



Blackboard 7 Quick Start Guides



Getting Started: The New Enhancements in Blackboard 7.1

Enhancements with Blackboard 7.1

Blackboard 7.1 contains the same basic features and environment as Blackboard 6.3.4, so you do not need to re-learn Blackboard to start using our new system. There are a few things we did to improve Blackboard on the back end so it will run more proficiently and help prevent downtime. We have all new servers and a “clean install” of the Blackboard software.

FCCJ faculty will benefit from the improved system architecture in terms of stability and support. Blackboard 7 contains new features that may help you in your teaching and course management. These new enhancements are listed below.

Syllabus Template

Blackboard now has a built in syllabus template tool that allows you to create a course syllabus by uploading an existing syllabus or by using the built-in syllabus creation functionality templates to design and develop your own course syllabus and lesson plans

Spell Check and Characters Supported

A spell check is available in e-mail and other Blackboard functions.

Blackboard now supports more special characters. This means you won't see the funny symbols when copying files from Word!

Assessment and Gradebook

Multiple Attempts – Assessments may now be set to unlimited attempts or a specified number of attempts. The gradebook now displays ALL attempts made by the student. Instructors now have advanced control over clearing attempts: all attempts or only specified attempts may now be cleared.

Import/Export – In addition to importing and exporting question pools, surveys and tests may be exported as well. This enhancement makes it easier to transfer select surveys or tests from one course to another.

Self-Assessment – Deployment of tests allows self-assessment in a few forms: allows the instructor and student to view the grade, or only allow the student to view the grade. In each case this self-assessment would not be included in the final grade.

Extra credit questions – A new option now available under the Test Manager to allow certain questions to be counted as extra credit.

Submission report – The student's First Name, Last Name, Course Name, name of the test, and date/time of submission is now displayed on the confirmation page after a student has successfully submitted his/her assessment. This report can be then be printed out and kept by the student.

Grade overrides – Override any calculated grade by entering your own grade.

More feedback options – There are more options to automatically give feedback on answers.

Partial credit: You can assign partial credit to responses in some question types when creating online assessments. If partial credit is allowed, each incorrect answer can specify what percentage of the total points should be given for that answer.

Gradebook Null Option: New option to exclude untaken or ungraded items when calculating the Total and Weighted Total.

Visual Text Box Editor

Cross-Platform – Now works with both MacOS and Windows based computers.

Supported Web Browsers – For Mac: Mozilla Firefox 1.0; For PC: Internet Explorer 6.0 or Mozilla Firefox 1.0.

New Features in Blackboard 7.1- Content System

In Summer 2007, the Virtual Hard Drive and e-Portfolio tools will be made available to faculty and students BUT training and role of of the features will be held during the 2007 Summer and Fall Term .

Virtual Hard Drive

Personal storage area accessible anywhere in the World. Course Materials can be uploaded to the virtual hard drive, and linked to courses, shared with colleagues, or simply stored for your own personal use.

e-Portfolio

e-Portfolio allows all users to create an electronic portfolio within Blackboard. This e-Portfolio tool can be used to create academic portfolios and even professional portfolios.