



Blackboard Release 9 Notes

Notes when working with Blackboard

- You need to have **EDIT MODE ON** to edit your main menu or add content to your Course Shell with EDIT MODE: OFF, your view of your course is what students will see.
- Set course to available using “Customization” -> “Properties” -> “Make Course Available”.
- To list all the users in the course: From the control panel click Users on the Users screen enter “%” sign in the search box to view all users in your course or select “not blank” from the drop down menu.
- Any time display dates are used be sure to select both a display-after date and a display-until date. Do not use both availability dates and adaptive release.
- Bug: Switching the Visual (Text box) Editor off or on will cause the page to refresh and all work on that page is lost. This is very important to avoid when typing text in Bb.
- Issues with Internet Explorer 8 and Blackboard: Using Internet Explorer 8 with Blackboard will cause problems for students attempting to submit tests or use the file upload feature. To avoid the issues it is suggested to advise students to use Mozilla Firefox <http://www.mozilla.com/en-US/firefox/ie.html> or change to the “compatibility mode” in IE8 (Tools > Compatibility View Settings > Check 'Display all websites in Compatibility View' > Close. You will need to close IE8 and reopen the browser before the change takes effect.)
- When copied to new shells text generated in the Text Box Editor does not keep the formatting: You would need to reformat the text (Known issue, pending Blackboard solution.)
- Notification modules are not synchronized to real time. (Known issue, pending Blackboard solution.)



- Clicking the "<" between the course main menu and the content frame hides (minimizes) the main menu frame. The ">" in the left margin restores it.
- Instructors using Safari may get an obscure error message when trying to update a weighted total in the grade center. The error might be something like `blackboard.persist.PersistenceException: Unable to generate id. The provided key value is invalid:`
`blackboard.platform.gradebook2.GradingPeriod - - {2}` the bug occurs if there is no grading period in the course. You can fix the problem by creating an empty grading period. Go to the **Grade Center** and click on **"Manage"**->**"Grading Periods"**, then **"Create Grading Period"**; give it a name (perhaps **"term"**) and click **"Submit"**." If you are using MAC and have Firefox, try using Firefox to add the weighted total.
- Some Instructors may see a broken link on the homepage, this happens if the Module page is not available in tools availability. To make module page or any other tool available click **"Customization"**-**"Tool Availability"** and check the box near the tool needed. You can change the entry page through **"Customizations"**-**"style"**- **"Select Course Entry Point"**.