

Blackboard 9.1 Transition Faculty Frequently Asked Questions Last updated: 12/2/11

Why are we upgrading to Blackboard 9.1?

There are several reasons. First, operational support for Bb 8 ends next year, so FSU will have to move/upgrade to a new Learning Management System very soon. Upgrading to Bb 9.1 enables us to move to new, more robust system with advanced features that include drag-and-drop functionality, more streamlined navigation and additional communication tools for faculty and students.

When is Blackboard 9.1 going “live”?

- All Spring 2012 courses will be taught using Blackboard 9.1. Blackboard 8 will no longer be available after the transition!
- Blackboard 9.1 will be installed Wednesday **December 14 through Saturday December 17th**. Blackboard will be down and unavailable for faculty and students during this time.
- The Blackboard 8 Production System will be upgraded to Blackboard 9.1. Old courses will look different but all content should be there. This is a “make-over,” not copying from an old to new system.
- Course files and content in Blackboard 8 will be transferred over to the new version during this migration. ITTS will also keep an archive of existing courses in the event that we ever need to retrieve old course data.

What should I be doing?

- registering for and attending the various workshops being offered, or preparing on your own by
- watching the Overview video located here: <http://www.youtube.com/user/fayettevillestatenc?feature=mhee>;
- reviewing the training materials at the following websites: http://www.uncfsu.edu/onlineeducation/Blackboard_9.1.htm and <http://www.uncfsu.edu/facultydevelopment/Blackboard.htm>
- moving around in the staging area/sandbox located here: <https://sbxuncfsubb.uncg.edu>

What types of training will be offered and when?

1. **Online certification:** covers Bb 9.1 basics (BB 101) and Online Teaching Pedagogy (BB 102). First session runs from November 4th through December 3rd.
2. **Group workshops:**
 - The **What's New** workshops led by Reema are designed for faculty who do not teach online, but need assistance in web enhancing their courses (adding syllabi, assignments, etc) for continuity of instruction purposes.
 - In the **Let's Move** workshops, Reema will demonstrate how to move content from Blackboard 8 to Blackboard 9.1.
 - The **Introduction to Blackboard 9.1 (Part 1: Building)** workshops led by Shunta' provide hands on exposure to the new interface by having you perform the basic functions required for developing hybrid or fully online courses, starting with a blank shell.
 - The **Introduction to Blackboard 9.1 (Part 2: Teaching)** workshops coming in November will provide practice on how to effectively manage your courses (grade assignments, discussions, etc).
3. **Independent/self training:** Instructors may review the training materials (PDF documents and videos) on our website at any time: http://www.uncfsu.edu/onlineeducation/Blackboard_9.1.htm
4. **Open Labs:** In January, several open labs will be offered where faculty may come in work on their courses and get assistance with last minute preparations and questions.

If I complete the face to face workshops will I be a certified online instructor?

If you attend both of Shunta's workshops: **Introduction to Blackboard Part 1 (Building Online Courses)** and **Introduction to Blackboard Part 2 (Teaching Online Courses)**, you will have completed the coursework for Blackboard 101.

To become certified, complete the competency exam for Blackboard 101, and the Blackboard 102 coursework and competency exam.

The next session will be announced after the start of the Spring semester. Contact Shunta' Hailey for additional information @ 910.672.2522 or shailey1@uncfsu.edu

I am already certified to teach and develop online courses; am I required to get re-certified on Bb 9.1?

No. However, certified and experienced faculty are strongly encouraged to attend one of the three types of training mentioned previously to learn about the changes and improvements in Bb 9.1, and to prepare for the Spring 2012 semester when all courses will be taught using Bb 9.1.

If I am developing a new course for Spring 2012, which version of Blackboard should I be working in?

- If you develop/build your course in the current version of Blackboard (Blackboard 8), ITTS will transfer its content into Blackboard 9.1 in mid-December for you.
- If you want to develop your course in the Bb 9.1 sandbox in order to get used to the new version, you can do that; just keep in mind that content will have to be manually transferred into Blackboard 9.1.

***We can help you export your course from the sandbox and then import it into 9.1 if you need assistance.

Will student training be available?

Yes. The Online Student Orientation will be offered to all students at on Friday January 6th from 9 am to 4 pm. Or students may enroll in the self-paced online version of orientation by contacting Shunta' Hailey. Training materials will also be available on our website specifically for students.

Where can I find training and support resources?

Support Documentation/Training

- Blackboard 9.1 Training Materials Provided by Offices of Online Education and Faculty Development
http://www.uncfsu.edu/onlineeducation/Blackboard_9.1.htm and
<http://www.uncfsu.edu/facultydevelopment/Blackboard.htm>
- Blackboard Learn 9.1 On-Demand Learning Center
<http://ondemand.blackboard.com/>
- Blackboard Learn 9.1 Instructor's Guide (Online)
<http://library.blackboard.com/ref/a86c3648-80a5-43cc-8fed-b3f5d24518ce/index.htm>

When can I get access to Bb 9.1?

A staging area or sandbox is available to all faculty now that mirrors the live production site. You may access the sandbox by following this link: <https://sbxuncfsubb.uncg.edu>

Will I be able to copy my current sites to Bb 9.1?

ITTS will move the courses over during the migration in December. Instructors may also export their content from Blackboard 8 and import it into Blackboard 9.1 after the migration is completed.

We also strongly encourage you to archive your courses on your PC or network drive as an additional back-up.

For questions on exporting, importing and archiving courses, contact Shunta' Hailey @ 672-2522 or Reema Bhattacharya at 672-1177.

Can I teach courses in Bb 9.1 before Spring 2012?

No. Student information from Banner will not be integrated with Blackboard 9.1 until December. The staging area/sandboxes are temporary sites that will eventually be removed.

Does Blackboard 9.1 have all the features of Blackboard 8?

Mostly. Many features have been enhanced or combined in the new version.

Features Lost

- **Announcement Text in Email** – Email notifications for announcements include a link to the announcement, but do not include the full body of the announcement text.
- **Announcement Filter** - Users are no longer able to view just the announcements posted from the current day.
- **Digital Dropbox** - The more robust Assignments tool and the Group File Exchange feature meets the needs of individual users and groups for completing and managing course work. These functions made the Digital Drop Box obsolete.
- **Electric Blackboard** - Now students can use Journals to complete these same tasks, making it much more fully featured than the Electric Blackboard tool. For more information, see Blogs and Journals.
- **Student Homepages** - Student homepages are no longer needed because the new Blogs tool enables students to express their thoughts and reflect on learning within a course and the My Places tool allows student to post their avatar system-wide (instead of limited to the Course environment) and includes additional functionality and a customizable set of links to frequently accessed information as well as tools to personalize a user's own experience.
- **Tools Panel**: There is no longer a separate Tools panel in the Course Menu. “Course Tools” and “Communication Tools” have been combined into a single Tools area that appears within the default Course Menu.

What's New in Blackboard 9.1?

The Butler University website provides a very concise and complete overview of the new features in Bb9.1: [Butler University's Bb 9.1 Overview](#)

These screenshots show the new look and feel of Blackboard 9.1:

The screenshot displays the Blackboard 9.1 user interface. At the top, there are tabs for "My FSU" and "Courses". The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Tools:** A vertical list of links including Announcements, Calendar, Tasks, My Grades, Send Email, User Directory, Address Book, and Personal Information.
- My Announcements:** A section titled "My Announcements" with a sub-section "Blackboard 9.1 Sandbox" containing links for "What's New in Blackboard 9.1?" and "Welcome to Online Certification Course".
- My Calendar:** A section titled "My Calendar" with a sub-section "My Calendar" containing a message: "No calendar events have been posted for the next 30 days."
- My Tasks:** A section titled "My Tasks" with a sub-section "My Tasks" containing a list of tasks for "Blackboard CITL:" and "ENGL 505-01 (Spring Semester 2009):".
- My Courses:** A section titled "My Courses" with a sub-section "Courses you are teaching:" containing a list of courses including "MGMT 410-D1 (Spring Semester 2009)", "Blackboard 8 Training", "BLACKBOARDTRAINING15", "Blackboard CITL", "CLA Assessment", "Development Site for TLC - Progyamita Banerjee", "Emergency Management Operations", "FSU Demo Course 00", "Leadership Forum", "New Faculty Forum", "SANDBOX.REEMA: Blackboard 9.1 Sandbox", and "SOE.TOUB: Teaching Online Using Blackboard".

On the right side, there is a yellow sidebar with a red-bordered button labeled "Add Module" and "Personalize Page".

FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

Progymita Bhattacharya My Places Home ? Help Logout

My FSU Courses

SANDBOX.REEMA Course Home

EDIT TOGGLE BUTTON

Edit Mode is: ON

Course Home

SANDBOX.REEMA

- Announcements
- Course Home
- Information
- Content
- Discussions
- Groups
- Tools
- Help
- Module Zero

COURSE MANAGEMENT

Control Panel

- Files
- Course Tools
- Evaluation
- Grade Center
- Users and Groups
- Customization
- Packages and Utilities
- Help

My Announcements

No Course Announcements have been posted today. [more announcements...](#)

My Calendar

No calendar events have been posted for the next 30 days. [more calendar events...](#)

My Tasks

No tasks due. [more tasks...](#)

To Do

What's Past Due **Actions**

All Items (0)

What's Due **Actions**

Select Date: 04/19/2011

Today (0)

Nothing Due Today

Tomorrow (0)

This Week (0)

Future (0)

Last Updated: April 19, 2011 2:56 PM

Alerts

Past Due **Actions**

No Notifications

Early Warning System

No Early Warnings

Last Updated: April 19, 2011 2:56 PM

What's New

No Notifications

NOTIFICATION ALERTS!!

Last Updated: April 19, 2011 2:56 PM

Needs Attention

No Notifications


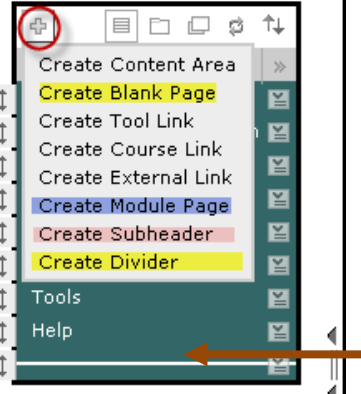
Last Updated: April 19, 2011 2:56 PM

Blackboard

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Accessibility information can be found at <http://access.blackboard.com>. [Installation details](#)

Blackboard 9.1: New Features

Features	About	
Edit Mode	 <p>Edit Mode is used to manage your course.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When Edit Mode is OFF, you see what your students see. • When Edit Mode is ON, you are able to create and edit throughout the course without needing to go into the Control Panel. • In-line Add, Edit, and Drag and Drop: In-line actions and drag and drop results in quicker Course Menu set up and management. 	
Customizing course navigation and Content		<p>Module Page</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the Course Menu or in a Content Area • Displays a variety of modules, including What's New, Tasks, Calendar, Announcements, RSS feed, etc on one page. <p>Blank Page</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the Course Menu or in a Content Area • Create a single page that consists of a title and a body for a cleaner look – no more extra icons. <p>Subheader</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a visual header on the menu, grouping other Menu links together <p>Divider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a dividing line to help better organize the Menu
Course Content	<p>Module Page Provides easy access to a variety of different modules such as Announcements, Tasks, and so forth. Instructors can allow students to personalize course module pages. Course module pages can be selected as the Course Entry Point once they have been created. Course module pages can be added to Content Areas.</p> <hr/> <p>Blank Page On the Course Menu or in a Content Area Create a single page that consists of a title and a body for a cleaner look – no more extra icons.</p> <hr/> <p>File Attach a file</p> <hr/> <p>Audio Attach and/or embed an audio file</p> <hr/> <p>Video Attach and/or embed a video file</p> <hr/> <p>Image Attach and embed an image file</p> <hr/> <p>Lesson Plan Allows for the construction of a formal Lesson Plan and in inclusion of any of the other Content types. Certain components of the Lesson Plan may be visible to instructors only.</p> <hr/> <p>Mashups: Flickr Easily integrate multimedia from third party sites directly into Blackboard</p>	

	<p>Slideshare YouTube</p> <p>Available as an independent content type or anyplace where the full Visual Text Box Editor is available (content, discussion boards, Announcements, etc) Embed even when the Visual Text Box Editor is disabled. Available to students as well</p>
<p>Course Files</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course Files may be re-used – upload the file once and reuse it as needed throughout the course • Deleting a content item which is linking to a Course File will not delete the Course File itself • Renaming, moving or overriding the Course File will automatically update all links to that file • Files uploaded by Students are not added to Course Files • Review where the file is being used in a course using the 360° view. <p>Selecting or Attaching File When creating a content item, you may either attach a file like you are used to or you can browse your Course Files and select a file to link to. Additionally, you may upload files directly into Course Files.</p> <p>Uploading ZIP files You can no longer unpackage a ZIP file in a content item. You will now 1) upload a zip package directly to Course Files, 2) unzip it, and then 3) create a link from the content item to the index page in Course Files. If you want to make a change to the site, the affected files can be edited and uploaded to Course Files individually instead of having to delete and completely re-add the ZIP file.</p> <p>Web Folder You can set up your Course Files system as though it were a network drive or USB drive on a PC or a Mac. This allows you to drag-and-drop uploads or open and edit the file directly on your computer rather than uploading and downloading files.</p>
<p>Blog and Journal Tools</p>	<p>The Journal tool replaces what was the Electric Blackboard and the Student Homepage tool has been replaced with the Blog tool.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Blog and Journal tool allow students to create and share ideas with only their instructors or other students enrolled in the same class. • Individual journals allow students share thoughts either privately between a student and instructor or shared with others in the course. The author and the instructor can add comments. • Group journals allow groups of students to share collaboratively with each other, and comment on another group member’s comments. Also similar to the discussion board group members may anonymously add journal entries. • Individual blogs provide each student in a course with their own area to share thoughts and work with others in the course. Students are able to receive comments and feedback on their individual blog from others in the course. • Course blogs allow users in a particular course to share thoughts and work in a common area where all the students in the same course can read and add comments. • Group blogs allow groups of students in a course to post thoughts and comments on each other’s work while everyone else in the course can view and comment on the groups’ entries. • Blogs and Journals may be graded on a whole • Blogs and Journals cannot be viewed outside of Blackboard

Rubrics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multiple rubrics may be assigned to a single column and a single rubric may be assigned to multiple columns• Rubrics are used for reference only and are not interactive; they cannot be viewed by students• Rubrics may be copied
Wikis	<p>Wikis are a new collaborative tool that can be implemented on the course/organization level or on a group level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Versioning and page comparisons may be viewed• Wikis may be graded• Participation summaries are available to detail word counts and saves by individual student• Commenting on Wiki pages is available• Content may link to Wikis or Wiki pages• Wikis may be copied, but the content is not• Wikis cannot be viewed outside of Blackboard

How can I learn more about the Bb 9.1 transition?

Faculty may contact the Office of Online Education during normal business hours:

- By phone: (910) 672-2522
- By email: shailey1@uncfsu.edu
- By web and Live Chat (go to <http://www.uncfsu.edu/onlineeducation> to do live chat):
- In person: Continuing Education Bldg, Rm # 129