

ReadSpeaker for Brightspace: Faculty Email, 25 July 2025

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In our ongoing effort to enhance student learning, we have integrated ReadSpeaker, a text-to-speech technology, into our Brightspace Management System. The ReadSpeaker Suite of Learning Tools increases efficacy. It extends the reach of online content by instantly creating an audio version of the content, aligning with the <u>Universal Design for Learning</u> concepts.

By letting all your students know about this tool, you may be able to:

- Improve course outcomes
- Increase retention and success
- Provide a bimodal learning option

Not only can students with reading and learning difficulties benefit, but any student can benefit from this approach. With the ReadSpeaker Suite of Learning Tools, you can customize your interaction with learning to suit your learning style preferences.

Let your students know about this exciting new technology, and please let us know what your students think about having the technology available. Here is a syllabus/addendum insert that you may choose to use:

Syllabus/Addendum Insert

Utilize ReadSpeaker tools to enhance your understanding and comprehension of the posted materials. The materials in our online classroom include a Listen Button that allows you to have the text highlighted and read aloud to you. Listening to text read aloud is shown to improve your reading comprehension.

Office product files, ePubs, and PDFs can be opened in Content using the ReadSpeaker docReader.

ReadSpeaker docReader

- Click the docReader icon or link. Depending on your view, it could be in a
 dropdown menu to the right of the title name. The link is "Open with
 docReader." Or, on the right-hand side of the top of the document, you
 may see a speaker or a button with headphones and the text "Open
 docReader."
- Click the link, speaker, or button to activate the ReadSpeaker docReader.

ReadSpeaker webReader

- Click on the ReadSpeaker webReader "Listen" button, which is located at the top of Content HTML files, Assignments, Discussion Topics & Threads, and on each guiz guestion.
- You can change the reading speed and text highlighting colors, download
 the MP3 file, click on a paragraph to be read, enlarge the text, create a text
 mode view of the text, use a page mask, translate a word or phrase, look
 up a word in the dictionary, and more. Many of these tools can help
 readers stay focused and on track. Note: The quizzes do not include the
 Dictionary, Translate, and Download as mp3 tools.
- The help file has information about webReader.
- Keyboard shortcuts can be found in Settings and customized to your preferences.

• Below is the ReadSpeaker webReader expanded. Also pictured in the popup menu.



Embedded Link

https://www.readspeaker.com/blog/universal-design-for-learning/