

Group / Team Name: HEM Interface Group

Group Member Names and Emails:

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Weekly Meeting Times: Monday's @ 7 pm

Prompt 2:

eLC is an essential tool used by schools within the USG school system for posting assignments, grades, lecture slides/videos, etc. However, most students and professors tend to resort to external platforms such as piazza, group me, Tophat and zoom to utilize features and functionalities not available through eLC. A lot of times using these external software gives the professors limited control of the conversation, which may lead to academic dishonesty, general confusion among students, or some students missing out on the conversation.

In most cases faculty resort to these external platforms because the features that fit their teaching style are not available on eLC. While students gravitate towards other platforms since it conveniently works with their needs e.x) group messaging etc. The problem with eLC is a mixture of poor integration and eLC having set features inferred based on the D2L documentation. This hinders users(Administrator, Instructors, and Learners) from changing the functionalities based on their teaching or learning style. Therefore, leading them to resort to other platforms to meet these needs. This is problematic in the long run because in the case that one of the stakeholders: students, needs to use group messaging, they may resort to GroupMe, where circumstances out of their hands could lead to academic dishonesty. For the other stakeholders, integrating some of the features mentioned earlier will allow more convenience and fix any issues such as the availability of the platform (up-time).

External platforms are not managed by the school system, therefore, a lot of times if an issue arises for instance if the piazza servers are down and we need piazza for in-class discussions. Then it's hard to fix the issue as soon as we need since it's not administered by UGA

or its affiliates. If eLC allows its users to change its capabilities based on their needs, then the adaptability of the platform would increase, decreasing the need to use external platforms.

The major stakeholders impacted by our problem are students, instructors, and schools within USG. The problem mainly impacts students because they may fall into situations where they are unfairly blamed for academic dishonesty on another hand it can lead to assignment information leaking. Each stakeholder is impacted differently, in the case of students and faculty, the solution to the problem would hinder a lot of problems down the road while also allowing for convenience. In the case that the schools integrating these features, it would make their platform(eLC) more usable and versatile.

The problems caused by the inadaptability of eLC indirectly impacts face-to-face instruction. Once the inconveniences and problems of using external platforms are alleviated, students and professors will have an easier flow during face-to-face instruction.