AT A GLANCE: MATTERMOST

WHAT IS MATTERMOST?
Mattermost is an open source communication tool that facilitates communication and collaboration. Mattermost allows for the creation of course "teams" within which classmates can share messages and files. Public channels, private groups, and 1-1 direct messages can be used to keep conversations relevant.

Real-time and asynchronous communication are combined, meaning quick flurries of chat and threaded discussions can coexist in an "anytime" communication environment. All messages are persistent and can be searched, so nobody misses out.

KEY FEATURES
- Open source and hosted at UBC
- Create course "teams" for sharing messages and files
- Public channels, private groups, and 1-1 direct messages
- Real-time and asynchronous communication
- Can be accessed via the web, desktop, or mobile app
- Email, push, or desktop notifications can be configured

ACCESS, APPS, AND NOTIFICATIONS
Communication is not just anytime, but anywhere. Mattermost can be accessed via the web, and desktop and mobile apps exist for most platforms. There is no wrong way to do things. Each app is fully featured and has unique strengths, creating flexibility for many different use cases.

- The web application can be used to access the team as needed. Some people set aside specific time to catch up on course communications, and the web app can provide a distraction-free experience that is there when you need it. Email notifications can be set up or disabled.
- Desktop applications for PC, Mac, and Linux are available. These can be used to maintain an "online/away" status to encourage (but not obligate) real-time communication. The desktop app can be configured to automatically run at startup.
- Mobile apps for iOS and Android are available. In addition to providing a full-featured experience, these make push notifications possible. With push notifications users can be alerted instantly to relevant messages.

GETTING STARTED
Mattermost is currently being piloted within the Faculty of Education. If you think it could be useful in your course or team, or just want to try it out, please let us know so we can schedule a hands-on orientation. Your feedback is especially valuable as we evaluate this tool for wider use in the Faculty of Education and UBC. Our experience so far is that this is a useful, reliable, and fast technology, and we will work closely with you to make sure things go smoothly should you choose to give it a try.