

Robust Canvas Profiles

Helping students network,
connect, and build a stronger
online community

————> What we believe.

Everything that humans do revolves around some type of connection and communication. Whether it is verbal, visual, offline, or online, both connecting and communicating with other people is absolutely essential for us humans. That's why we believe this simple approach should be taken for every aspect of developing not only an online community, but for any community.



⇒ How we approached the problem.

With these two things in mind, we listened to what online students were saying about the ineffectiveness of current online community methods and how they wanted to connect with other students. Despite their desire to reach out, they still struggled and felt something was hugely lacking.



⇒ So what is Robust Canvas Profiles?

We developed our project as simply, yet effectively as we could, aiming to build upon the current profile feature available on Canvas so that students feel a natural connection to others.

Think LinkedIn, for Students





-01-

User Survey
& Data

Observational Data

Networking

Does anyone wanna link this winter semester?

0 Comments Share Save Hide Report

100% Upvoted

↑
1
↓
Posted by u/ctrlcutie 21 hours ago

How do you bond with your professors for online classes? I'm hoping to get letters of rec.

USA

I'm taking classes during the summer and unfortunately I have to take a majority of them online. Has anyone ever gotten a letter of recommendation from a professor? The only thing I can think of is meeting up with them when I need help. It seems strange if I just want to meet them, "hey remember this face pls 'cause i'm about to bother you all summer." What can I do?

Comment Give Award Share Save Hide Report

67% Upvoted

Quick question for online students!

Have you made any friends with fellow online students either at Santa Monica or on forums such as this? Appreciate any participation! Thanks

2 Comments Share Save Hide Report

100% Upvoted

Observational Data (continued)



Laura Gibbs

Sep 13, 2017 12:19 PM

As far as I know there is NOTHING fun you can do with a Canvas profile page. That has been a major complaint of mine since even before my university switched to Canvas. Despite all claims to the contrary, Canvas is not really good for social learning when the profile page is such a dead spot.

And the profile pages are seriously dead.

I know I am not the only Ning veteran here, and those Ning profile pages: those were really fun and useful profile pages. I used Ning for about 5 years before I switched to having all my students blog.

All the LMS companies could stand to learn a lot from the way Ning used to work. I haven't used a Ning lately, but for a strong sense of community with community-created content and great profile pages, Ning was wonderful.

Jive has a lot of good features, but the profile pages here are not very good either, truth be told.

3 of 3 people found this helpful

 Actions ▾

 Helpful Yes · No  Like · 4  Reply

User Survey Data

What would motivate you to network with your online classmates?

19 responses

I guess all online group projects and discussion on canvas is so superficial. students doing these stuff just to get credit and it is not real. I was thinking about it many times since we have all classes online. It would be great if that was mandatory if everyone would upload a profile picture. We all know that how important is to get first impression through seeing a person. right now many of my classmates are having no pictures and even I want to contact them but I don't know who they are and it affects my desire to reach out.

Easy Access

Design feedback and any lost instruction information.

Support group

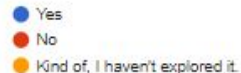
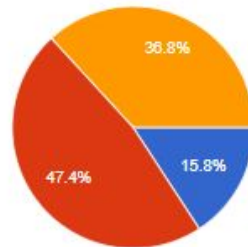
Group activities

Having their email

Questions regarding a HW assignment/project, group projects, general friendship (As an International student being new in the country I'm always interested in connecting with my classmates)

Are you aware of the profile creation tool?

19 responses



Have you created your Profile? Why? Why not?

19 responses

No

Don't know what it is

Didn't know it existed

I think the most I did was add a picture

I was not aware of it

Yes

I haven't heard about it

no.

I haven't because I didn't know it exists.

-02-

Interview &
Research

Student Interview

Interviewee: Andrew N

Major: Computer Science

Age: 28

of Online Classes Taken: 3


Reasons for taking online classes:

- Classes were only offered online
- Was concerned about lack of communication
- Was concerned about the overall online learning experience

Defining Current Community:

- Professors try to create an online community but never takes time to participate with them
- Wasn't able to socialize or connect with other students through Canvas (aside from small group projects)
- Professors don't put enough effort to keeps students engaged with one another





“They [professors] really try but
you’re so separated, there really is no
community... I haven't felt any kind”

-Andrew N. (interviewee)



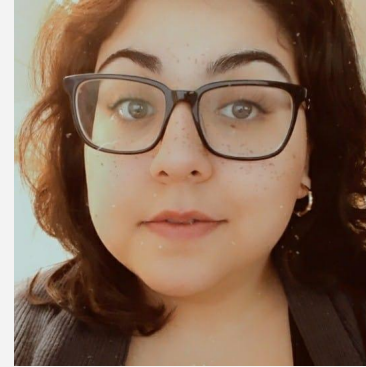
Student Interview

Interviewee: Shannon C.

Major: Graphic Design


Age: 26

of Online Classes Taken: 5



Key insights she had about Canvas:

- She was aware of Canvas profiles, but was confused about their purpose.
- The main reason she would want to reach out to students was if there was a gallery of their work on Canvas already or to talk to fellow graphic design students about their projects.
- She would prefer not to share her picture on her Canvas profile, but understands the importance of it.

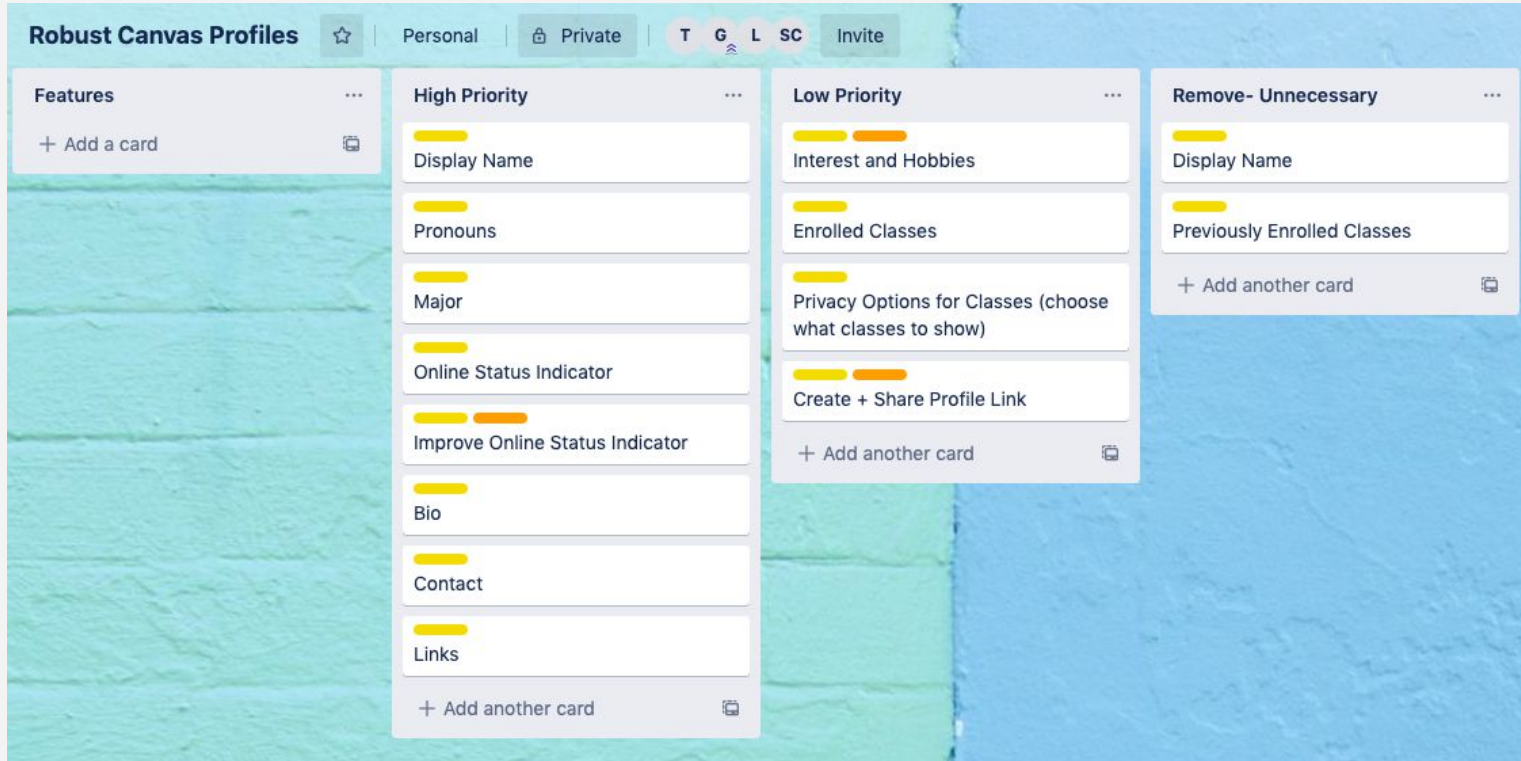


“The best way to get to know
someone is have them talk about
themselves”

-Shannon C. (interviewee)



Trello Research



During our interview process we used a card sorter to identify which features are High & Low Priority and which features we didn't need. Our interviewee went through the cards to sort out what she wanted to see on Canvas Profiles

-03-

Prototype

Dashboard

https://online.smc.edu/profile

Notifications

Profile

Files

Settings

ePortfolios

Folio

Account

Dashboard

Courses

Groups

Calendar

Inbox

Help & Academic Resources

Display Name

Tess Dziallo

Username

Personalize the URL for your profile.

https://online.smc.edu/

Note: Your custom URL must contain 3-10 letters or numbers. Please do not use spaces, symbols, or special characters.

Pronouns

Bio

Interests & Hobbies

Major

Currently Enrolled Classes

GD 18	👁
GD 31	👁
GD 64	👁
GD 71	👁

View Previously Enrolled Classes

GD 60	👁
GD 61	👁
GD 66	👁
GD 50	👁

Contact

Links

Title	URL	
LinkedIn	www.linkedin.com/tess	✕
Facebook	www.facebook.com/tess	✕
Instagram	www.instagram.com/tess	✕
		✕

FEATURE 1: Profile URL

FEATURE 2: Easily Accessible Pronouns

FEATURE 3: Interests & Hobbies

FEATURE 4: Major

FEATURE 5: Class Display

FEATURE 6: Refined Contacts

Dashboard

https://online.smc.edu/tessdziallo

Notifications

Profile

Files

Settings

ePortfolios

Folio

Account

Dashboard

Courses

Groups

Calendar

Inbox

Help & Academic Resources

Its the start of a new semester! Please review your profile to make sure its up to date!

Tess Dziallo Online

Pronouns

She/Her

Online Status Indicator

- Idle
- Offline
- Online
- Invisible

Bio

Hi, I'm Tess. Let's Connect!

Interests & Hobbies

Drawing, Painting, Cat Lover, Reading Comics

Major

Graphic Design

Currently Enrolled Classes

GD 18
GD 31
GD 64
GD 71

View Previously Enrolled Classes

GD 60
GD 61
GD 66
GD 50

Contact

tess@gmail.com

Links

FEATURE 7: Profile Alert

FEATURE 8: Online Status Indicator

FEATURE 9: Improving Social Links

FEATURE 1: PROFILE URL

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `https://online.smc.edu/profile`. The page layout includes a left sidebar with navigation options: Notifications, Profile (selected), Files, Settings, ePortfolios, and Follo. The main content area features a circular profile picture of a woman, followed by a 'Display Name' field containing 'Tess Dziallo', a 'Username' field containing 'tessdziallo', and a 'Bio' field containing 'Hi, I'm Tess. Let's connect!'. A note below the username field states: 'Note: Your custom URL must contain 3-10 letters or numbers. Please do not use spaces, symbols, or special characters.'

← → ↻ 🔒 `https://online.smc.edu/tessdziallo`

FEATURE 2: EASILY ACCESSIBLE PRONOUNS

Profile View: Pronouns

Pronouns
She/Her

Edit View: Pronouns

Pronouns

She/Her ▼

Dashboard

https://online.smc.edu/profile

Notifications

Profile

Files

Settings

ePortfolios

Folio

Account

Dashboard

Courses

Groups

Calendar

Inbox

Help & Academic Resources

Display Name

Tess Dziallo

Username

Personalize the URL for your profile.

https://online.smc.edu/

Note: Your custom URL must contain 3-10 letters or numbers. Please do not use spaces, symbols, or special characters.

Pronouns

Bio

Hi, I'm Tess. Let's connect!

Interests & Hobbies

Drawing, Painting, Cat Lover, Reading Comics

Major

Graphic Design ▼

Currently Enrolled Classes	View Previously Enrolled Classes
GD 18 <input type="checkbox"/>	GD 60 <input type="checkbox"/>
GD 31 <input type="checkbox"/>	GD 61 <input type="checkbox"/>
GD 64 <input type="checkbox"/>	GD 66 <input type="checkbox"/>
GD 71 <input type="checkbox"/>	GD 50 <input type="checkbox"/>

Contact

Links

Title	URL
LinkedIn	www.linkedin.com/tess
Facebook	www.facebook.com/tess
Instagram	www.instagram.com/tess
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Add another link

Cancel Preview Profile Save Profile

FEATURE 3: INTERESTS & HOBBIES

Dashboard

https://online.smc.edu/profile

Notifications

Profile

Files

Settings

ePortfolios

Folio

Account

Dashboard

Courses

Groups

Calendar

Inbox

Help & Academic Resources

Display Name

Tess Dziallo

Username

Personalize the URL for your profile.

https://online.smc.edu/

Note: Your custom URL must contain 3-10 letters or numbers. Please do not use spaces, symbols, or special characters.

Pronouns

Bio

Interests & Hobbies

Major

Currently Enrolled Classes

GD 18	<input type="checkbox"/>
GD 31	<input type="checkbox"/>
GD 64	<input type="checkbox"/>
GD 71	<input type="checkbox"/>

View Previously Enrolled Classes

GD 60	<input type="checkbox"/>
GD 61	<input type="checkbox"/>
GD 66	<input type="checkbox"/>
GD 50	<input type="checkbox"/>

Contact

Links

Title	URL
LinkedIn	<input type="text" value="www.linkedin.com/tess"/> <input type="button" value="x"/>
Facebook	<input type="text" value="www.facebook.com/tess"/> <input type="button" value="x"/>
Instagram	<input type="text" value="www.instagram.com/tess"/> <input type="button" value="x"/>
<input type="text" value="Add another link"/>	<input type="text"/>

Interests & Hobbies

Drawing, Painting, Cat Lover,
Reading Comics

FEATURE 4: MAJOR

Dashboard

https://online.smc.edu/profile

Notifications

Profile

Files

Settings

ePortfolios

Folio

Account

Dashboard

Courses

Groups

Calendar

Inbox

Help & Academic Resources

Display Name

Tess Dziallo

Username

Personalize the URL for your profile.

https://online.smc.edu/

Note: Your custom URL must contain 3-10 letters or numbers. Please do not use spaces, symbols, or special characters.

Pronouns

Bio

Interests & Hobbies

Major

Currently Enrolled Classes	View Previously Enrolled Classes
GD 18 <input type="checkbox"/>	GD 60 <input type="checkbox"/>
GD 31 <input type="checkbox"/>	GD 61 <input type="checkbox"/>
GD 64 <input type="checkbox"/>	GD 66 <input type="checkbox"/>
GD 71 <input type="checkbox"/>	GD 50 <input type="checkbox"/>

Contact

Links

Title	URL
LinkedIn	www.linkedin.com/tess
Facebook	www.facebook.com/tess
Instagram	www.instagram.com/tess
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Add another link

Major

Graphic Design

Dashboard

https://online.smc.edu/tessdziallo

Notifications
It's the start of a new semester! Please review your profile to make sure its up to date!

Profile

Account

Files

Settings

ePortfolios

Folio

Tess Dziallo Online

Idle

Offline

Online

Invisible

Pronouns
She/Her

Bio
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Major
Graphic Design

Currently Enrolled Classes

GD 18
GD 31
GD 64
GD 71

View Previously Enrolled Classes

GD 60
GD 61
GD 66
GD 50

Contact
tess@gmail.com

Links

in f ig

FEATURE 5: CLASS DISPLAY

Profile Edit View of Class Display

Currently Enrolled Classes	View Previously Enrolled Classes
GD 18	GD 60
GD 31	GD 61
GD 64	GD 66
GD 71	GD 50

Profile View of Class Display

Currently Enrolled Classes	View Previously Enrolled Classes
GD 18	GD 60
GD 31	GD 61
GD 64	GD 66
GD 71	GD 50

FEATURE 6: REFINED CONTACTS

Profile View: Contact Information

Contact

tess@gmail.com

Edit View: Contact Information

Contact

tess@gmail.com

Dashboard

https://online.smc.edu/profile

Notifications

Profile

Files

Settings

ePortfolios

Folio

Account

Dashboard

Courses

Groups

Calendar

Inbox

Help & Academic Resources

Display Name

Tess Dziallo

Username

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https://online.smc.edu/ tessdziallo

Note: Your custom URL must contain 3-10 letters or numbers. Please do not use spaces, symbols, or special characters.

Pronouns

She/Her

Bio

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Interests & Hobbies

Drawing, Painting, Cat Lover, Reading Comics

Major

Graphic Design

Currently Enrolled Classes	View Previously Enrolled Classes
GD 18	GD 60
GD 31	GD 61
GD 64	GD 66
GD 71	GD 50

Contact

tess@gmail.com

Links

Title	URL
LinkedIn	www.linkedin.com/tess
Facebook	www.facebook.com/tess
Instagram	www.instagram.com/tess

Add another link

Cancel Preview Profile Save Profile

Dashboard

https://online.smc.edu/tessdziallo

Notifications

Profile

Files

Settings

ePortfolios

Folio

Account

Dashboard

Courses

Groups


Calendar

Inbox

Help & Academic Resources

Its the start of a new semester! Please review your profile to make sure its up to date!

Edit Profile

 **Tess Dziallo** Online

Pronouns
She/Her

Idle

Offline

Online

Invisible

Bio
Hi, I'm Tess. Let's Connect!




Interests & Hobbies
Drawing, Painting, Cat Lover, Reading Comics

Major
Graphic Design

Currently Enrolled Classes	View Previously Enrolled Classes
GD 18	GD 60
GD 31	GD 61
GD 64	GD 66
GD 71	GD 50


Contact
tess@gmail.com

Links

FEATURE 7: PROFILE ALERTS

Its the start of a new semester! Please review your profile to make sure its up to date!

 **Tess Dziallo**

Logout

Notifications

Profile ¹

Files

Settings

ePortfolios

Folio

QR for Mobile Login



 **Account** ¹

 **Dashboard**

 **Courses**

 **Groups**

 **Calendar**

Dashboard

https://online.smc.edu/tessdziallo

Notifications
It's the start of a new semester! Please review your profile to make sure its up to date!

Edit Profile

Profile

Files

Settings

ePortfolios

Folio

Account

Dashboard


Courses

Groups

Calendar

Inbox

Help & Academic Resources



Tess Dziallo Online ▾

Idle

Offline

Online

Invisible

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She/Her

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Major
Graphic Design

Currently Enrolled Classes	View Previously Enrolled Classes
GD 18	GD 60
GD 31	GD 61
GD 64	GD 66
GD 71	GD 50

Contact
tess@gmail.com

Links
[in](#) [f](#) [ig](#)

FEATURE 8: ONLINE STATUS INDICATOR



Online ▾

Idle

Offline

Online

Invisible

Dashboard

https://online.smc.edu/tessdziallo

Notifications
Its the start of a new semester! Please review your profile to make sure its up to date!

Profile

Account

Files

Settings

ePortfolios

Folio

Tess Dziallo Online

Idle

Offline

Online

Invisible

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Currently Enrolled Classes

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GD 31
GD 64
GD 71

View Previously Enrolled Classes

GD 60
GD 61
GD 66
GD 50

Contact
tess@gmail.com

Links

in f ig

FEATURE 9: IMPROVING SOCIAL LINKS

Profile View: Social Links



Current Version on Canvas to Add/Edit Social Links

Links

Title	URL
LinkedIn	www.linkedin.com/tess
Facebook	www.facebook.com/tess
Instagram	www.instagram.com/tess
<input type="button" value="Add another link"/>	



Thank
You!