Students: D2L Brightspace January 2020 update

Version 20.20.01 Release Notes

Last updated: January 18, 2020

Note: This document provides the release notes from D2L's January 2020 (version 20.20.01) monthly continuous delivery release. Some features or products were excluded from D2L's original document as they were not applicable to Minnesota State users.

Minor changes were made to the original content for word-choice and formatting consistency.

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BRIGHTSPACE JANUARY 2020 (20.20.01) UPDATE FOR MINNESOTA STATE

This document is intended for **Students** at the colleges and universities of Minnesota State.

The following release notes are Minnesota State users who want information on D2L Brightspace Platform features in the January 2020 release (version 20.20.01).

Note that some features or products were excluded from the original document as they were not applicable to Minnesota State users. We have only included relevant features to bring them to the attention of our Minnesota State D2L user community.

The January monthly update to version 20.20.01 has been rescheduled to Friday, January 17, 2020.

Additional Resources

- Related Knowledge Articles:

    o   Article #1483 Supported browsers in D2L Brightspace

    o   Article #600 Student D2L Brightspace Resources and Known Issues

NEW AND UPDATED FEATURES

BRIGHTSPACE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Brightspace Learning Environment – Internet Explorer no longer supported | Removed 20.20.01

As of January 1, 2020, Brightspace Learning Environment has ended support for Internet Explorer. All version of Internet Explorer will no longer be able to access D2L Brightspace.

Starting January 1, 2020, D2L Brightspace will no longer support Internet Explorer.

- For all users, access Brightspace with any version of Internet Explorer will see an unsupported browser page and will not be able to proceed.

- References to Internet Explorer in the System Check, retro browser pop-up dialog box, and browser compatibility documentation will also be removed.

For an optimal experience that offers better performance, accessibility, and security, D2L strongly recommends that all users access D2L Brightspace with a supported browser. View knowledge articles about supported browsers in D2L Brightspace.
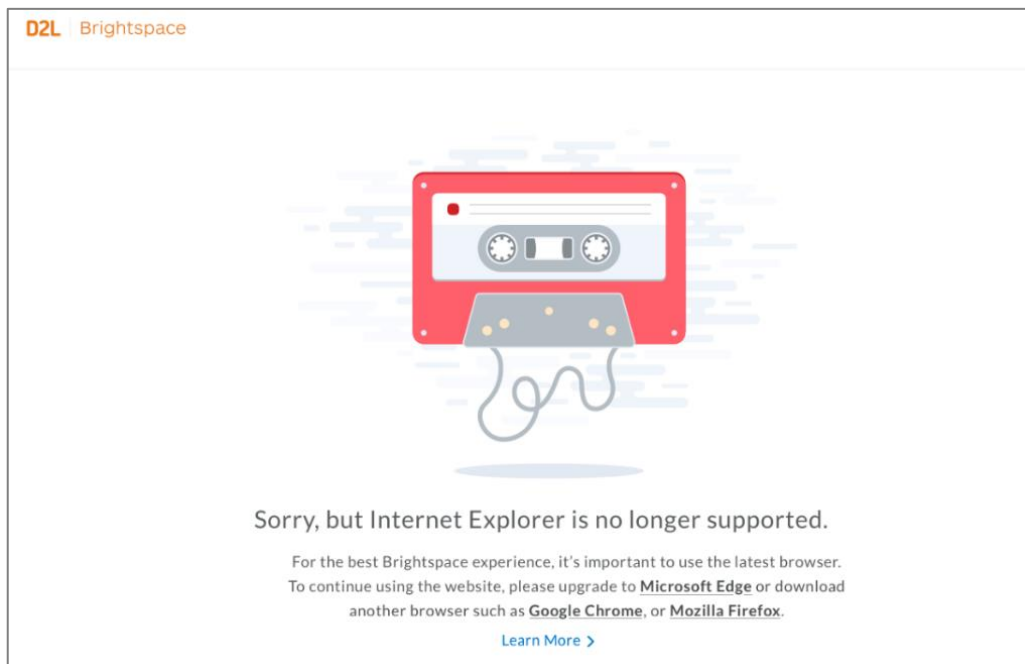

Figure: The unsupported message displays after logging in to D2L Brightspace using Internet Explorer

Impact of Change	Technical Details	Next Steps
Moderate impact to all users due to the new banner that displays upon log into D2L Brightspace when using any version of Internet Explorer.	**Availability**: This feature is applicable to all D2L Brightspace sites. This functionality is automatically enabled for users who access a D2L Brightspace using Internet Explorer. **User Resources:** View the knowledge articles about supported browsers in D2L Brightspace.	**Important**: As of January 1, 2020, D2L has ended support for Internet Explorer. All versions of Internet Explorer will no longer be able to access D2L Brightspace; users accessing with Internet Explorer will see an unsupported browser message, and will need to use a different browser to access D2L Brightspace.

Brightspace Learning Environment – Support for Chromium-based Microsoft Edge | New 20.20.01

As of January 15, 2020, Brightspace Learning Environment will support the new Chromium-based Microsoft Edge browser. The latest version of Microsoft Edge and the new Chromium-based Microsoft Edge browser will be supported browser versions within D2L Brightspace. Refer to the Microsoft Edge page for further details.

For an optimal experience that offers better performance, accessibility, and security, D2L strongly recommends that all users access D2L Brightspace with a supported browser. View knowledge articles about supported browsers in D2L Brightspace.

Impact of Change	Technical Details	Next Steps
Slight impact to all users due to the new Chromium-based Microsoft Edge support within D2L Brightspace.	**Availability**: This feature is applicable to all D2L Brightspace sites. This functionality is automatically enabled for users who access a D2L Brightspace using the new Chromium-based Microsoft Edge browser. No further action is required. **User Resources:** View the knowledge articles about supported browsers in D2L Brightspace.	As of January 15, 2020, Brightspace Learning Environment will support the new Chromium-based Microsoft Edge browser. This support is in addition to the latest version of Microsoft Edge browser.

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BRIGHTSPACE PULSE

### Brightspace Pulse – Additional languages supported | New 20.20.01

Brightspace Pulse is a mobile app that can help students stay connected and on track with their courses in Brightspace Learning Environment. To provide consistent language support with the Brightspace platform, Brightspace Pulse is now available in the following additional languages:

- Arabic (Saudi Arabia)
- Chinese (Simplified)
- Chinese (Traditional)
- Danish
- French (France)
- German
- Japanese
- Korean
- Swedish
- Turkish

Previously, Brightspace Pulse was only available in: English (U.S.), Spanish (Latin America), French (Canada), Portuguese (Brazil), and Dutch.

Note: The Brightspace Pulse app reflects the language preference selected on the user's device, not what is set in D2L Brightspace.

Impact of Change	Technical Details	Next Steps
Slight impact to all users due to the availability of Brightspace Pulse in additional languages.	**Availability:** This feature is available to all D2L Brightspace sites. This functionality is automatically enabled for Brightspace Pulse users. No further action is required. The Brightspace Pulse app reflects the language preference selected on the user's device, not what is set in D2L Brightspace. **User Resources:** For more information, view knowledge articles about Brightspace Pulse.	Brightspace Pulse is available for download from any global Google Play™ store or Apple App Store®. The app is generally released at the beginning of the month, and then sometimes mid-month, if issues are found. Depending on how your device is configured, the app may update automatically or you may have to manually check for new versions.

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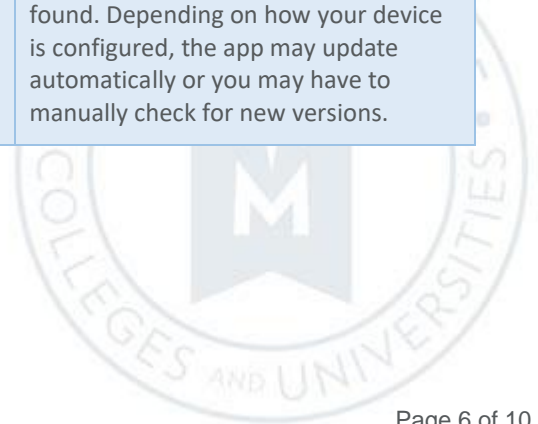
GROUPS

Groups – Group descriptions and self-enrollment group start dates | New 20.20.01

This feature includes three improvements to Groups:

- Previously, all group category and individual group descriptions were not available to group members. Now, you may see the group category and individual group descriptions.

- Previously, self-enrollment groups did not provide a start date. Now, your instructor may set start dates for self-enrollment groups. You may see a start date for the self-enrollment group, ensuring learners are prepared and have equal opportunity to self-enroll.

Students' view of group changes

Figure: For self-enrolled groups, students can see the individual group descriptions before joining a group

Figure: For self-enrolled groups, students can see the start date (along with the existing expiry date) before joining a group

Figure: After clicking on the group name, students can see a group category and/or an individual group descriptions (if available)

Group Details ✕

Project topics

Sign up for a topic you are interested after the start date, but before the end date.

Group 2 - grp_2

Sign up for a topic you are interested in after the start date, but before the end date.
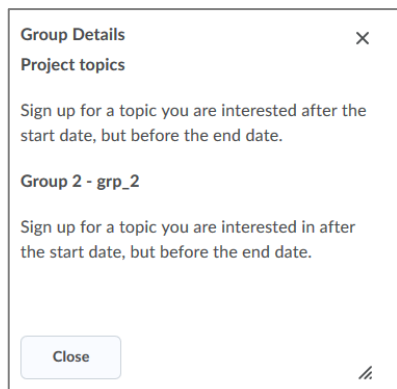
Close

Figure: After clicking on the group name, students can see the group category name and description and/or the individual group name, description, and group code in the Group Details window (if available)

Impact of Change	Technical Details	Next Steps
Slight impact to learners who might observe visible group descriptions, and self-enrollment group start dates.	**Availability**: This feature is available to all D2L Brightspace sites. This feature is automatically enabled for Groups users. No further action is required. **User Resources:** For more information, view knowledge articles about Groups.	N/A

PROFILE

Profile – Character limit for long text fields in User Profile | New 20.20.01

To add a reasonable character limit to long text fields in the **User Profile** page, the following **Personal Info** fields are now limited to 4000 characters each:

- Interests/Hobbies

- Favorite Music

- Favorite Books

- Favorite TV Shows

- Favorite Movies

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- Favorite Quotations

- Favorite Websites

- Future Goals

- Most Memorable Learning Experience

If you more than 4000 characters, a warning message appears to state the limit. Your text may be truncated. Please edit the field to reduce the characters if necessary.

The new character limit is enforced when saving in the Profile. Existing data over the limit is not truncated with this feature; however, updates to the data are required to use the new limit. Existing data over the limit may be truncated to the new limit in a future release.

Figure: Personal Info fields in the User Profile page

Impact of Change	Technical Details	Next Steps
Slight impact to all users due to a new character limit for long text fields in the User Profile page.	**Availability**: This feature will be available to all D2L Brightspace sites. **To enable**: This functionality is automatically enabled for D2L Brightspace users. No further action is required. **User Resources:** For more information, view the knowledge articles about Profile.	N/A