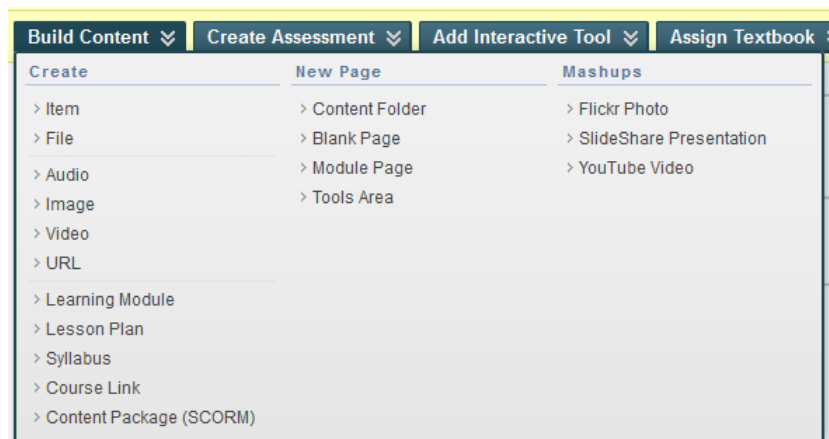


New Content Types

Instructors now have a Build Content button in Blackboard that they can utilize to add content to their courses such as items, folders, audio, video, modules, and mashups.

Adding Content is done by using the Build Content button in Blackboard.



Add an Item

Items are used to add materials and information to a content area. An Item is any type of file, text, image, or link that displays to users. Items are often used to share documents or files with students and provide short text information.

Create a File

You can create a simple link to a file in a content area. When adding a file to a course, you cannot add any text or other information about the file, only the actual file will appear.

Add an Audio File

Audio files can be added to Blackboard to provide lecture content, feedback, or descriptions of activities. Blackboard supports MP3, WAV QuickTime, and RealPlayer audio files.

Add an Image

Images can be used to provide educational context (maps, graphs, etc.) to a course site. In addition, visuals and images can break up the text within a Blackboard course site to make students feel more connected and engaged with course content. Images can be added to any content area in the following formats: gif, jpg, jpeg, .png, .tiff, and .wmf. Before adding any image to your course site, it is recommended that you check the file size and reduce the size of any large image files.

Add a Video File

Videos can be added to Blackboard content areas to provide a more robust learning experience for students. Video files can be loaded in several formats including MP4, MPEG, AVI, FLV, SWF and QuickTime MOV.

Add a URL/External Link

A URL is a shortcut to a Web resource and can provide a quick way to access relevant content or materials needed for the course. URLs are a Blackboard content item which link to external websites such as a media, library, or government website. URLs are often used to supplement class text, share additional resources, and provide links to multimedia on the web.

Add a Learning Module

A Learning Module is a collection of Content Items focused on a specific subject that students can navigate at their own pace. For example, a Learning Module about the solar system can include lecture notes/Powerpoints/SoftChalk activities, links to websites with pictures/videos/news articles of all the planets, and then assignments/tests/projects. Instructors can create a structured path for students to follow to work through the content. The path can be set so that students must view content sequentially or set to allow students to view the content in any order.

NOTE: *Learning Modules have not changed in this upgrade **except** they now have a Table of Contents that students can view.*

Add a Lesson Plan

A Lesson Plan is special content type that combines information about the lesson with the curriculum resources used to teach it. Default Lesson Plan sections include the instructional level, grade level, objectives, and subject area of the lesson. Additional sections can be added to the Lesson Plan and can be displayed to students if the instructor wishes

Add a Course Link

A Course Link is a shortcut to an existing area, tool, or item in a course. Course Links can be added to a content area, Learning Module, Lesson Plan, folder, the Course Menu, and within some tools. For example, if you have created all assignments in their own area, you can create Course Links to individual assignments in other areas of the course, such as in a unit folder or Learning Module.

Add a Content Folder

Content Folders are used to simplify student navigation by organizing content and material within content areas of Blackboard. A recommended best practice is to create one folder for each lesson in your course. Each folder should contain the content a student would need for a lesson, such as a list of objectives and the task listing of “to do’s”, lectures, handouts, activities, assignments, and assessments. This folder organization eases student navigation and streamlines the learning process.

Add a Blank Page

The Blank Page tool allows you to include files, images, and text as a link in a course area. Blank pages present content in a different way than items do. There is no description that appears below the title of the page. Users see your content only after clicking the link. This reduces the amount of scrolling and streamlines the appearance of the course area. Blank pages can include Mashups, links to course content, and file attachments.

Add a Flickr Photo

Flickr® Photo Sharing is an online photo management and sharing application. It enables users to make photos available to public or private audiences. Blackboard is linked to Flickr® Photo Sharing as a service so instructors can easily access and share photos with students.

Add a SlideShare Presentation

A SlideShare Presentation is a presentation, video, or document that has been shared publicly at SlideShare.net. In Blackboard 9.1, SlideShare Presentations are categorized as Mashups. They are easy to add and increase the interactivity for a lesson.

Add a YouTube

YouTube has hundreds of educational videos available in nearly every content area; it can be a free, easy way to add more engaging content to your course. YouTube Videos can be directly embedded or linked directly within your Blackboard course site using Mashups.