DSLx Life Learning

Sally Susnowitz & Jill Forgash
An online educational platform focused on life-enhancing information and ideas
MIT students

entering freshmen
moving into a dorm
looking for internships
declaring a major
transitioning to a career
graduating seniors
working full-time jobs
MOOC users
feeling isolated from other students

undergrads
juniors
sophomores

having a roommate conflict
trying to eat healthy on a budget
unsure about how to meet other MEng students...where are they?
trying to find work-life balance
having difficulties with an advisor
supporting a family while in school
choosing a thesis topic
navigating the job market

grad students
MEng
PhD
MA
Student life, online.
Life-enhancing education for MIT students. To see what we're about, start exploring below.

Search...

Trending
- Lead a meeting
- New students
- Get to know Cambridge

Categories
- Health + fitness
- Communication
- Tough topics
- Practical life skills
- Finances / Money
- Activities / MIT community
- Values, productivity, motivation
- Outside the bubble
- Life and academics
- Business skills
- Social causes
- Next steps: after MIT
Communication

See all - personal - social - academic - career

Lead a meeting
Taking on a leadership role? One student’s tips on leading your first meeting.

How to write a press release
Get the word out about your event or latest news. by DAPER staff

Managing a roommate conflict
Roommate conflicts are common – these tips will help you sort it out. by SOS staff

Conflict management styles
What is your style? by SOS staff

Supporting a friend in crisis
Get advice on being a supportive friend. by MIT staff members

How to talk to someone with different values
Make your differences a feature, not a bug. by MIT staff members

How to network
Grow your professional network. by GECI staff

Meet other grad students
Find your community on campus. by MIT staff members

Make friends with an acquaintance
Build your social community. by MIT students

DSLx Life Learning
Online to In Person

- Reach out to on-site alumni while traveling
- Get counseling
- Attend on-campus workshops
- Talk with peers
- Learn from alumni interactions online
- Talk with advisors, roommates, staff, etc.
Microlessons to Modules to Academic Integration

- Onsite Experiences
  - MIT abroad
- Residential Course
- MOOC
- Leadership Summit
- On campus activities
Why not Google?

curated & connected

A comprehensive online resource for what MIT students want and need to know about life at MIT and beyond

central MIT community
76% of undergrad and 58% of grad MIT students say MIT is rated a 1 or a 2 on a scale of stressful (1) to calm (6)

“Life here is stressful: we should be making a place for empathy”

MIT students are typically online 10-12 hours a day
Content

In Student Life, educational programming addresses what students want and need to learn for their life activities.

Information resources and training

Students recommend that we combine information and required learning with voluntary learning, so our website is a more comprehensive educational resource for life learning. With more than 500 student groups on campus, for example, financial signatory training may affect nearly a thousand students a year. Check back here in the future to see and comment on information resources and trainings.

Opportunities

We want to hear your ideas for the sort of categories and content you might like to see -- and even better, what you might like to contribute.

Microlearning

Microlearning offers ideas and information through quick, efficient, appealing online resources.

Data and assessment

We're excited to see what people find useful. We also want to be able to experiment and improve quickly. We'll be reviewing comments, survey results, and site analytics so we can learn about what people think is important, what seems appealing, what pathways people follow, how long they spend in the system, what times they use it and how often, which content they rate highly, and the comments they make.

Next steps

We're developing content to use in our pilot site, which we plan to launch in 2016. Meanwhile, we'll be showing some of that curriculum here to get feedback about it. Please sign up for monthly updates so we can let you know what's new and get your input.
Technical platform

IS&T

ODL

Student Working Group

Funding

DSL

Resource Development

MIT legal

Process

DSL Senior Staff

DSLx Staff Working Group

Content

Mind+Hand+Heart, other initiatives

DLC’s

Student Groups

Work-Life Center

Individual students, staff, faculty, alumni

DSL, DUE, ODGE
- Platform designed for MOOCs
- Pre-constructed pathways
- Classroom on the web

&

- Platform designed for microlessons & modules
- Self-directed pathways
- Learning beyond the classroom
Progress

Ongoing

- DSL educational topic inventory
- Building awareness and participation
- lifelearning.mit.edu

Present

- Microlearning Boot Camp
- Spring Creative Blitz
- “Teach It Yourself” (TIY) Student Contest

Future

- Staff contest – coming soon!
- dslx.mit.edu (for content contributors)

Pilot
Student life, online.
Life-enhancing education for MIT students. To see what we’re about, start exploring below.

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- Lead a meeting
  Taking on a leadership role? One student’s tips on leading your first meeting.
- New students
  Have you arrived on campus yet? Here are some tips to get you started.
- Get to know Cambridge
  Want to get out of the bubble? This module will help you.

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Stay connected to student life.
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For Students & You
- Student Life Learning
  - See what current MIT students need and want to know
- Share your experience in a way that matters to students
  - Learn how to add content to Life Learning
- Join an online alumni-student club
  - Share common interests across time and space
- Be a 15-minute mentor
- Professional development, MIT-style
- Clear the path to next steps
  - Help with a practice interview or personal review

For MIT & the World
- Honor a friend
  - Name your gift in honor of an MIT friend and tell your story
- Help a student who's in your community
- Join us in making a difference
  - Ask your experience and lifestyle
- Let us know your thoughts
  - Change lives at MIT and beyond
Honor a Friend

Sherry Jung
BA ’99 MechE
PhD ’05 Materials Science

“Charlie is a great person who talked me through some tough times. Thank you for always listening.”

Charles Abbott
BA ’99 MechE

Sherry’s gift in honor of Charlie supports the Communication section
Pushing the boundaries of online education

Burt and Michele Kaliski look beyond the "status quo" to bring life learning online.

There’s more to a college education than learning everything there is to know about a given subject. Just ask Burt and Michele Kaliski. With a generous gift, they have helped MIT’s Division of Student Life (DSL) launch DSLx Life Learning. Their primary goal is to invest in the next generation of students and help them refine life skills that complement their academics to benefit the MIT community and beyond.
Platforms

People

Events

$1M - 2M

- Pilot v 1
- Pilot v 2
- Pilot v 3
- Staff, production aides, consultants
- Student Assistants
- Grants to groups
- Event series

$100k - 200k

- Interactive features
- Information series
- Consultants
- Student Assistants
- Student bloggers
- An event series

$10k +

- Information series
- Student bloggers
- Student Assistants
- Several events

$2k +

- Contest for content
- 1-2 consultants
- 1-2 events
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