and family obligations. Choose a platform that offers a fully integrated mobile app so students can engage with their class whenever and wherever they are—with any device.

Internet users spend an average of **6 hours and 42 minutes** online each day, with nearly half of that time spent on mobile devices.[2]

5 Instantly identifies students who are struggling—or not.

Look for a platform with real-time analytics that pinpoint students who aren't engaging with the material or are struggling with assignments so that you can intervene early and get them back on track. And for students who are doing well, you can offer supplementary learning materials and extra credit assignments.
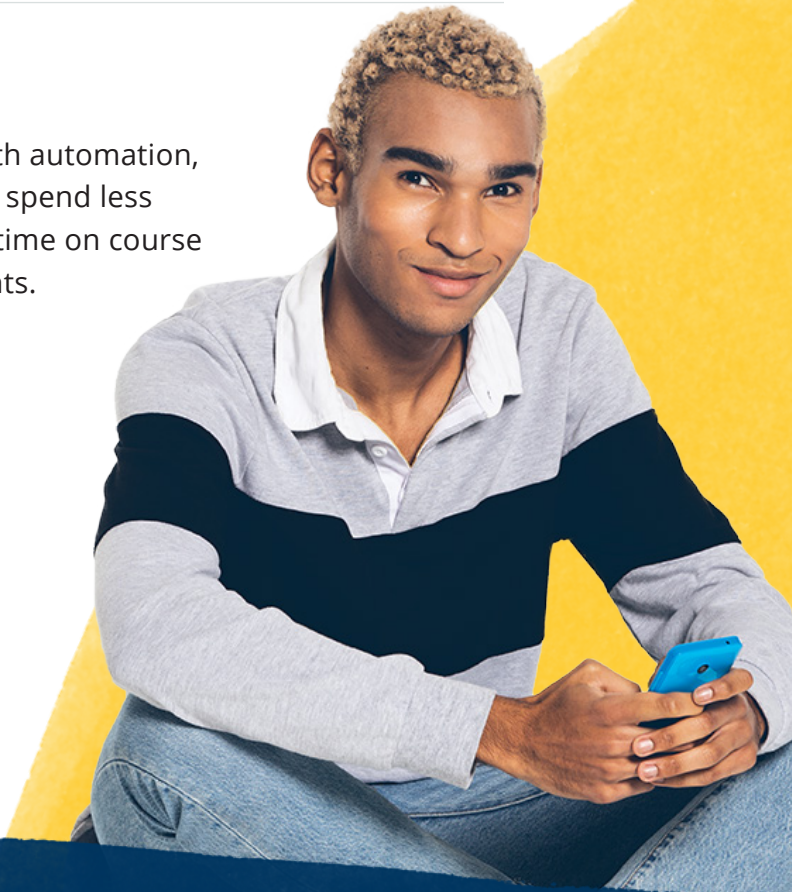
6 Streamlines grading.

When your grading is supplemented with automation, including connecting to your LMS, you'll spend less time on administrative tasks and more time on course improvements and working with students.

81% of students say easily accessible digital course materials would positively impact their grades.[3]

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7
Allows you to dive into digital at a pace that works for you.

Adapting to a new approach and technology can be time consuming. That's why it's important to choose a platform that allows you to begin with a few key assignments or content types to use in your course. As you become more comfortable, you can add new features and tools each semester.

8
Gives you support and resources to help you—and your students—move to digital.

When learning a new solution, guidance is key. The right partner should include support professionals who can help set you up for success. The platform should also provide an intuitive interface and customer support for students.

TIP: Look for a digital solution with an extensive network of peers in your discipline who have "been there, done that" and are willing to share their experiences with you.

Effective digital learning is within your reach. The key is choosing a system that provides the right tools for success.

Explore how Cengage's digital solutions can improve your classroom outcomes.

1 Educause, *ECAR Study of Undergraduate Students and Information Technology*, 2016
2 Hootsuite and We Are Social, *Digital 2019: Global Internet Use Accelerates*, January 30, 2019
3 Cengage, *Today's Learner: Student Views 2018*

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