

## Release 9.1 - Our Next Generation Teaching and Learning Platform

As a way of helping the K-12 community address the real issues you're facing today, we asked for feedback from numerous K-12 clients on how to improve our products. The result is *Blackboard Learn™*, Release 9.1.

It's the release shaped by a global community of practice that closely serves millions of learners. Its capabilities reflect the quality you've been demanding and the functionality to enable learners to learn and teachers to teach. In addition, it features a full complement of resources designed to address the challenges typically associated with clients who wish to upgrade to benefit from our most engaging release ever.

We're leveraging the effective practices we've learned by working with thousands of schools and districts. What does that mean to you? For new users of Blackboard's platform and tools you can empower students, parents, teachers and administrators to deliver an engaging, personalized, and connected school experience that drives student success, improves instructional practice, enhances

teacher effectiveness and increases access and engagement. Regardless of where you may be with your online learning strategy, Blackboard is ready to partner with you. We can help plan, implement and manage a successful online learning program for your school or district. For current clients you will benefit from Blackboard K-12's expertise that can help you upgrade more easily and avoid pitfalls, to ensure more effective use of your technology investment, and grow in a cost-effective, scalable way.

### For Current Blackboard Clients:

#### The Blackboard Upgrade Center

We've compiled all the customized resources you'll need for a personalized upgrade experience. It's your go-to resource for making the move to Release 9.1 as simple as possible.

<http://www.blackboard.com/upgradecenter>

### Not Currently a Blackboard Client?

#### Preview Accounts

You can experience Blackboard Learn software - from both a student and an educator perspective - on a hosted evaluation server for thirty days.

<http://bb.blackboard.com/bblearnpreview>

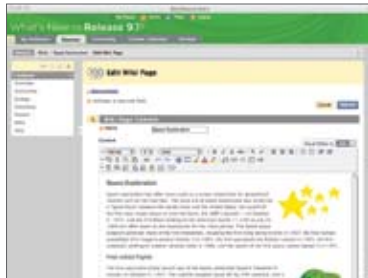
# Blackboard Learn for K-12, Release 9.1 Capabilities

## Fostering Active and Social Learning

Create exciting learning opportunities for today's students with integrated student engagement tools that expand learning opportunities through active participation in and beyond the classroom.

### Promote Active Collaboration and Social Learning

- **Course Wikis\*** drive student interaction through content creation, editing and ownership.
- **Blogs and Journals** promote discourse and reflection.
- **Discussion Boards, Virtual Classrooms and Chat** encourage ideas and debate.
- **Groups** provide a venue for student-centered collaboration and communication.



course wiki

### Create Structured and Customized Learning Paths

- **Learning Modules - Table of Contents\*** guide students through a structured learning experience.
- **Adaptive Release** builds a rule structure to determine the content students see.

### Engage Students with Multi-Media Content

- **Mashups\*** integrate Web 2.0 resources from youtube.com, slideshare.com and flickr.com.
- **NBC News Archives** enable teachers to easily access multimedia content related to historical and current events.



youtube mashup

### Engage Students With a New User Interface

- **Web 2.0 User Experience** creates and delivers effective content with an intuitive, easy-to-use interface.

### Increase Accessibility

- **Advanced Accessibility Options\*** that have been Gold Level certified by the National Federation of the Blind for Non-Visual Accessibility.

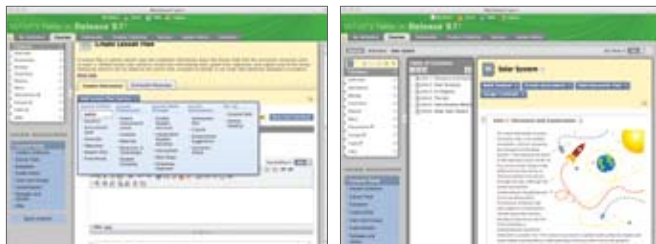


## Promoting Planning and Productivity

Enable intuitive planning and instructional productivity with integrated efficiency tools for teachers and organizational leaders to deliver a more engaging student experience.

### Deliver Organized and Effective Instruction

- **Lesson Planning\*** builds personalized and integrated lesson plans and aligns to state standards.
- **Learning Modules - Table of Contents\*** support structured instructional design.



lesson plan    learning module

### Share and Manage Learning Content at the Course Level and Across the District

- **Course Files\*** enable the easy upload and management of course level content.
- **Content Management module enhancements\*** easily upload and manage content across courses and organizations.

### Monitor Activity and Progress

- **Assessment Manager\*** centrally creates and manages multiple assessment types.
- **Grade Center** centrally manages all assessments and grades in context.
- **Notification Dashboard** keeps teachers on top of students who need immediate attention or assistance.

### Enhance Communication

- **Student Notifications** give teachers the ability to send e-mail notifications to students and are accessible from a central student notification dashboard.

\* New capabilities for Release 9.1

## Enhancing Monitoring and Evaluation

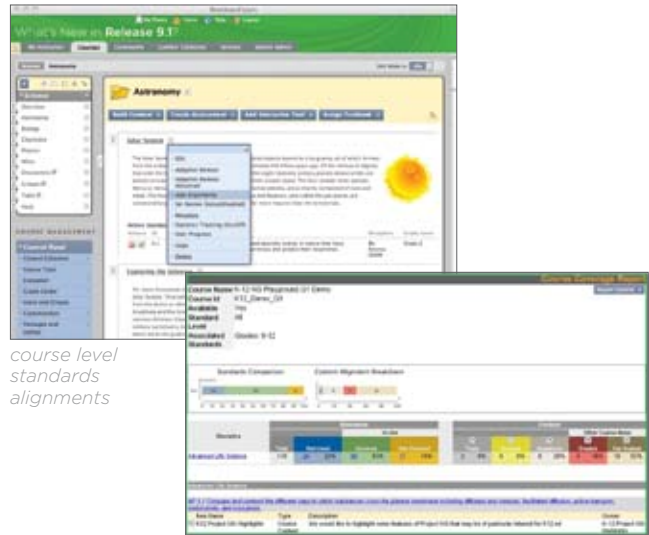
Provide educational insight into classroom instruction with integrated lesson plans, standards alignment and standards reporting.

### Drive Standards-Based Teaching and Learning

- **Course Level Standards Alignment\*** empowers teachers in standards alignment processes.
- **Standards Aligned Content and Curriculum\*** ensures compliance with state standards through integrated alignments.

### Ensure Compliance with State Standards

- **Coverage Reports\*** generate multiple levels of reporting that highlight both “covered” and “gaps” in coverage to gain insight into standards-based instruction – from individual courses and learning levels to district-wide disciplines.



course level standards alignments

coverage report

## Enabling District-Wide Efficiency

Do more with less and drive district-wide efficiency with streamlined processes and automated standards mapping.

### Maximize your Investment in Curriculum Management

- **Standards Importing\*** aligns course content and lesson plans with imported standards from 50 U.S. states and Washington, DC.
- **Standards Mapping\*** implements new standards in a shorter time frame with a streamlined standards mapping process.



standards importing

### Support Efficient Course Management

- **Customizable Instructor Roles\*** enable administrative efficiency with streamlined privilege assignment across customizable roles.
- **Web Services** manage courses from a single interface and enable easy integration with hundreds of Blackboard Building Block™ partners.



standards mapping

### Ensure a Fast, Dependable Experience

- **Support for the latest Server Operating Systems and Database Software\***
  - Windows Server® 2008 (64-bit)
  - Oracle® 11g (64-bit)
- **Support for the latest Web Browsers\***
  - Safari® 4
  - Internet Explorer® 8
  - Firefox® 3.6
- **Support for Client-Side Operating Systems\***
  - Windows® 7
  - Mac® 10.6 (Snow Leopard®)



# Delivering Continuous Professional Development

Sustain and reinforce professional collaboration with productivity and engagement tools, delivering organized and continuous professional development.

## Model Structured and Organized Instruction

- **Lesson Plans\*** provide templates that model strong organization and pedagogy.
- **Course Files\*** make it easier to build and maintain professional development programs with in-course file storage and management.

## Reinforce Professional Collaboration

- **Course Wikis\*** drive collaborative participation across professional development courses.
- **Organization Wikis\*** drive collaborative growth and development across professional learning communities.
- **Groups** provide a venue for professional collaboration and communication.

## Keep Teachers Engaged Beyond the Classroom

- **Learner Notifications** give professional development course instructors the ability to send e-mail notifications to teachers and staff.
- **Preferred Notifications\*\*** (available through integration with the Blackboard Connect™ platform) provide professional development course participants the option to receive notifications in the way they prefer - via e-mail, text or voice.
- **Blackboard Mobile Learn™ application\*\*** brings interactive teaching and learning to mobile devices, creating an engaging mobile learning experience for teachers on the go.



connect integration



iphone connect message

\* New capabilities for Release 9.1

\*\* Blackboard Connect and Blackboard Mobile Learn are separate Blackboard offerings.

# The Resources You Need

We've enhanced Blackboard Learn, Release 9.1 with a comprehensive set of resources and services built specifically with your upgrade path in mind.

**Upgrade Center** – A centralized collection of all the relevant resources related to your upgrade. Quickly put your fingers on resources that are customized by version and hosting situation for a personalized upgrade experience. Please visit: <http://www.blackboard.com/UpgradeCenter>

**Blackboard Managed Hosting<sup>SM</sup> 99.9% Uptime SLA** – To demonstrate our commitment to service and quality of your Blackboard environment, we are pleased to offer a 99.9% uptime Service Level Agreement (SLA) for clients upgrading to Release 9.1. Please visit: [www.blackboard.com/managedhosting](http://www.blackboard.com/managedhosting)

**Upgrade Programs** – Blackboard offers essential upgrade services and tools to our clients to ensure that your institution's specific needs are met throughout your transition. Please visit:

<http://www.blackboard.com/UpgradeCenter>

**On-Demand Learning Center** – Home to dozens of video tutorials, getting started guides and other resources to help faculty get acclimated to the new features of Release 9.1. Please visit: <http://ondemand.blackboard.com>

**Preview Accounts** – Experience Blackboard Learn software – from both a student and an educator perspective – on a hosted evaluation server for thirty days. Please visit: <http://bb.blackboard.com/bblearnpreview>

**Release 9.1 Communications Toolkit** – Communications tools designed to generate excitement about Release 9.1 with all your stakeholders. Please visit: <http://www.blackboard.com/UpgradeCenter>