



Dear Colleagues,

In the lead up to Thanksgiving, there are a lot of things happening. Yesterday and today representatives from Blackboard Ultra are on campus providing information to faculty, while CITAL is hosting workshops on how to get the most out of Simple Syllabus. Our team is also working to help faculty enhance existing courses and reimagine in-person courses in the online environment. Aiding us in the redesign process is Quality Matters. While our most recent blog article discusses the process at more length, it is important to note that this process was developed by faculty as a way to utilize the tradition of faculty peer review to ensure online course quality in design. So, as you look through the list of events, information, and services, please remember that we appreciate and are thankful for your engagement and support. We look forward to continuing this journey with each of you.

Sincerely,

**The CITAL Team (Ed, Gina, and Cindy)**

# CITAL



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## Blackboard Ultra On-site Visits Today!

As a reminder, representatives from Blackboard Ultra will be on campus starting time today from 8:00 am - 11:00 am.

They will hold four individual 1-hour informational sessions that will include an overview of the system, demonstrations and plenty of time for questions and answers. You can sign up for a preferred time here (although no registration is required.) (Click on "Blackboard Ultra Information Sessions")

[Valparaiso University Professional Development & Training Schedule](#)



## Request Learning Management System Sandbox Sites

You can test drive any or all of the LMSs that Valpo is reviewing including BrightSpace, Blackboard Ultra, and Canvas by requesting sandbox sites by filling out this form: [CITAL - LMS Sandbox Request](#)

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### Why *Quality Matters* Matters

By Cynthia Rutz, Director of Faculty Development

We all know that enrollment in traditional in-person university classes has declined across the country. But did you know that there has been a corresponding increase in enrollment in online and hybrid courses? Despite this growing demand, many faculty have little or no experience designing [online and hybrid courses](#).

That is where Valpo's partnership with Quality Matters comes in.

To read more, click here: [Why \*Quality Matters\* Matters](#)

**Some past CITAL blog posts that you might find useful at this time in the semester:**

[Take The Pain Out of Testing](#)

[Valpo Faculty Perspectives on Simple Syllabus](#)

[Simplify Your Grading in Blackboard](#)

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### Want to know more about QM at Valpo?

Visit the [CITAL website QM page](#) to find out about Valpo's membership & benefits including access to a confidential self-review tool. Along with the [QM Course Design Rubric Standards](#), this tool enables you to start implementing QM Standards now that you can use to improve the quality of your Blackboard courses. [Watch the QM Self-Review Tutorial](#).

Visit the CITAL website service desk for help or [request your Valpo QM account](#).

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Come to a Simple Syllabus

# Workshop

Learn about:

- Intro to the New View Dashboard
- Advantages of Valpo's published syllabus library
- Importing a syllabus from a previous semester
- Useful formatting tips
- Making your syllabus more accessible



(Click on "CITAL Faculty Workshops")

[Valparaiso University Professional Development & Training Schedule](#)

Visit the CITAL website, Your One-Stop-Shop for Faculty Resources

Submit a CITAL Helpdesk Ticket



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