Video 1: Canvas Introduction

# Slide One (1)

Welcome to Getting to Know the Canvas LMS (learning management system). My name is Dr. Whitney Sivils-Sawyer, and I am the Director of the Center for Instructional Technology at Louisiana Tech. And today, we will be talking about the Canvas Learning Management System.

# Slide Two (2)

First, we'll start with a brief introduction.

# Slide Three (3)

So, you may be asking yourself why Canvas? We initially started this whole thing because the University of Louisiana system would like all institutions to go to one learning management system, one LMS. To this end, the ULS is offering to pay for the transition and up to 3 years of associated costs. When they were looking into what LMS was most appropriate, they chose Canvas because... One reason Canvas is taking the market share of LMS usage in education, whereas Moodle has started to move more towards private industry.

Also. we'd love to offer some continuity to our transfer learners who come from the Louisiana Community and Technical College System. The LCTCS is already on Canvas, so we have 75,000 -over 75,000 Canvas users in the State of Louisiana already.

# Slide Four (4)

So, I do want to point out that the red hyperlinks lead to additional resources. So, I highly encourage you to dig through this PowerPoint on the website and explore some of these hyperlinks for additional resources.

So, Canvas Basics: Canvas is a learning management system, an LMS, that is organized around the concept of modules. A module is an organizational tool that helps instructors to structure their course content by a day, week, topic, learning outcome, unit. Basically, any way you can imagine creating a learning unit, you can create a module.

Canvas does play very well with third-party applications. So, if you have been using third-party apps already in your LMS, chances are those same apps will work better - will work as well, if not better, in the Canvas LMS. Contact your LMS Administrator to have any of those apps integrated into Canvas.

Also, one of the great perks of the ULS, in offering to move us to Canvas, is they are willing to pay for 24/7 support for faculty and for learners. This means that no longer do you have to try to triage LMS issues with your learners, go through your LMS admin. He turns in a ticket, etc., etc. Now you can hit the Help button on the global navigation menu, and you can get assistance. 24/7.