

MiraCosta College's CMS Decision Analysis

M/W	Description	Bb Rating	Bb Score	Canvas Rating	Canvas Score	Moodle Rating	Moodle Score
Automated course creation & enrollment management							
M	Sync capabilities with Surf: automated course creation, student rosters, updated enrollment of adds & drops, etc.		M		M		M
CMS Dependability, Viability, Innovation, & Cost							
10	Reputation of company; reliability/stability of platform (99% Scheduled Uptime); frequency and ease of software updates; satisfaction of peer institutions with product; confidence in ongoing viability and innovation in the software	5.65	56.50	8.51	85.10	6.71	67.10
10	Freedom from glitch-caused setbacks, e.g., ordered list numbers not displaying properly, inability to create a weblink in an item with a Mac (though it works on Windows),	5.92	59.17	7.83	78.33	7.03	70.31
1	Cost: (10=free, \$0-\$K=9, \$10-15K=8, etc.)	4.80	4.80	9.43	9.43	6.36	6.36
1	Hosted vs. self-hosted vs. cloud-based: what options are available and what are the tradeoffs between cost and reliability	6.91	6.91	8.32	8.32	7.72	7.72
User Authentication							
6	Integration with authentication software or services--to offer verification that the user is who he/she claims to be - for test taking. Distance	6.23	37.35	6.78	40.65	6.44	38.63
Ease of Use for Faculty and Students							
10	Readily available tech support for faculty & students	7.00	70.00	8.77	87.73	6.78	67.80
7	What is the learning curve for users (instructors or students) new to course management system usage? For users familiar with other course management systems? Does the system have useful help resources easily accessed from within the system or without?	7.27	50.91	7.45	52.18	7.00	49.00
9	Unify student experience from class to class.	5.82	52.36	9.16	82.43	7.42	66.78
8	CMS strikes an appropriate balance between providing a variety of tools, layouts, and display options, while maintaining a pleasant and consistent user experience for faculty and students	6.70	53.64	8.00	64.00	6.90	55.20
Course Design/Setup							
10	Ease of course copying and reuse of materials across courses and over time, both for a single person and if sharing with others.	7.15	71.50	7.82	78.20	7.22	72.19
5	Online course esthetics - how easy is it for the instructor to create an inviting online course environment?	7.17	35.86	8.44	42.18	6.75	33.75
5	Ability to edit/alter the class menu (i.e. add, remove, name/rename, etc. the menu titles)	8.18	40.91	5.11	25.55	7.44	37.22

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9	Ease of transferring from current CMS(s) to the selected CMS for robust online courses	7.52	67.70	6.29	56.62	6.22	55.98
8	Ease of merging classes, e.g., two sections of the same course, to allow for a shared discussion board, etc.	6.67	53.33	7.33	58.67	5.17	41.33
7	Ease of use to set a future date when different areas or features within the CMS (e.g. content areas, menu items, DB, etc.) will become available (and for those dates and time to be automatically updated when starting a new semester)	6.68	46.74	8.50	59.50	6.73	47.08
3	Not having to forge through ten million tools that I'm never going to use as I'm setting up the toolbox for my class.	5.45	16.35	8.10	24.30	7.00	21.00
CMS-Wide Functionality							
6	What file formats are supported for instructor and student use, and what is the ease of use for accessing uploaded files of various formats? Does the system manage files well and enable users to easily access and manage all uploaded files. Documents: The ability to upload documents easily and intuitively to turn in reports or papers	8.18	49.09	8.91	53.45	7.94	47.67
10	System supports a variety of roles and enables users to hold different roles in different contexts (instructor, TA, student, tutor, observer, administrator, outside guest, etc.)	8.29	82.91	8.61	86.14	8.05	80.50
10	Ease of switching between instructor and student view of LMS	7.79	77.90	8.98	89.80	7.06	70.63
10	System includes robust standard toolset (or integrates seamlessly with external tools) for communication and collaboration (email, discussion board, text chat, web conferencing, announcements, blogs, wikis, etc.)	7.44	74.44	8.00	80.00	7.25	72.50
7	Minimal clicks required to create, update, or locate CMS items.	5.50	38.50	8.75	61.25	7.00	49.00
7	Rapid, snag-free upload/download	7.32	51.26	7.67	53.67	7.34	51.40
7	Ability to mass-delete items, i.e., with a checkbox + delete all checked items	6.44	45.06	7.13	49.88	6.29	44.00
5	Video Capturing w/in the LMS: The ability to capture (and edit?) video without using an outside source (youtube, vimeo, etc.)	2.50	12.50	8.66	43.28	2.43	12.14
6	System integrates with common cloud-storage systems for instructor and student files (eg Dropbox, Google Drive, etc.)	5.71	34.29	8.50	51.00	5.50	33.00

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7	Automatic re-sizing of uploaded images to decent file sizes (students wishing to share images often can't or don't know how to resize their 2400-pixel wide image down to 800 pixels)	4.94	34.61	8.00	56.00	6.36	44.50
Presenting Course Content							
8	Is it possible to embed content, such as Google Slides or Zaption, for students to access within the LMS?	7.67	61.33	7.63	61.00	7.43	59.43
10	Flexibility: The ability to integrate a variety of outside tools, publisher and open education materials, and websites easily and without major technical obstacles (support for solving issues that come up with integrating publisher cartridges with LMS). Support for specialized discipline needs: languages, scientific notation, mathematical notation	5.94	59.44	8.53	85.28	6.19	61.88
10	Intergrate learning activities, assessments - into a module	6.78	67.78	8.75	87.50	7.22	72.19
8	Editor for adding information directly within the LMS effectively supports a rich set of tools including text markup, multimedia and HTML	6.77	54.18	8.66	69.27	7.22	57.78
Quiz & Tests							
7	Quiz/test features offer robust array of question types.	8.27	57.86	8.38	58.63	8.13	56.88
4	question pools	8.19	32.75	7.84	31.38	7.79	31.14
4	support for multimedia (question, responses, and feedback)	7.14	28.57	8.43	33.71	7.83	31.33
4	features supporting security and academic integrity	8.14	32.57	8.43	33.71	8.14	32.57
4	ability to import/share questions	7.29	29.14	7.86	31.43	7.29	29.14
4	auto-grading	8.22	32.88	8.78	35.13	7.96	31.86
4	feedback to students	8.16	32.63	8.78	35.13	7.72	30.88
4	Post hoc test analysis includes robust statistics for determining validity/reliability of test questions.	7.17	28.67	8.50	34.00	7.83	31.33
4	Quiz/test features offers ability to create questions with numbers that can be algorithmically generated. Those questions can also be automatically graded.	7.33	29.33	7.00	28.00	6.60	26.40
4	Useful options for instructors to use in deciding when quiz/test takers are able to review feedback, including "after maximum number of quiz tries completed"	8.00	32.00	8.63	34.50	7.71	30.86
4	Ability to recognize text fields left empty or with single-character entries as meriting zero points in automatically graded assessments	3.00	12.00	5.20	20.80	3.40	13.60
Discussion Board Tools							

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10	Discussion board tool is user friendly for students and instructors. Posting, reading, browsing, replying, and grading are effective and efficient. (includes advanced options: e.g., unable to see other posts until make own post; rk)	7.00	70.00	7.90	79.00	6.78	67.78
4	Discussion Boards with video capturing: The ability to capture video within a discussion board	3.93	15.71	8.54	34.14	5.43	21.71
5	Threaded discussion	8.67	43.33	6.83	34.17	7.42	37.08
3	Instructor's approval stamp for discussion board posts--i.e., some way of letting everyone know that a post is good without having to create a new post that basically says, "this is good."	4.07	12.21	4.67	14.00	3.20	9.60
Blogging Tools							
8	Is there a blogging feature either within the LMS or that would seamlessly integrate with the platform?	7.00	56.00	7.50	60.00	7.00	56.00
Assignments							
10	Community: The ability for students to interact, comment, and view the work of other students. Support for student peer review processes on writing assignments. Support for robust peer review and feedback of student work.	8.44	84.44	8.67	86.67	8.38	83.75
8	Voice Feedback on Assignment: The ability to leave vocal feedback on assignments for students	5.78	46.25	8.94	71.50	6.09	48.75
Video Conferencing							
10	Synchronous conferencing that works reliably in multiple configurations (plus ability to record session, archive it)	6.33	63.33	7.67	76.67	6.33	63.33
7	Immediate availability of conferencing (e.g. Collab) recordings after the session	5.50	38.50	7.33	51.33	5.50	38.50
Grading							
10	Grading features: Ease of commenting on work in multiple formats (text, voice, video, inline comments/markup for documents), creating & using rubrics, having dialogue with students around feedback, calculating course totals and grades clearly and easily, flexible formats for scoring work, ease of getting to work needing to be scored, ease of regrading, ease of extra credit, ease of export/import of gradebook for manipulation in external software when needed (ease of selecting grade given to multiple attempts: best, last, etc.; rk)	7.33	73.33	7.89	78.89	6.88	68.75

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10	Plagiarism Checking: The ability to check for plagiarism on written assignments (independent or 3rd party)	8.38	83.75	8.25	82.50	8.13	81.25
8	Function allowing instructor to grade all of the short answers to question X offline, and then have the scores bulk-submitted. This is in contrast to Bb's current schema in which you have to wait for each score to upload.	1.71	13.71	5.93	47.43	4.88	39.00
8	Ability to grade the same question across all exams, then the next question, etc.; and to do so anonymously (ji)	5.38	43.00	7.75	62.00	5.29	42.29
Gradebook							
10	Ease of adding columns to the gradebook - especially for items which are not submitted/graded online (such as in-person proctored exams)	8.25	82.50	7.59	75.94	7.58	75.83
6	Gradebook partitioning for classes with very large numbers of small assignments--i.e., all 120 2-point quizzes can be managed separately from bigger assignments with a grade that is just imported into the main gradebook	6.50	39.00	6.00	36.00	6.00	36.00
Announcements / Notifications							
10	Users can flexibly opt in to notifications from courses for a variety of events, using a variety of communication media. Easy to contact students within the LMS with announcements, grade issues, etc.	7.00	70.00	8.93	89.25	6.53	65.28
Mobile Access							
10	Mobile friendly: Does the system work well on a variety of devices, whether as a native website or via apps?	3.50	35.00	8.73	87.25	4.28	42.78
Accessibility							
10	System is inherently fully accessible for people with disabilities, and includes features to enhance accessibility and accommodation for individuals for course materials and activities (eg support for captioning, image descriptions, time adjustments on tests, etc.)	5.94	59.38	8.72	87.19	6.88	68.75
10	Test/Quiz time can easily be made 150%, 200%, etc for DSPS students (i.e., how easy is it for the instructor to accommodate DSPS students; rather than just the ability to do so)	6.63	66.25	7.94	79.38	6.31	63.13
10	Closed Captioning: Video components capture and automatically close caption the videos.	0.86	8.57	2.00	20.00	0.71	7.14
Group Collaboration							

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8	Group features provide ability for teacher- or student-created groups to work together using a variety of communication/collaboration tools, including group submission of assignments	6.35	50.80	8.45	67.60	6.75	54.00
Individualized/Mastery Learning							
5	System includes useful tools for structuring/sequencing/individualizing learning activities based on student interaction and level of success	5.60	28.00	8.08	40.38	6.25	31.25
10	Easy-to-use support of mastery model instruction, i.e., later content released after completion of previous content	6.56	65.56	8.78	87.78	6.43	64.29
Course Calendar							
5	Calendar tool integrates with common calendaring systems and usefully provides notifications to faculty and students about important dates/times of course events	4.65	23.25	9.35	46.75	5.44	27.22
7	Ability to add items to the calendar which are neither submitted nor graded in the CMS (e.g. reminders to come to campus to take a Test, an alert that next week is finals week, etc)	6.16	43.09	7.78	54.47	5.71	40.00
Data Analytics							
10	Data analytics: Provides useful, actionable data for instructors, students, and possibly for administrative purposes (eg SLOs)	6.69	66.88	7.91	79.06	6.78	67.81
10	Data analytics: Used to automatically alert instructors and/or students of exceptionally high or poor performance	7.22	72.19	7.91	79.06	7.07	70.71
Use of CMS beyond Individual MCC Courses							
7	Potential for CMS to be used as a portal - provide sites for student clubs, faculty committees, etc. Integrate with other college systems such as ed planning, student support services, SURF. Is it allowable and useful to use the system for non-course purposes? e.g. as a disciplinary hub, for student clubs, for student services, etc.	6.45	45.18	8.46	59.25	5.11	35.78
8	Participation in the OEI Course Exchange	0.09	0.73	9.50	76.00	0.00	0.00
5	System includes tools such as a portfolio that enables students to save work across courses and time	2.93	14.64	8.36	41.82	2.47	12.36
DA Category Total/Percentage			3230	4043	3260		

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