Creating the next generation of educators is hard work! There are over 100 new students per semester, 800 current students, and hundreds more that are working through the process of becoming a teacher at a slower pace. The Department of Teacher Education coordinates the on-boarding of new students, finding placements in the community for student teaching, and facilitating practicums and evaluations from supervisors, all on top of lectures, quizzes, and finals! The department had been coordinating all of this work through a home-grown system for more than ten years. However, it was time for a change and to take advantage of advances in technology. The new platform was designed from the ground up to help improve collaboration and coordinate activities across students, mentors in K–12 schools throughout the state, and WSU Faculty and Staff.

Working together, the members of the academic department and the IT Division’s Application Development department, led by the Web Team, WSU was able to create an all-new platform to facilitate all of these activities. The new platform helps to free up resources and time for the members of the Teacher Education Department so they can focus on teaching and advising, and spend less time on reporting and paperwork. The new platform is expected to serve the department’s needs for many years, making the work of creating Utah’s future teachers that much easier!
Over the past five months, all Faculty and Staff at Weber State University (WSU) have had the opportunity to explore and learn on the Just-In-Time development platform called LinkedIn Learning. With access to tens of thousands of courses, in areas of productivity, creativity and even soft-skills including custom WSU specific training, we are seeing broad adoption and excitement around this pilot program.

Pilot Update: With access to such a broad range of training courses available on this platform, individuals and groups have begun to experiment and incorporate this tool into department and committee objectives. One group that started to test the value of this tool in the goal for student success was the digital literacy committee.

With the help of many on the committee, a grant was awarded to open incorporate the LinkedIn Learning platform into digitally enhanced Comm 1010 courses on campus. 600 students over the fall and spring semesters have been given access to powerful creative tools in the Adobe Creative Suite, with LinkedIn Learning providing supplemental and in-depth training content.

To date the students this fall have watched over 450 hours of content on LinkedIn Learning for their first assignment. The students are using the service more than just for their assignments. Over the same amount of time, the students have viewed over 5,500 different videos in subjects varying from creative writing to cultivating a growth mindset.

We are pleased with the growing use of the learning platform.

We are scheduled to meet with many deans and department heads to proactively design and deploy this tool to more individuals across campus during this pilot.

LinkedIn Learning Pilot Statistics:

- 695 WSU Faculty & Staff
- 275 WSU Students
- 2,009 Courses Taken
- 19,050 Videos Viewed

Pilot end date: May 30, 2019