# The Sakai User Experience

Marc Brierley

brierley@stanford.edu

**Sakai**

---

# Agenda

- General overview of interface and end-user functionality (instructors, students, administration/support)
- Sakai use in different contexts (custom interfaces or 'skins', at other universities, etc.)
- Demonstrate course content creation
- Question and Answers

**Sakai**

## User Interface (UI) Basics

- Two main organizing concepts:
  - <u>Sites</u> - three types ('MyWorkspace', 'Class' and 'Project' site types)
  - <u>Tools</u> - within each site, grouping of related functionality
- Navigation
  - Tabs - switch between sites
  - Left Navigation Bar - switch between tools

Sakai


## UI is Portal-based

A <u>portal</u> is an application that provides single sign-on, personalization, and content aggregation

- Single sign-on - allows users to get to all their site in one place
- Personalization - logging in provides user access to his/her sites & customization or presentation
- Content aggregation - allows users to see content across sites (e.g. MyWorkspace) or tools (e.g. Home)

Sakai

# Tools Overview

- Home - aggregated 'view' of announcements, discussion and chat
- Announcements - site-wide message posting
- Assignments - file-based assessment tool with letter grades
- Chat - simultaneous online discussion
- Discussion - asynchronous communication organized by categories

**Sakai**

# Tools Overview

- Email Archive - record of email sent to site's email distribution list
- Gradebook - class grade manager, links to Tests & Quizzes
- Resources - upload and organize files, link and documents
  - Drop Box - student-labeled Resources folder for quick document submission
- Schedule - event announcement and management

**Sakai**

# Tools Overview

- Syllabus - structured course outline
- Tests & Quizzes - assessment authoring, delivery and evaluation environment
- Site Info - admin tool for site maintain-ers
- Web-Content - promote outside web material to 'tool' level

Sakai

# Instructor

- Access/functionality controlled by system 'role' ('maintain' in default configuration)
- Has author/admin privileges for any site with s/he has 'maintain' role
- Can be automatically designated the 'maintain' role if the person is the 'instructor of record' in the campus SIS

Sakai

# Student

- Generally has 'access' role in any class site, can submit material but not admin site
- Can be given a higher privilege role, e.g. if a teaching assistant
- Can create collaborative 'project sites'

**Sakai**

# Administration/Support

- These users have 'admin' role and can access/edit any site or tool within the system
- Have a special 'Administrator Site' with admin-only tools for system configuration and site maintenance

**Sakai**

# Sakai in different contexts

- Presentation or 'skin' can be customized at institution or site level
  - Sub-institution schools or departments can have unique skins
- Sakai - as a platform - can deliver other tools
  - OSPI's ePortfolio

Sakai

# Create Course Content
### (instructor)

- Upload content into Resources and organize
- Include outside content as a 'tool'
- Create an assessment (test)

Sakai

# Use Course Content
(student)

- Check schedule
- Take Assessment
- Upload Final Paper to Drop Box
- Pick-up papers with WebDAV (instructor)

Sakai