



Deep Dive: Course Analytics in Canvas

Learning Goals: At the end of this training, you will be able to:

- Understand how to use “new analytics” in Canvas
- Understand the major benefits of reviewing course analytics
- Learn practical applications when using Canvas analytics such as:
 - Analytics on a specific assignment
 - Analytics on a single student
 - Analytics on the entire course

Canvas Analytics Training Walkthrough

1. Introduce “course analytics” in Canvas
 - Provide a brief overview of “Course Analytics” and the importance of using course data to make informed decisions about your class, your class content, and the students you are teaching.
 - Two ways to access “Course Analytics”: button & course navigation “blue link”
 - **Important reminder: the “Course Analytics” blue link is not visible/accessible to your students.**
2. Getting Started / Quick Overview
 - Explanation and review of the average course score.
 - Download CSV option
 - Manage Chart Options
3. Review of the major tabs:
 - Tab 1: Course Grades
 - Tab 2: Weekly Online Activity
 - i. Explain the difference between Average Page View & Average Participation
 - Tab 3: Students
 - Tab 4: Reports
4. Scatter Plot Review: when reviewing tabs 1 & 2, make sure to show how to manipulate the scatter plot
 - Click on a single dot to get the slide out
 - Organize by assignment / eliminate an assignment type
 - Organize by student; this option allows you to get a grade breakdown on a specific student and allows you to compare students on a given assignment (e.g., scatter plot displays 1 line for the student, 1 line for the rest of the class)



5. PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS / INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY: You can ask a participant to share their screen and review and discuss one or two practical applications when using/interpreting Canvas Analytics. Or continue to use your own course data.
 - **Option 1: Analytics on a weekly activity (a student's activity)** – this allows the instructor to see the weekly activity for an individual student (e.g., how many times that student has accessed a page, reading, PDF, etc). This is helpful in determining if a student is engaging with the required readings, pages, and modules.
 - **Option 2: Detailed Breakdown of an individual student** - this feature provides a complete data overview of a specific student (Click “Students” - Select a specific student - review course grades, weekly online activity, and communication).
 - **Option 3: Weekly Online Activity (average score)** – hover over a blue dot to review average scores of online activity (e.g., average page views & average participation).
 - **Option 4: Student Participation** - Using the students' tab, filter on participation to get a sense of how engaged your students are.
 - **Option 5: Levels of Student Engagement** - Using the students tab, filter the list to see the students with the highest level of engagement and the lowest level of engagement.
6. Conclusion and time for Q&A
 - Closing thoughts: SMUMN Instructors can review and utilize “new analytics” while teaching in their course(s) in Canvas. There is a 24-hour window for the data to update. SMU's Education Technology department recommends that instructors review course analytics on a regular basis. If teaching an 8-week class, it is best practice to review course analytics once per week. For a 16-week class, the best practice is to review course analytics every other week.