

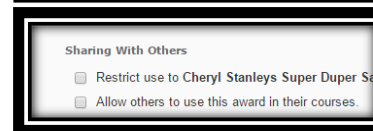
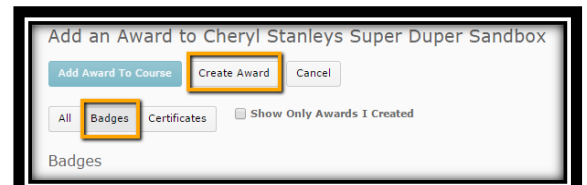
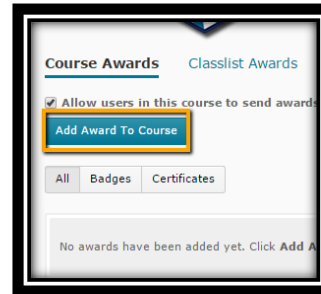
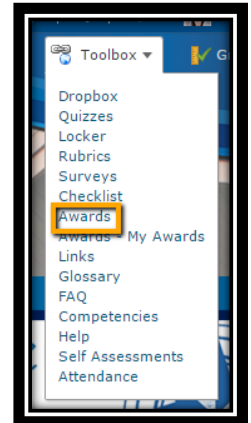


Badging ~ Awards (D2L)

- Badging and Certificates are great ways to encourage students to perform tasks and achieve success in your online course. This How 2 will address the use of Awards tool for Badging and explain some of the parameters that have been agreed upon for best practices.

Instructions

- To begin, on your course homepage **Click on the Toolbox**, and select the **Awards** tool.
- Click on the blue **Add Award to Course** button to create your badge.
- Choose Badges and Create Award.
- Give it a Name and Description.
- Choose Restrict use to “your course”. (If you wish to share badges with other instructors, please talk to an Instructional Designer first.)
- Choose your expiration option. The default is set to Never.
- You need to choose the image for your badge. You can select one from the library, create your own, or upload an image you have already created.
- When completing the **Issuer Information** please use the following information for consistency:
 - Issuer Name: Great Falls College MSU
 - Issuer URL: <http://www.gfcmsu.edu>
 - Issuer Contact:
 - For a class only badge, your instructor email is fine.
 - For **alternative credentialing campus wide**, please use eLearning@gfcmsu.edu for verification purposes.

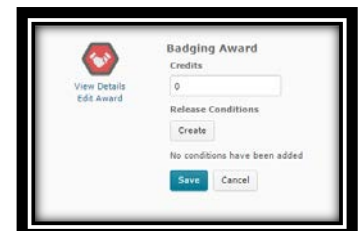


Editing the Badge

Once the badge has been created, it can be edited by using the link under the image, **Edit Award**.

As an instructor you also have the ability to award credit for a badge and create Release Conditions.

Note: Please talk with eLearning before a badge or award is created for credit.





Badging ~ Awards (D2L) cont'd.

Reasons for Badging

According to Brother Sean of the eLearning Brothers, “Achievement badges are little rewards and recognitions that learners can earn for finishing tasks or mastering skills. How they earn the badges and how much the badges are valued is completely up to you. Ideally, learners should be able to carry these badges with them in the digital world outside of the course.” For four good reasons to use badging in an online course, feel free to read the entire article linked below.

Badging is typically used in a course that has been gamified or is using gaming tools to improve student engagement. However, the awards tool also allows us to create certificates associated with badges. This can provide alternative credentialing for Massive Online Open Courses (MOOCs), for Open Courses, or Non-credit courses. It can also provide for the following:

- Track students’ progress through a course or program.
 - Attendance Awards
 - Participation
 - Great discussions
 - Completing the course orientation
 - Working as a Team to complete a project
 - Completion of NCCER (Trades)
 - Completion of Essential Skills in Health Care programs for Accreditation
 - Example: First Aid and CPR.
- Campus wide possibilities (***Please discuss award creation with eLearning before creating these badges***)
 - Completion of Essential Start
 - Completion of Brightspace Orientation (Students)
 - Completion of Brightspace Leadership Courses (Faculty)
 - Online Readiness (via Smarter Measure)

The basic idea is to break down larger tasks into smaller achievements that allow for scaffolding of the learning and create a sense of pride at the same time. These badges also allow feedback to occur in smaller increments, providing a greater number of opportunities for success. In gamified courses, it also allows the learner to pick and choose activities to best show success. This also meets the Universal Design principle of multiple means of expression. Ex. You have 5 possible badges that can be earned each week, and students must choose at least three to show mastery of the content. In order to gain each badge students must show mastery in that area. For more information, please contact an Instructional Designer.

Sean, eLearning Brothers. Four Good Reasons to Use Achievement Badges in eLearning. Found at <http://elearningbrothers.com/4-good-reasons-to-use-achievement-badges-in-elearning/> on November 23, 2015.

