Highlights of Desire2Learn v10.1
This page contains highlights of what is changing in version 10.1 of the D2L Learning Environment software.

- For specifics on the changes, go to the SCC D2L Upgrade Resources website located at:
  http://media.scc.losrios.edu/d2l/v10/index.html

- Blog entries focused on this new version, including those with video demonstrations, are labeled “v10” on Greg Desires2Blog: http://gregdesires2blog.blogspot.com/search/label/v10

General Changes
- The process for requesting course offerings, copying course materials, and making course offerings active has not changed.
- There is now a two-column layout on the My Home and Course Home pages instead of three columns.
- The minibar at the very top of D2L is new and includes a pull-down menu that allows users to switch to other course offerings without having to go back to the My Home page (course offerings can also be pinned so they always appear at the top of the list). The logout link is also located on the minibar.
- Many buttons for tasks (especially Edit) are now options on an action menu. For example, if you are editing a topic, you will click the pull-down action menu to the left of the topic title.
- Usable space is consistently within a 960pixel frame, which means the interface will be more consistent across different monitors, browsers, and operating systems.

Course Homepage and Navigation
- The default “Student Resources” group on the navigation bar replaces the black navigation bar at the top of D2L and has links to the student help site and the Los Rios Gmail and Google Apps.
- If you would like to make changes to the default navigation bar, it must be first be copied and then that copy may be edited. After making changes to the copied navigation bar, you will need to indicate that it is the new active navigation bar for the class.
- An “Instructor links” widget includes a link to Desire2Learn’s help manual for instructors.
- The Edit Course page (last link on the navigation bar) includes links to course tools like Classlist and Grades. You can also access a new tool called Course Design Accelerator, which includes a specific list of tasks to consider as a course offering is developed.

Content
This area has changed the most in the new version of D2L. Content is intended to be the main way that students navigate through course materials.
• Course Overview is a new feature. Instructors always see this first when clicking on the Content link. Students will only see it if it has anything in it; this could be only one file and/or a text field.
• Modules and topics have descriptions that students see before viewing the item.
• Files can now be dragged directly from a local computer to make a topic.
• Not only can discussion topics, quizzes, and Dropbox folders be linked to from Content, but new discussion topics, quizzes, and Dropbox folders can be created in the Content area as well.
• Hidden status for modules and topics is now called “Draft.” When you wish for a module or topic to become available to students, you will change it to “Published.”
• The inline file viewer means that students no longer need to have a particular application to view certain files (they can be viewed inside the browser). You can use the following types of files as topics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extension</th>
<th>File Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HTM, HTML, MHT, MHTML</td>
<td>Web Document</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RTF, PPT, PPS, PDF, DOC, DOCX, PPTX, XML, XLS, TXT, WPD</td>
<td>Text Document</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JPG, JPEG, PNG, GIF, BMP, TIF, TIFF</td>
<td>Image</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWF, MPG, MPEG, RM, MP3, MP4*, M4V*, M4A*, AVI, WAV, RAM, ASF, MOV, RA</td>
<td>Media</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• The number of topics listed next to a module tells students how many things there are to read or complete inside that module if you activate completion tracking. This is like an automatic checklist for students’ eyes only.
• The Content page includes a list of upcoming events, which is automatically generated as dates are attached to modules, discussion topics, Dropbox folders, and quizzes.

**Discussions**

• A new option is now available that requires students to post a message before seeing other posts and participating in a topic. This encourages original thought without influence from other existing posts.
• Data on progress report page distinguishes between a student’s Authored posts (thread-starting posts) and Replied posts within each topic.
• You can evaluate students’ individual messages and have D2L automatically calculate a topic score for each user, or you can assign a topic score directly to each user from within the Discussions area. If you choose to assess individual messages, you can specify how you want the system to calculate each student’s overall topic score.

**Dropbox**

Two great new features have been added to the Dropbox area of D2L v10.1.

• There are now two closing dates for a Dropbox folder (both are optional):
  1. (NEW) Specify a Due Date when the assignment is due.
  2. The End Date is the very last date a student can submit an assignment. Files submitted between the Due Date and End Date are marked as late. The End Date must be set after the Due Date if this feature is used.
  3. In previous versions of D2L, as soon as feedback was entered and saved into the Dropbox it was immediately released for students to view. In this version, instructors can now enter feedback in the
Dropbox but withhold it from students until they are ready to publish it for all students simultaneously. To do this, feedback will be saved in *Draft* status before it is published.

**Quizzes**

- Students can now subscribe to notifications warning of an approaching Quiz end date. This option is available to students go to the minibar, click on the pull-down menu next to their name and select Notifications.