Active Learning with the Leganto Course Resource List Solution

The Ex Libris Leganto® course resource list solution enables libraries to streamline access to course materials by leveraging library collections and services along with librarians' expertise. Instructors can easily build lists of resources that include all material types, librarians can provide resources more efficiently and help ensure copyright compliance, and students can access all course materials in one place and from any device.

Now the Leganto solution is providing active learning features that encourage students to engage with their course materials by adding comments and questions to the text itself, in collaboration with peers or in response to reading prompts introduced by the instructor.

Social Reading

Reading course materials does not have to be a solitary experience! With the Leganto Social Reading feature, students can now engage with content collaboratively—sharing comments, questions, and feedback with each other by annotating PDF files assigned by the instructor. In addition to communicating their ideas to their classmates, students can add private notes that only they can see.
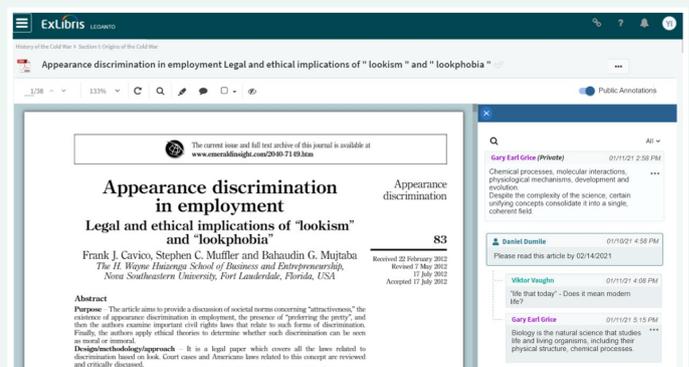

Figure 1. Leganto Social Reading Screen

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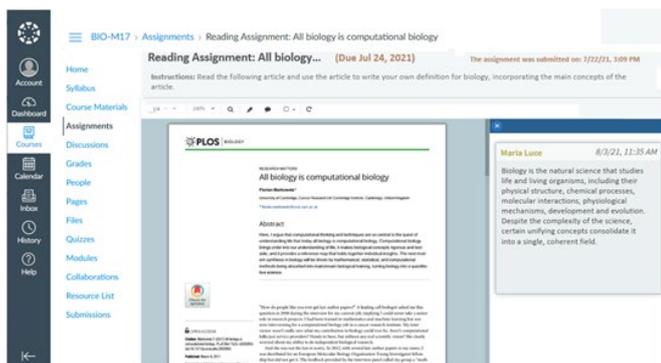
Figure 2: The Leganto Read & Respond Assignment Feature

Read & Respond Assignments

How can an instructor tell whether students are doing the assigned reading and whether they understand the content? Via the learning management system (LMS), instructors can now use the Read & Respond Assignment feature to leverage materials in the class's Leganto resource list and prompt students to answer questions and add comments to shared PDF files. The files can be articles, book chapters, images, research data, or any other type of resource that is available in PDF.

These Read & Respond assignments are seamlessly integrated into a course alongside all the other assignments, and the easy-to-use Leganto grading interface synchronizes the students' grades with the LMS gradebook.

What's in It for Instructors?

With the Leganto Social Reading and Read & Respond Assignment features, instructors support students' learning by:

- Increasing engagement. Students are transformed from passive attendees to involved participants.
- Fostering interaction. Reading tasks become collaborative and more stimulating, subtly encouraging every student to "speak" out.
- Assessing student work. Read & Respond Assignment activities help instructors motivate students to complete assigned readings and gauge students' understanding of the text.

An Opportunity for the Library

In addition to providing students with easy access to all course materials and promoting collaboration between librarians and instructors, the Leganto course resource list solution facilitates active learning, further expanding the library's support for teaching and learning and fostering student success. Highly valued by faculty members, Social Reading and Read & Respond Assignment activities are key features in remote and on-campus learning environments.

The Leganto solution has always helped libraries ensure that course materials comply with copyright and other library and institutional policies and that the use of such materials is properly tracked. These capabilities continue to play a major role when instructors take advantage of the Leganto active learning features.

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