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TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

D2L Brightspace - Daylight Experience The Groups Tool

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## Published by Kennesaw State University - UITS 2019

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# University Information Technology Services 

## D2L Brightspace - The Daylight Experience <br> The Groups Tool

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## Introduction

Groups are a great way for students to collaborate on assignments and projects within their course, share files, and upload projects. Instructors can divide their class into groups, and create workspaces that can only be accessed by the instructor and the students in that group.

## Learning Objectives

After completing the instructions in this booklet, you will be able to:

- Create categories and groups for your students.
- Manage your categories and groups.
- Assign students automatically or manually to groups.
- Have students self-enroll into groups.
- Create either "Discussions" or "Discussion Topics", Assignments, and/or Lockers for groups.


## Accessing the Groups Tool

The following instructions explain how to access the Groups tool:

1. From inside your course on the Navigation Bar, click Other.


Figure 1 - Other
2. A drop-down list will appear. Click Groups.


Figure 2 - Select Groups
3. The Manage Groups page will appear.

| Manage Groups |
| :--- |
| New Crtegory |
| Categories |
| You have not defined any groups. Click New Category to create a new Group Category. |

## Creating a Category

You can create various categories to organize your different groups. For example, this semester you may plan on assigning group work for Unit 1, Unit 2, Unit 3, and a Marketing Project. When setting up groups, you have the option to give each group a Discussion Area, an Assignment, and a Locker (See Creating a Workspace for Groups).

While creating your category, you will also create your groups, but you must create a category before you can create a group:

Note: You will be able to add additional groups after the creation of your category.
The following explains how to create a category:

1. From the Manage Group page, click the New Category button.

> Manage Groups
(2) Help

## New Category

Categories

You have not defined any groups. Click New Category to create a new Group Category.

Figure 4 - New Category
2. The New Category page will appear. In the Category Name field, type in the name for your category.

## Category Information

Category Name

Final Group Project

Description

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { ( } \% 0^{\circ} \text { - } \\
& \text { Paragraph } \\
& \text { B } \\
& \text { U } \\
& \text { - } \equiv \\
& \text { • } \\
& \text { Font Famil } \\
& \text { Size }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
A
$$

Figure 5 - Category Name
Note: The description is optional. Students will not be able to see this description.
3. Select the Enrollment Type. This booklet will select \# of Groups - No Auto Enrollments (See Figure 7 - Enrollment Type Descriptions for more information on enrollment types).


Figure 6 - Select Enrollment Type
Note: This cannot be changed once your category is created.
Note: Available options will differ based on Enrollment Type selected. All enrollment options are as follows:

| Enrollment Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- |
| (e.g. 3 groups - students will be enrolled by |  |
| instructor later) |  |\(\left.\left.\quad \begin{array}{l}This will create a specific number of groups. The <br>

instructor will enroll the members into the various <br>
groups.\end{array}\right] $$
\begin{array}{l}\text { Groups of \# } \\
\text { (e.g. Groups of 3-three students per group) }\end{array}
$$ \quad $$
\begin{array}{l}\text { This will create groups for a specific number of students. } \\
\text { The system will enroll the students into the group. } \\
\text { When one group is full, the system will add another } \\
\text { group; this process will continue until all students are } \\
\text { assigned to a group. }\end{array}
$$\right\}\)

Figure 7 - Enrollment Type Descriptions
4. Type the Number of Groups to create.

Number of Groups *


Figure 8 - Number of Groups
5. Enter a Group Prefix, if desired (e.g., Group Project).


Figure 9 - Group Prefix
6. Under Additional Options, click the applicable checkbox to create Discussion areas, Lockers, and/or Assignments for each group (See Figure 10).
7. Click the Save button (See Figure 10).


Figure 10 - Create Workspace
Note: Upon save, you will be prompted to configure the additional options selected. You may skip and revisit at a later time, if desired.
8. If you elect to skip setup, you will be brought back to the Manage Groups page, and your new groups will be listed under your category.


Figure 11 - New Groups Created
Note: For more detailed information on creating a workspace, see Creating a Workspace for Groups.

## Switching Categories

The following explains how to switch between categories on the Manage Groups page:

1. From the Manage Groups page, click the drop-down box under View Categories (See Figure 12).
2. From the drop-down box, click the category you wish to switch to (See Figure 12).


Figure 12 - Select Category
3. The Manage Groups page will display the selected category and any groups created for it.

## Editing a Category

The following explains how to select and edit a category:

1. From the Manage Groups page, click the category you wish to edit.


Figure 13 - Editing Categories
2. The Edit Category page will appear. You can make several types of edits from here:
a. Edit the category name (See Figure 14).
b. Add a description for the category (See Figure 14).
c. Create workspaces for your groups (See Figure 14).
3. When you are finished with your edits, click Save (See Figure 14).


Category Setup
Enrollusent The
\# of Groups - No Auto Enrollments
Number of Goups
3

Restrict Encolments To ${ }^{\circ}$
No restrictions
Group Pretix
Group
Additional Options

- Collapse additional options


Figure 14 - Editing Groups

## Adding a Group to a Category

If needed, you can add additional groups to a category once your category has been created (See Creating a Category). The following explains how to add groups to an existing category:

1. From Manage Groups, click the drop-down arrow next to the category (See Figure 15).
2. Click Add Group (See Figure 15).


Figure 15 - Adding Groups
3. The Add Group window will appear. Enter a name for the group in the Group Name field (See Figure 16).
4. Click the Save button (See Figure 16).


Figure 16 - Naming the Group
5. You will be brought back to the Manage Groups page, and your new group will be listed under your category.

Final Group Project (4) $\checkmark$


Figure 17 - New Group Added
6. To add more groups, repeat steps 1-4.

## Editing a Group

The following explains how to edit a group:

1. From the Manage Groups page, click the group you wish to edit.

Group Project 1

Figure 18 - Edit Group
2. The Edit Group page will appear. From here, you have several options:
a. Enroll Users: Click here to enroll additional users into the group (See Figure 19).
b. View Enrollment: Click here to view the group enrollment (See Figure 19).
c. Change the group name: Enter an alternate name (See Figure 19).
d. Change or add a description: Enter a description (See Figure 19).


Figure 19 - Edit Group Details
3. When finished with your edits, click the Save button.


Figure 20 - Save Edits

## Enrolling Users into a Group

There are two methods of enrolling users into existing groups. The following explains how to manually enroll users into an existing group:

## Enrolling Users by Category

1. From the Manage Groups page, click the drop-down arrow next to your category (See Figure 21).
2. Click Enroll Users (See Figure 21).


Figure 21 - Enroll Users
3. The Enroll Users - Category page will appear and display the class roster. Click the checkbox next to each student you wish to enroll in the group. A nametag icon will appear next to each student who is currently enrolled in the selected group.


Figure 22 - Enrolling Users by Category
4. When finished enrolling students, click the Save button.


Figure 23 - Save Enrollment
5. The Manage Groups page will appear, and the number of members enrolled in your group will update.

| $\square$ Groups | Members |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\square$ | Group Project 1 | 4 |
| $\square$ | Group Project 2 | 4 |
| $\square$ | Group Project 3 | 4 |
| $\square$ | Group Project 4 | 4 |

Figure 24 - Members Enrolled

## Enrolling Users by Group

1. From the Manage Groups page, click the group you want to enroll students in.
2. The Edit Group page will appear. Click the Enroll Users button.


Figure 25 - Enroll Users
3. The Enroll Users - Group page will appear and display the class roster.
4. Click the checkbox next to each student you wish to enroll in the group. A nametag icon will appear next to each student who is currently enrolled in the selected group.

| Last Name ム, First Name, Username | Group Project 1 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Users: 4 |  |

Figure 26 - Enroll Users by Groups
Note: Students can be enrolled in more than one group.
5. When finished enrolling students, click the Save button.


Figure 27 - Click Save
6. The Manage Groups page will appear, and the number of members enrolled in your group will update.


Figure 28 - Members Enrolled

## Removing Students from a Group

The following explains how to remove a student from a group:

1. From Manage Groups, click the drop-down arrow next to your category (See Figure 29).
2. Click Enroll Users (See Figure 29).


Figure 29 - Enroll Users
3. The Enroll Users - Category page will appear and display the class roster.
4. Students who are currently enrolled in the group will have a nametag icon next to their name. Deselect the checkbox next to the students you wish remove from the group.

| Last Name © , First Name, Username | Group Project 1 Users: 4 | Group Project 2 Users: 3 | Group Project 3 Users: 4 | Group Project 4 Users: 4 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Account, Instruct-60, instruct-60 甿 | $\checkmark$ |  |  |  |
| Account, Instruct-61, instruct-61 |  |  |  |  |
| Account, Instruct-62, instruct-62 橎 |  |  | $\checkmark$ |  |

Figure 30 - Removing Students
5. When finished removing students, click Save.

Note: You can also remove students from a group by following the instructions in the Enrolling Users by Group section and deselecting the checkbox next to their name on the class roster.

## Creating a Self-Enrollment Category

You can create various self-enrollment categories to allow users to enroll into different groups on their own. For example, this semester you may plan on assigning group work for Unit 1, Unit 2, Unit 3, and a Marketing Project. When setting up groups, you have the option to give each group a Discussion Area, an Assignment, and a Locker (See Creating a Workspace for Groups).

While creating your category, you will also create your groups, but you must create a category before you can create a group. The following explains how to create a self-enrollment category:

Note: You will be able to add additional groups after the creation of your category.

1. From the Manage Groups page, click the New Category button.

## Manage Groups

```
    New Category
```

Categories
View Categories
KSU Projects \& Discussions
Figure 31 - New Self-Enrollment Category
2. The New Category page will appear. In the Category Name field, type in the name for your category.

## Category Information

Category Name *
History Project
Figure 32 - Category Name
Note: The Description is optional. Students will not be able to see this description.
3. Select one of the self-enrollments for the Enrollment Type.

Note: This cannot be changed once your category is created.


Figure 33 - Select Enrollment Type
4. Enter the Number Of Users per group (See Figure 34) and/or Number of Groups to create (See Figure 35).


Figure 34 - Number of Users


Figure 35 - Number of Groups
5. Click Show Advanced Properties.

## Advanced Properties

Show Advanced Properties
Figure 36 - Show Advanced Properties
6. Click Set Self Enrollment Expiry Date if you want to remove the student's ability to join after a set date.

> Advanced Properties

Hide Advanced Properties
Groups Options
Set Self Enrollment Expiry Date ©
12/12/2018
Now
Allocate unenrolled users after Self Enrollment Expiry Date
Figure 37 - Set Self Enrollment Expiry Date
Note: If students do not self-enroll when the Set Self Enrollment Expiry Date hits, you can automatically and randomly assign them in by checking Allocate unenrolled users after Self Enrollment Expiry Date.

## Advanced Properties

Hide Advanced Properties
Groups Options
Set Self Enrollment Expiry Date ©

## 12/12/2018 Now

Allocate unenrolled users after Self Enrollment Expiry Date
Figure 38 - Allocate unenrolled users after Self Enrollment Expiry Date
7. Click Expand the additional options.

## Additional Options

D Expand the additional options
Figure 39 - Expand the Additional Options
8. Click the checkbox to create individual discussion areas, lockers, and/or assignments for each group.

```
Additional Options
- Collapse additional options
Create Workspace
```

Set up discussion areas
(?

Set up lockers
Set up assignments
?
File submission

Figure 40 - Create Workspace
Note: For more information on creating a workspace, see Creating a Workspace for Groups.
9. Click the Save button.
10. You will be brought back to the Manage Groups page, and your new groups will be listed under your category.


Figure 41 - New Groups Created

## How Students Can Self-Enroll

If a category was set to Self Enrollment during creation, students will be able to enroll themselves in a group of their choice. The following instructions explain how a student can self-enroll into a group once it has been created:

1. From inside your course on the Navigation Bar, click Other.

## Course Home Content Discussions Assignments Quizzes Other $~ \sim$

Figure 42-Other
2. A drop-down list will appear. Click Groups.


Figure 43 - Select Groups
3. The Groups page will open. Click the View Available Groups button.


Figure 44 - Student Self-Enroll
4. The Available Group page will appear. Click Join Group to enroll.


Figure 45 - Choose Group
5. The student is now enrolled in the group.

| Groups | Members | Assignment Submission Folder | Discussions | Locker | Email | Actions |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Final Research Paper - Group Project |  |  |  |  | Expiry Date: Apr 27, 2018 |  |
| Group 1 | 1/3 |  | Final Research... | Group Files | 止 | Leave Group |

Figure 46 - Enrolled in the Group
Note: Clicking the number in the Members column will display a list of who is already enrolled in the group.

## How Students Can Leave a Group

If a category was set to Self Enrollment during creation, students will be able to leave a group themselves if they enrolled in a group of their choice. The following instructions explain how a student can leave a group after they enrolled:

1. From inside the course on the Navigation Bar, click Other.
Course Home Content Discussions Assignments Quizzes Other $\vee$

Figure 47 - Other
2. A drop-down list will appear. Click Groups.

| Competencies |
| :--- |
| Glossary |
| Groups |
| Links |

Figure 48 - Select Groups
3. The Groups page will open. Click the Leave Group button.

| My Groups |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Groups | Members | Assignment Submission Folder | Discussions | Locker | Email | Actions |
| Final Research Paper - Group Project |  |  |  |  | Expiry Date: Apr 27, 2018 |  |
| Group 1 | 1/3 |  | Final Research... | Group Files | * | Leave Group |

4. A Confirmation dialog window will display, click the Yes button.


Figure 50 - Confirmation Leave Group

## Deleting a Group or a Category

The following explains how to delete a group or a category:

1. From the Manage Groups page, click the checkbox next to the group or category you wish to delete (See Figure 51).
2. Click Delete (See Figure 51).


Figure 51 - Delete
3. A Confirmation window will appear. Click the Delete Groups/Categories button.


Figure 52 - Confirm Delete
4. You will return to the Manage Groups page. Your selection has been deleted.

## Creating a Workspace for Groups

The following sections will explain how to create Discussions, Assignments, or Lockers for your groups that only members within the group can access.

## Creating Discussions for Groups

The Discussions tool provides an area for students to post, read, and reply to threads on different topics. By creating discussions for groups, students can collaborate with other members in their group on assignments and homework. Students will only be able to see their group's topic; they cannot view or post to another group's topic. The instructor can view and post to all group topics.

For more information, please refer to the D2L Brightspace Discussions guide at https://uits.kennesaw.edu/cdoc.

The following explains how to create Discussions for groups:

1. From the Manage Groups page, click the category you wish to edit.


Figure 53 - Edit Category
2. The Edit Category page will appear. Click the Set up discussion areas box under Create Workspace.


Figure 54 - Set Up Discussion Areas
Note: Click Expand the additional options under Additional Options if you do not see Create Workspace.
3. Clicking the Set up discussion areas checkbox expands to provide options for setting up the discussion area:
a. Forum: Allows you to select an existing forum from the drop-down menu (See Figure 55).
b. New Forum: Allows you to create a new forum for the group discussion (See Figure 55).
c. Create new topic: Select to create a new topic to restrict with this group category (See Figure 55).
d. Attach to existing topic: Select to create a group-restricted thread in an existing topic (See Figure 55).

Note: This option is only available for empty topics with no previous posts or restrictions.

```
Create Workspace
\checkmark Set up discussion areas (P)
    Forum *
```

```
        - Create new topic (C
```

```
        - Create new topic (C
```



```
Attach to existing topic (d)
Create a group-restricted thread in an existing topic. This option is only available for empty topics without previous group restrictions or posts.
```

Figure 55 - Set Up Discussion Areas
4. For this example, we will create the Group Discussion Area forum. Click New Forum (See Figure 56).


Figure 56 - Click New Forum
5. In the Title field, enter a name (e.g., Group Discussion Area) for the forum (See Figure 57).
6. Enter an optional description, if desired (See Figure 57).
7. Click Save (See Figure 57).


Figure 57 - Create Group Discussion Area
8. The Create Restricted Topics page will open. Under Category Name, select from one of the following options (See Figure 58):
a. Create one topic per group: Each group has a separate, restricted topic for their group members (See Figure 58).
b. Create one topic with threads separated by group: Groups share one group-restricted thread in a single topic (See Figure 58).

Note: This is selected by default. You must select option a if you want one topic per group. Selecting option a removes the Title and Description fields from view when selected.
9. Enter an alternate title, if desired (See Figure 58).
10. Enter an optional description (See Figure 58).
11. Click the Create and Next button (See Figure 58).


Figure 58 - Create and Next
Note: Within the forum you select, a topic will be created for each group (e.g. 3 groups will mean 3 topics). Students can only see their group's topic; they cannot view or post to another group's topic. The instructor can view and post to all group topics.
12. The Workplace Summary page will open and display the number of Discussion forums and topics created. Click the Done button.


Figure 59 - Workplace Summary
13. You will return to the Edit Category page where you may create more workspaces (e.g., setup lockers and/or assignments) or edit existing workspaces.


Figure 60 - Additional Options

## Creating an Assignment for Groups

The Assignments tool is used for assignments in which your students can submit documents for grading. By creating a group Assignment, only students within the group will have access to their group's Assignment; they cannot access or upload to another group's Assignment. The instructor can access all group Assignments.

For more information, please refer to the D2L Brightspace - Assignments guide at https://uits.kennesaw.edu/cdoc.

The following explains how to create an Assignment for groups:

1. From the Manage Groups page, click the category you wish to edit.


Figure 61 - Edit Category
2. The Edit Category page will appear. Click the Set up assignments box under Create Workspace (See Figure 62).
3. By default, the submission folder is configured to accept file attachments, but you may use the drop-down box to allow and select assignment submission as a Text submission, On paper submission, or Observed in person (See Figure 62).


Figure 62 - Set Up an Assignment
Note: Click Expand the additional options under Additional Options if you do not see Create Workspace.
4. Click the Save button.
5. The Create Assignments page will open. Enter a Name for the folder (See Figure 63).
6. If needed, add optional instructions for the assignment (See Figure 63).
7. If desired, add attachments or record audio for the assignment (See Figure 63).

## Create Assignments



Figure 63 - Assignment Folder
8. Under Submission, Completion and Categorization, select the number of files allowed per submission and how many submissions are kept.


Figure 64 - Submission Properties
9. In the Notification Email field, enter the email address to use for submission confirmation (See Figure 65).
10. If desired, select a Category where the folder will be located (See Figure 65).
11. Enter Score Out Of for the maximum points students can receive for this assignment (See Figure 65).
12. If you have the item listed in the grade book, click to select the Grade Item (See Figure 65).


Figure 65 - Assignment Folder Properties
13. When finished, click the Create button at the bottom of the page.


Figure 66 - Click Create
14. An Assignment will be created for each group (e.g. 3 groups will mean 3 Assignments). Students can only access their group's Assignment; they cannot access or upload to another group's Assignment. The instructor can access all group Assignments.
15. The Workplace Summary page will open and display the number of Assignments created. Click the Done button.

## Workspace Summary

$\checkmark 3$ Groups created
$\checkmark 1$ Assignments created

Done

Figure 67 - Workplace Summary: Assignment Submission Folder

## Creating a Locker for Groups

Group lockers act as restricted lockers that only members of the group can access for file storage. Any group member can upload and modify files to the group locker.

The following explains how to create a Locker for groups:

1. From the Manage Groups page, click the category you wish to edit.


Figure 68 - Edit Category
2. The Edit Category page will appear. Click the Set up lockers box under Create Workspace.


Figure 69 - Set Up Lockers
3. Click the Save button.
4. The Lockers for your groups are created and you will be returned to the Manage Groups page.


Figure 70 - Group Lockers

## Accessing Group Lockers as a Student

If a group locker was created for students, they will be able to use the locker to store files and share between other members in their group. The following instructions explain how a student can access their group's locker:

1. From inside your course on the Navigation Bar, click Other.
Course Home Content Discussions Assignments Quizzes Other »

Figure 71 - Other
2. A drop-down list will appear. Click Locker.


Figure 72 - Locker
3. The Locker page will open. Click Group Lockers.


Figure 73 - Group Lockers
4. The Available Group Lockers will open. From here, select a group locker to view.

## Available Group Lockers

## Select a group locker to view:

Higher Education Group Projects \& Discussions

Group 1
Figure 74 - Available Group Lockers
5. The Group Locker page will open. From here, students can upload and modify files to the group locker.


Figure 75 - Group Locker View
Note: The instructor will be able to access all Group Lockers to view, upload and modify files to the group locker.

## Additional Help

For additional support, please contact the KSU Service Desk:

## KSU Service Desk for Faculty \& Staff

- Phone: 470-578-6999
- Email: service@kennesaw.edu
- Website: http://uits.kennesaw.edu


## KSU Student Helpdesk

- Phone: 470-578-3555
- Email: studenthelpdesk@kennesaw.edu
- Website: http://uits.kennesaw.edu

