Topic: Competencies

In D2L Brightspace, the competency tool allows the owner of a course to assess students learning outcomes, as well as ensure that the students are really acquiring the knowledge that they wish the students to achieve.

A Competency has three parts to it:

- The Competency itself
- Learning Objectives
- Learning Activities

As the owner of the course, you create the Competency for your students to achieve. They achieve competencies by completing learning activities, and learning objectives.

Creating a New Competency

To create a new competency, click **New** on the Competency list page in D2L Brightspace.
Under this menu, we can create a new competency or learning objective. Select Competency.

When creating a competency, think of all the learning objectives you wish for the students to obtain to earn the competency, and build the competency around that goal.

Status, Visibility, and Re-Evaluation

In the creation of the competency in D2L, you can enter in a name, description, status, option of visibility, and permission to re-evaluate users who have achieved the competency.

Status
The status of the Competency can be as follows: **Draft, In Review, Approved, and Archived.**

The status determines whether or not the competency is still being worked on, or if it’s ready to be used for live courses. A competency with a status of approved is used to evaluate users, and cannot be edited.

**Visibility**

When this setting is enabled, this competency and its children will be seen by users when they view their own competencies, provided you are displaying competencies in Settings area.

**Re-Evaluation**

This setting determines whether users who have achieved a competency are re-evaluated when this competency is changed.

When this setting is disabled, once a user achieves a competency, they will always be set as achieved, regardless of any changes made to the competency definition.

**Learning Objectives**

Learning objectives are the items students will have to complete to obtain a competency. You can attach learning objectives to any content item, quiz, survey, etc.

**Remember:** When all learning objectives are earned by the student, they earn that learning Competency.
For More Information

Please contact the Office of Online & Extended Learning at support@mnstate.edu or 218.477.2603 if you have questions about this material.