



# RECOGNITIONS

## MUCH TO BE THANKFUL FOR

"We're just enthusiastic about what we do."

-Steve Jobs

This month's special recognition goes to those of you who develop and teach online courses for Samford! It's been over a year since the implementation of Samford's Online Course Approval Policy, including various levels of the rigorous Quality Matters standards. We've been so encouraged by the willingness to embrace the changes and the increased effort required to meet the new guidelines. Clearly, the Samford academic community is enthusiastic about what we do and is dedicated to enhancing the student experience through the design of our online courses. We are excited about the new year and can't wait to see what we develop together!

Happy Holidays and Thank **YOU** for all you do!  
Your friends in the Office of Online and Professional Studies

## DEADLINE FOR COURSE REVIEWS

Deadlines for Jan term and spring courses are approaching! When your course is ready for review, please notify your department chair and the instructional designer assigned to your course.

Term Start	Review Submission Deadline
January 2 & 3, 2019	November 28, 2018
January 22, 2019	December 17, 2018

The Samford Online Resources course has been moved to Canvas and is now entitled **Instructional Design Resources**. **Please click here** to self-enroll in the course and review the **Online Course Development Process** page. Courses that have not previously been taught online are required to follow all procedures outlined in the Online Course Development Process page. Instructors teaching existing online courses should review institutional documents found in step 2 of the Online Course Development Process, complete the **Instructional Contact Hours Calculator**, and proceed to steps 3 and 4 of the Online Course Development Process.



## The Canvas Corner

### Known Issues

As courses are migrated from Moodle to Canvas, there will be "clean-up" required. Below you will find the top known issues that occur when moving or copying content between Moodle and Canvas courses. Click the solutions below to learn more! If you have any trouble implementing the solution identified, please contact [samfordonline@samford.edu](mailto:samfordonline@samford.edu).

**Issue 1:** After importing content into a Canvas course, the Home page changes to show the Modules rather than the original Front page from the blueprint.

**Solution:** The Home page will need to be changed back to the Front page included in the blueprint. **Click Here for details.**

**Issue 2:** Copied course content is placed below the existing blank modules, making it appear as though the content did not transfer.

**Solution:** Delete unused modules. **Click Here for details.**

**Issue 3:** Kaltura Videos do not copy over with course content from Moodle to Canvas. Furthermore, Kaltura will be discontinued after December 31, 2018.

**Solution:** All Kaltura media content has been copied into Canvas's Arc media library. Instructors will need to use Arc to re-insert their media content into their course. **Click Here for details.**

**Issue 4:** Files attached to an assignment activity in Moodle will not be attached to the assignment in Canvas.

**Solution:** The file does get copied into Canvas, but will need to be re-linked to the assignment. **Click Here for details.**

## The Canvas Commons

Canvas Commons is a learning object repository that enables faculty to find, import, and share resources. A digital library full of educational content, Commons allows Canvas users to share learning resources with other users as well as import learning resources into a Canvas course. To import objects from Commons:

- Enter your course
- Click the "Import From Commons" button on the right side of your screen
- Search for the content or select the shared tab for your group content
- Select your course on the right
- Then click "Import into Course"

For more information about Canvas Commons, **click here!** We are excited to announce our first development within the Canvas Commons - Online Spiritual Growth Modules. Read more about this development on page two.



## Training for the Updated QM Rubric

The QM Higher Education Rubric, Sixth Edition Update (Rubric Update) course is available to all QM Higher

Rubric.

3. Changes that have been made to the Course Review Management System that will go into effect along with the QM Higher Education Rubric, Sixth Edition.

Education Members. QM role-holders such as Peer Reviewers and Master Reviewers are required to successfully complete the Rubric Update to retain their role. The Rubric Update will be available for free until December 31, 2018. After December 31, 2018, the Rubric Update will become the Rubric Update Role Reinstatement course and will cost \$50 to take. So, if you are interested in the rubric update, or hold a QM role, enroll today! **Click here to enroll.**

In this self-paced course, participants will learn about:

1. The QM Higher Education Rubric, Sixth Edition, and how it differs from the QM Higher Education Rubric, Fifth Edition.
2. Changes that have been made to the Course Worksheet and the Glossary in conjunction with the changes to the

## Samford's Newest Peer Reviewer



Congratulations to Taylor Kendrick for completing the Quality Matters Higher Ed Peer Reviewer Course! The Peer Reviewer Course includes a review of Quality Matters, practice in critiquing and writing helpful recommendations, and a Practice Review in which the participants are asked to review Specific Review Standards in an online course. Thanks for your work, Taylor!

**BIG  
News!**

## Spiritual Growth Modules in Canvas

By Dr. Bryan Gill, Director of Professional Studies

You may have noticed the sounds of construction equipment echoing across campus. Much of this is an effort to enhance the student experience and provide physical spaces for community building among on-ground students. These spaces will soon be filled with students hanging out together, praying together, and talking about what God is doing in their lives. While the rattle of jackhammers and excavators is not as evident for virtual spaces, Samford is just as committed to providing intentional community spaces for online students.

Samford's mission to "nurture persons in the development of faith and personhood" extends to all students—including online students. In 2016, the Samford Online Task Force identified one of its initiatives as "The exploration of a spiritual formation component available to all online students and aligned with Samford's mission."

Through the Canvas Commons, this initiative is now becoming a reality. As a result of a collaboration with the Office of Online and Professional Studies and the Office of Spiritual Life, we are excited to extend spiritual growth opportunities and virtual community spaces to our online students through the Canvas Commons.

Starting in January, a series of spiritual formation modules, which can be imported into an instructor's course with the click of a button, will be available in the Canvas Commons. Each module is fully developed and centered around a theme (Faith and Vocation, Workplace Integrity, Loving your Neighbor, A Christian's Response to Social Justice, etc.) with the following components:

- Scripture passage and a short devotional (written by faculty and staff at Samford)
- Brief video and/or podcast

pertaining to the theme of the module with personal reflection questions

- A group discussion with questions prompting students to connect their major or coursework to the module's theme

Participation in these modules is voluntary and how they are utilized in the classroom is dependent upon each instructor. They are designed to be resources for instructors to provide online spiritual growth and community building opportunities at the course level.

Email me if you wish to be added to the Spiritual Formation group in the Canvas Commons ([bdgill@samford.edu](mailto:bdgill@samford.edu)).



*Dr. Gill has researched online spiritual formation and community building in higher education and his doctoral project was titled, "Testing a Co-Curricular Model for Spiritual Growth among Online Professional Studies Students at Samford University."*