D2L Student Guide

Login Instructions:

1. Log into MyOakton
   - Go to the Oakton home page at http://www.oakton.edu and click on the MyOakton link at the top of the page OR go directly to http://my.oakton.edu.

2. In MyOakton, locate and click on the My Courses Tab

3. On the My Courses Tab you'll see a My Courses Channel which lists all the classes you have access to.
   - You can pare down the list of classes by choosing a semester in the "Course Schedule for" drop down menu

4. If a class has a D2L or MyMathLab component, click the class name on the list and you'll be taken there.
   - Your instructor may also set this link to go to a non-D2L or MyMathLab site, such as his personal home page or a publisher course site.
   - If the link takes you to a description of the course, your course may have no online component but you should confirm with your instructor or check any other instructions you received from him or the College.
Troubleshooting Login Problems:
If you have trouble logging into your D2L class, please consider the following before contacting the IT Help Desk (847.635.1965) or the Alternative Education office (847.635.1975):

- If you cannot log into MyOakton, then the problem is with your login ID or password.
  - Your login ID and password are the same for all Oakton systems.
    - If you contact the Help Desk or anyone about failure to log in, state exactly what you were logging into.
  - Case sensitivity is NOT important for MyOakton but it is important for other systems. If for some reason you bypass MyOakton and log into an Oakton system directly, case may then be an issue.
  - Your password will generally be the PIN you created when you applied to the College or whatever you most recently changed it to.
    - "Birthdate" passwords: If you applied to the college with a paper application or in person, your initial password might be your birthdate but
- If you can log into MyOakton but do not see your course listed under MyCourses, you may have a registration issue, possibly a drop for non-payment. Check your status with Registration and Records (847.635.1705).
- If you can see your course listed under MyCourses but clicking on it takes you to the D2L home page, your class is likely not open yet to students. You can contact your instructor for more information.
  - Most D2L classes will not open before the date listed in the College class schedule but if you've been told yours will open early and hasn't, it's important that you check with your instructor.
- If you click the link to your class under MyCourses but it takes you to a general description of the class or to another site that seems relevant to the class, your course likely is not using Desire2Learn.
  - Students in full-online classes should contact the Alternative Ed office. Other students should contact their instructor.
- If you click the link to your class under MyCourses but it takes you to an unrelated site, you may have a virus or spyware on your computer. Try from a different computer to confirm before calling for help.
- If you click the link to your class under MyCourses but the link "404's" or otherwise indicates you are not allowed to access the page, try from a different computer to confirm. If the problem persists only on one computer, call the Help Desk and be prepared to describe the locations where it worked and didn't work. Sometimes the problem will be your ISP or workplace blocking connection.

**Note:** There are activities such as quizzes within a class that can be "conditionally" released based on the student ID, date, or other factors. These are controlled by your instructor. If you login successfully but have trouble opening one of these activities within the class, consult your instructor first.
Navigation Basics: Your D2L Home Page

Your D2L Home Page, like the D2L Course Page, is structured much like MyOakton.

Across the very top you'll find links to key navigational elements and other tools.

“My Home” will always take you back to your D2L home page.

To the right of My Home you’ll see a drop menu linking to any D2L classes you have access to. If you’re on a Course Home Page it will show the name of that course (and this becomes your link back to the course home page).

Other items include:

- Email (an internal email used only for D2L) & Pager (an internal Instant Messaging application)
- Course updates
- Discussions you’ve subscribed to
- Personal settings and logout
Content is compartmentalized into rectangular areas called "Widgets."

- My Settings allows you to set preferences to personalize your D2L experience and to track your work in different classes.
- My Courses shows a list of all the classes you're associated with in D2L.
- News (on the home page) shows announcements from D2L administrators.
- Calendar tracks course activities posted by your instructor(s).
Navigation Basics: A D2L Course Page
Clicking on the name of a class in the My Courses Widget on your home page takes you to that course.

The course page is similar looking to the home page. It may have the same widgets but it can have a different selection depending on the instructor's design. The News widget or a similar tool will generally be at the top of the page and contain links and information to get you started in the class. (It will contain only news pertaining to this class.)

Key to the Course page are the links on the gray bar. The main links include:

- Content
- Discussions
- Dropbox
- Quizzes
- Grades
- Groups

A More Links drop menu includes some of the lesser used tools.
A Note on using the Calendar/Schedule:

Your Desire2Learn calendar is a global tool capable of displaying all of your D2L events in all of your classes. This can get confusing.

One way to lessen the clutter is to change your Display Options.

Clicking the drop menu arrow next to where it says “All Calendars” will reveal all the possible class calendars that can be displayed. By default you'll see all of your calendars. To filter your view, try such steps as:

- Click on a calendar name to view that calendar alone.
- Click on the “x” next to a calendar name to delete it from the list.
- If you’ve isolated one calendar you can click the Plus sign to add specific other ones.

You may change the settings again as often as you wish.