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An Integration of Online Education's Career Readiness and Life Design Badging Program into a Milestone Course

Sheila Janofsky

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, sheila.janofsky@unlv.edu

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An Integration of Career Services' Career Readiness and Life Design Badging Program into a Milestone Course

Sheila Janofsky, PhD, School of Public Health

Badging Program Integrated into a Milestone Course

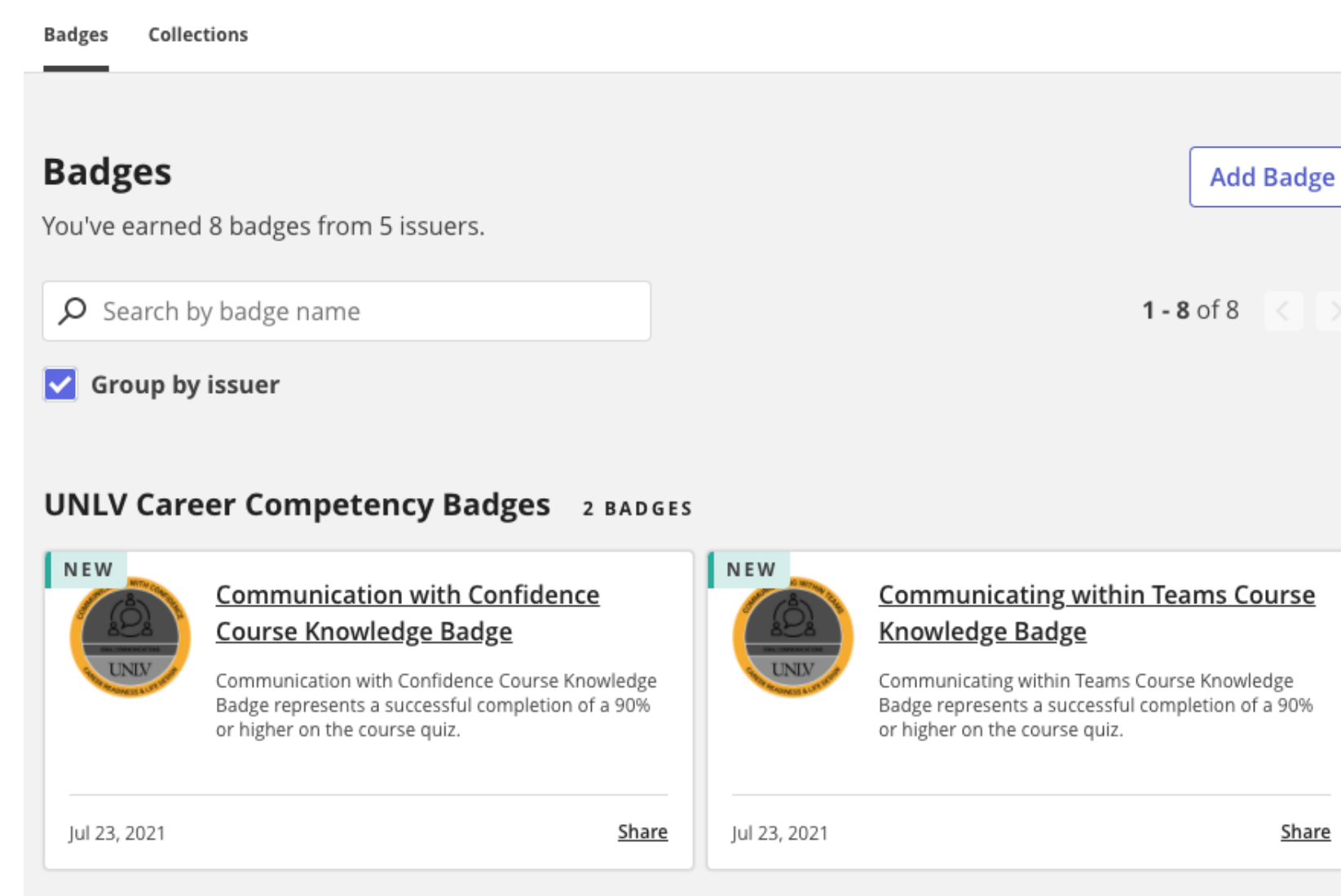
Students are required to earn six Knowledge Badges in Communication, Professionalism, Cultural Intelligence, Emotional Intelligence, Critical Thinking & Problem Solving, and Leadership. Once they earn a badge, they upload it to their Badgr Backpack and submit a screenshot to an assignment in WebCampus. The badge content is offered through LinkedIn Learning, so completing the courses also helps students develop their professional presence on LinkedIn before graduation.

Evidence It Benefits Students

65.4% of the students thought the requirements to earn the badges were reasonable and attainable. 22 of 26 students reported that the content in the courses was relevant and valuable as they prepared to enter the workplace. 69.2% of the students thought that the courses and quizzes provided new information. In open ended comments, the most commonly reported concern was that the number of points available for the badges was low considering the amount of time they took to complete.

How Others Can Adopt This Practice

Other UNLV instructors should consider this practice if they teach a course that emphasizes professional development. To manage the administrative side within the course, consider creating an assignment for each badge with a file upload submission format.



Resources & Where to Find Them

The Career Readiness and Life Design program is available through the "Student Resources" menu on WebCampus. More information is available from Career Services (<https://www.unlv.edu/careerservices>) and UNLV's Office of Online Education (<https://www.unlv.edu/provost/online-education>).

Off Campus Resources

Badgr (www.badgr.com) is a global platform that allows users to collect, store, and share badges that represent accomplishments or experiences. Students and other users can access this service for free. LinkedIn Learning (formerly Lynda) is a professional learning platform that provides training on a wide variety of topics (www.linkedin.com/learning). UNLV students and employees receive free access to LinkedIn Learning with their ACE accounts.

Acknowledgements

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