

The Lessons Content Experience Brightspace Pilot



What is Lessons?

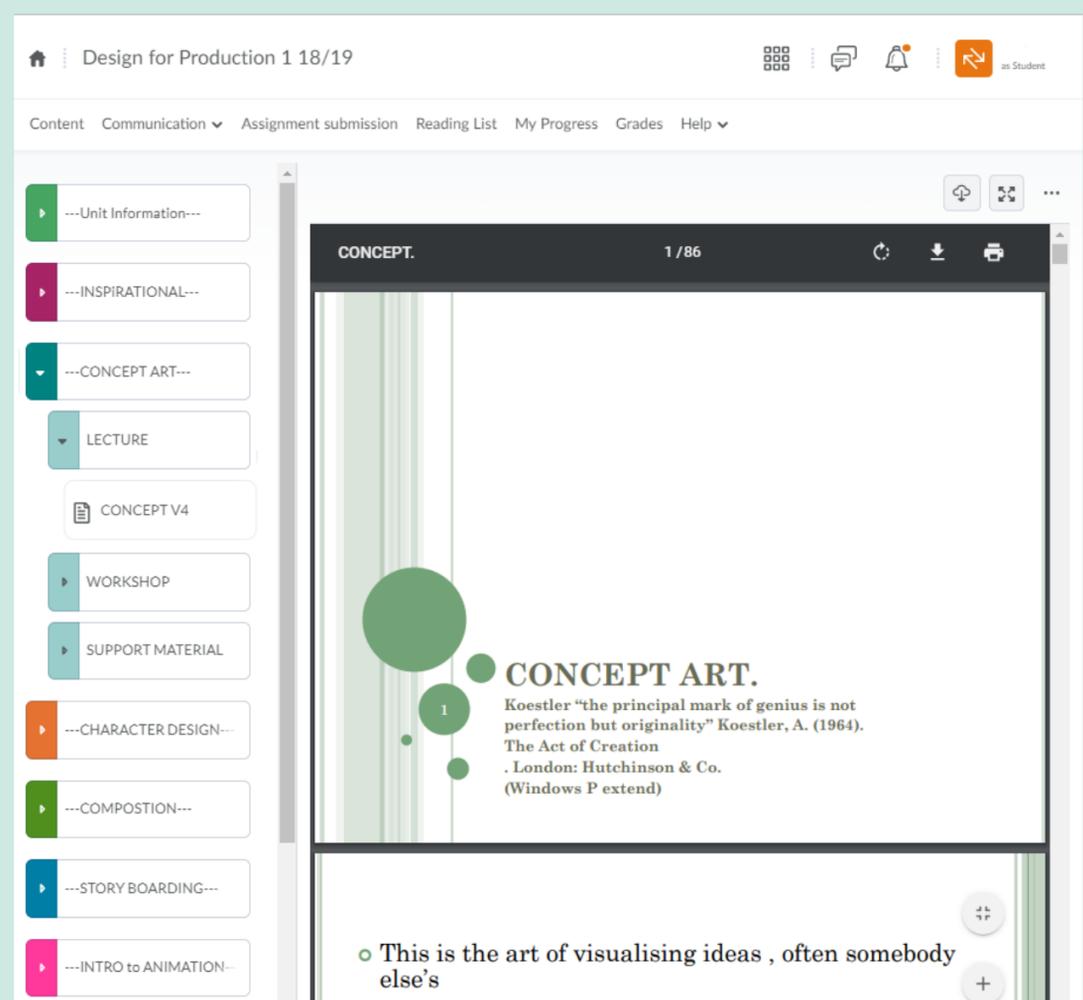
Lessons is an alternative way for staff and students to experience the Content tool in Brightspace. It provides a simplified approach to organizing and viewing content, including colour-coded navigation in the left-hand column where each section can be expanded independently. This helps students move between different content areas without losing their place.

In addition, other aspects of the staff content authoring workflows are simplified for ease of use.

Lessons only alters the 'Content' area of a unit, so other areas such as Assignment Submission, Communication are not affected.

In academic year 2018/19 we carried out a small pilot study to assess the benefits of the tool, with an aim to providing a clearer navigation for students, and an improved experience for members of staff.

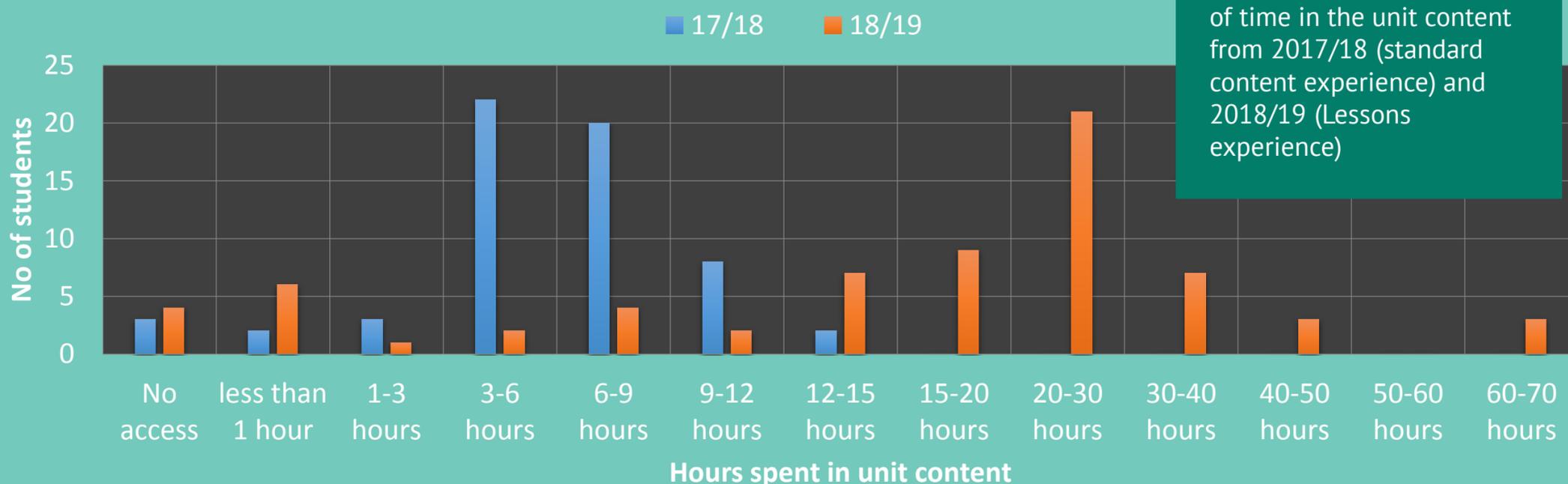
Lessons was enabled in a Level 4 Computer Animation unit called 'Design for Production 1'. The unit content was rolled over from the previous academic year (also delivered on Brightspace), and aside from minor updates, the structure of the content was unchanged from its delivery in 2017/18.



Above: Lessons screenshot from 'Design for Production'.

Measuring Success

Design for Production 1



A Lecturer's Perspective

Stephen Harper, Lecturer in Computer Animation used Lessons for his unit 'Design for Production 1' in 2018/19

What did you like about Lessons?

Visually the interface is set out intuitively. With my subject area, I need a more holistic approach to learning and therefore needed to find a way in which the students can easily refer back to certain topics and lessons. Visually it is simple – modules and topics are clearly defined and colour-coded. The students can easily navigate back to the topics that they need to further investigate, and can also see the way the topics can relate to each other.

Would you recommend Lessons to other academics?

I would highly recommend Lessons to other academics if they wish to teach in a more holistic and inclusive style. The students love it as well.

What did the students think?

- “ The colour coding makes it easier to organise and identify the different tabs and is very visually appealing in comparison to other monotone units.
- “ Assigning colours to things makes it easy and understandable for the students to navigate through the site especially for those whom might have disabilities.
- “ Colours are helping me to find different topics easier. Also they make me happy, good to look at.
- “ It is better organised and the colour helps, but I preferred having the numbers to see the unopened content.

Get Involved

If you would like to join the Lessons pilot for 2019/20 or just try it out in your sandbox then we would love to hear from you. Just get in touch with your Faculty Lead Learning Technologist.

Faculty of Health & Social Sciences:

hsslearningtechnology@bournemouth.ac.uk

Faculty of Management:

fmlearningtechnology@bournemouth.ac.uk

Faculty of Media and Communication:

fmclearningtechnology@bournemouth.ac.uk

Faculty of Science & Technology:

scitechlearningtechnology@bournemouth.ac.uk