# **Blackboard**

#### Blackboard Learn 3900.86 Release

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Product:Blackboard\_Learn\_MH,Blackboard\_Learn\_SaaS,Blackboard\_Learn\_Software; Version:Learn\_BU Article No.: 000078357

Producto: Learn SaaS Fecha de la versión:

#### Información:

Update to client Test/Stage environments (Published February 13, 2024):

An updated version of 3900.86.0 (full release number: 3900.86.0-rel.20+1548aa5) is being applied to client Test servers on Tuesday, February 13, 2024.

- In Original View Courses Using Learning Modules the Submit Button for Assessments is Hidden From Safari Users on Mac iOS- Article #77838
- Assignment Links not Shown in Course Performance Report for Ultra Courses- Article #78091
- Enabling Alternate Domains for Ultra breaks HTML links in Original Courses.

We have fixed these issues.

The March 2024 - 3900.86 release is robust with features in 10 areas:

- Instructional design;
- Competency based education;
- Tests and assignments;
- Communication and collaboration;
- Flexible grading;
- Gradebook:
- Learner progression and personalized experience;
- Integrations;
- Learn core and security, and;
- Upgrade to Ultra

These improvements impact instructors, students, and administrators. Some features do require administrative action.

#### Instructors:

- Al Design Assistant Context picker for test question generation
- Goal alignment to Journals
- No Due Date assessment setting
- Last used view state of flexible grading side panels preserved
- Gradebook item statistics
- Text grade schema converts to points
- Send messages to students from the Student Activity report for assessments on small and medium devices and the mobile app
- Moodle conversion improvements

#### **Instructors and Students:**

Announcement indicators and mark as read/unread

#### Administrators:

- Converting Building Block content to LTI: MediaSite course content
- Converting Building Block content to LTI: Automatic Conversion
- Rubric Associations API Enhancements
- Group File Size limit for Ultra courses

### **Instructional Design**

### Al Design Assistant – Context picker for test question generation

Blackboard Learn SaaS Ultra Experience Ultra Course View Impact: Instructors

The Al Design Assistant offers inspiration and efficiency when generating test questions. Instructors can now select course items to help define questions. This option improves the alignment of generated questions to course content.

For administrators: In Installed Tools, select Settings for AI Design Assistant and Unsplash. The default state is 'off.' When this feature is 'on,' you will need to assign the following privileges to course roles as necessary, i.e. Instructor: 'Search for images using Unsplash' and 'Use AI features'.

### **Competency Based Education**

#### **Goal alignment to Journals**

Blackboard Learn SaaS Ultra Experience Ultra Course View Impact: Instructors

Institutions want to align goals to course content. Goal alignment ensures that the curriculum is designed to meet specific learning outcomes.

Instructors can now align goals to journals to ensure that the activity measures the desired learning outcomes. This helps to ensure the accuracy and effectiveness of evaluation and feedback practices.

Instructors can also align goals to the following course items:

- Assignments
- Tests, including individual questions
- Questions in banks
- Discussions
- Rubrics criterion
- Files
- Web links
- Teaching tools with LTI connection
- Documents

For administrators: This feature is available for all Ultra courses. There are no configurations needed.

## **Tests & Assignments**

#### No Due Date assessment option

Blackboard Learn SaaS Ultra Experience Ultra Course View Impact: Instructors

Due dates are an important aspect of the teaching and learning process. In some scenarios, such as self-paced learning, an instructor may not want to apply a due date. To make the option for not having a due date more evident, we've added a "No due date" option for Tests and Assignments.

We also updated the default due date and time to tomorrow's date at 11:59 pm.

There may be cases when the "No due date" selection conflicts with the Assessment Results settings. When this occurs, the instructor is prompted to review the settings.

Instructors can navigate to the Assessment Results section in the Settings via the link in the banner.

For administrators: This feature is available for all Ultra courses. There are no configurations needed.

#### **Communication & Collaboration**

#### Announcement indicators and mark announcements as read/unread

Blackboard Learn SaaS Ultra Experience Ultra Course View Impact: Instructors, Students

Announcements are an important communications channel within a course. Over the past 12 months, course announcements usage has more than tripled! With such an increase in usage, it is important to help create awareness of new announcements and read/unread controls.

Now, there is a number indicator next to the announcement tab in the course. The indicator signals the number of unread announcements available.

Additionally, users can now mark announcements as read or unread. On the New Course Announcement pop-up, users have the option to mark the read state. Users can also mark announcements as read or unread from the Announcement page.

For administrators: This feature is available for all Ultra courses. There are no configurations needed.

### **Flexible Grading**

### Last used view state of flexible grading side panels preserved

Blackboard Learn SaaS Ultra Experience Ultra Course View Impact: Instructors

Instructors want to configure the grading interface according to their preferences. In flexible grading, instructors can collapse or expand the left panel (student cards) and right panel (feedback and rubrics). To provide a better user experience, the last used state is now preserved in the browser. Now, navigating between student attempts and across sessions provides a more efficient experience.

For administrators: This feature is available for all Ultra courses. There are no configurations needed.

#### Gradebook

Gradebook item statistics Blackboard Learn SaaS Ultra Experience Ultra Course View Impact: Instructors

Item statistics give insight to course members' overall performance on a graded content. Now, instructors can select a column in the gradebook to access summary statistics for any graded item. The statistics page displays key metrics such as:

- Minimum and maximum value
- Range
- Average
- Median
- Standard deviation
- Variance

The number of submissions requiring grading and the distribution of grades also displays.

For administrators: This feature is available for all Ultra courses. There are no configurations needed.

### **Learner Progression & Personalized Experience**

Send messages to students from the Student Activity report for assessments on small and medium devices and the Mobile App

Blackboard Learn SaaS Ultra Experience Ultra Course View Impact: Instructors

Instructors lead busy, on-the-go lives and access Learn from a variety of devices. Some instructors use small or medium devices or the mobile app. Now these instructors can send messages to students from the Student Activity report for assessments. The message option is in the ellipsis menu for each student.

For administrators: This feature is available for all Ultra courses. There are no configurations needed.

### Integrations

Converting Building Block content to LTI: MediaSite course content

Blackboard Learn SaaS, Blackboard Learn 9.1 Original Experience Original Course View Impact: Administrators Mediasite, a comprehensive rich media system, integrates with Original courses via building blocks. With building block support ending, administrators can now use the conversion tool with Mediasite content.

The tool currently supports the conversion of content embedded with the content editor and mashup links. The conversion tool transitions Mediasite for content links from Building Block to LTI.

Administrators must configure the MediaSite LTI integration before converting links. Custom parameters will not be required for this configuration.

Next, an administrator will choose courses to be scanned for MediaSite links. Select the MediaSite Building Block. Use the course search tool to select courses for link migration.

Administrators can monitor the status of a conversion process. Choose MediaSite as the Building Block. Define the start and end dates to find the desired migration task. Select Search. The results will indicate the number of courses that were successful, and the number of courses with failures.

For administrators: If a course contains content from MediaSite, ShareStream, Panopto, Kaltura and/or Echo360 building blocks, the conversion process must be performed once for each Building Block.

#### Converting Building Block content to LTI: Automatic Conversion

Blackboard Learn SaaS, Blackboard Learn 9.1 Original Experience Original Course View Impact: Administrators

Many Original courses contain content links for the partners listed below. Now, we auto-convert Building Block links for these partner contents to LTI when importing an Original course or restoring an Original course archive.

- Kaltura
- Echo360
- Panopto
- ShareStream
- MediaSite

The automatic conversion ensures that course content transitions to LTI. This will promote consistency and adaptability across the platform.

For administrators: To ensure the auto-conversion of building block links to LTI, please review the following:

- The administrator must configure each building block in the Migration Service Settings section of the Conversion tool in the Admin Panel Settings.
- The administrator must configure each associated LTI integration before converting the links.
- The administrator will have the capability to enable/disable this functionality through a feature flag via a support ticket.

#### **Rubric Associations API Enhancements**

Blackboard Learn SaaS, Blackboard Learn 9.1 Ultra Experience, Original Experience Ultra Course View, Original Course View

Impact: Administrators

Rubrics serve as a well-organized and transparent framework for assessing student work. Administrators can now manage associations for rubrics via API for the following:

- tests
- assignments (without questions)
- graded discussions
- individual questions (Original course view only)

Managing rubrics and their associations via API streamlines rubric alignment across many courses.

Administrators can now use the enhanced API to perform the full spectrum of CRUD operations: create, update and delete rubric associations.

Developers will gain access to the following endpoints:

- POST: public/v1/courses/{courseld}/rubrics/{rubricId}/associations
- PATCH: public/v1/courses/{courseld}/rubrics/{rubricId}/associations/{rubricAssociationId}
- DELETE: public/v1/courses/{courseId}/rubrics/{rubricId}/associations/{rubricAssociationId}

For administrators: Refer to the API documentation for detailed information about entitlements to perform CRUD operations on Rubric Associations.

### **Learn Core & Security**

#### **Group File Size limit for ultra courses**

Blackboard Learn SaaS Ultra Experience Ultra Course View Impact: Administrators

Administrators are tasked with the management of storage used by courses. To help, we have added a feature to equip administrators to set file upload limits by file extensions. For example, if an administrator wants to prevent users from uploading any Word documents, they can set the file upload extensions for .docx, .doc, .docm, .dotx, .dot, and other Word extensions. This way, users will not be able to upload any files with those extensions to the course that exceed the limit set by the administrator.

Administrators can specify a maximum file size that applies to files in general. They may also set maximum file sizes by groups defined by file extensions. There are no restrictions on the number of groups an administrator can define.

### Example:

- An institution has a policy of 512MB size limit for most files. The administrator sets that limit for the maximum file size.
- The institution licenses a video platform and wants users to store large videos there. Because of this, the limit for video in Ultra courses will be 25MB.

- The administrator creates a group for video and sets the limit.
- The administrator defines the following file extensions, each separated by a comma. This will restrict all video files .webm, .mkv, .flv, .vob, .ogv, .ogg, .drc, .gif, .gifv, .mng, .avi, .MTS, .M2TS, .TS, .mov, .qt, .wmv, .yuv, .rm, .rmvb, .viv, .asf, .amv, .mp4, .m4v, .mp2, .mpe, .mpv, .mpg, .mpeg, .m2v, .svi, .3gp, .3g2, .mxf, .roq, .nsv, .f4v, .f4p, .f4a, .f4b

For administrators: This feature applies to Ultra courses except for Content collection direct uploads. To configure it, open the Administrator Panel -> System Configuration -> File size limits.

# **Upgrade to Ultra**

#### **Moodle Conversion Improvements**

Blackboard Learn SaaS, Blackboard Learn 9.1 Ultra Experience, Original Experience Ultra Course View, Original Course View Impact: Instructors

These improvements will not be available immediately in the release to Test/Stage environments for the 3900.86 release. We will update this note and send an email notification to followers of this page when it becomes available.

We continue to make progress on improving the conversion of Moodle courses. With this update, we're adding support for converting the following Moodle Question Types:

- Multiple Choice (Single Answer)
- Multiple Choice (Multiple Answers)
- True/False
- Matching
- Short Answer
- Numerical
- Essay
- Calculated
- Calculated Multichoice (Single Answer)
- Calculated Multichoice (Multiple Answers)
- Calculated Simple

For administrators: This feature will be available for all courses. There are no configurations needed.

Aspectos destacados:

# **Maintenance Fixes**

You can view maintenance items for 3900.86 on <u>Behind the Blackboard</u>. Our Known Issue articles provide information for individual bug fixes, and may include bug descriptions and which Learn versions were affected. You can filter bug fixes by SaaS release for easier navigation. Here are highlights of issues fixed in this release:

- Overall Grade Shows Different Results in List and Grid View When the Overall Grade by Letters is Selected- Article #78153
- Ultra Navigation Menu at Moderate Breakpoint can be Blank in Safari/Webkit on Mac OS and Mobiles- Article #77901
- Bb Annotate Reloads when Saving Assignment Feedback- Article #78032
- In the Ultra Base Navigation Accessing the Course via LTI Usage Count Causes Additional Administrator Panel View to be Created- Article #77895
- Unable to Delete Overwritten File in Near Overquota Courses- Article #78120
- Sometimes Instructors Get an Error When Trying to View a Journal Entry- Article #78220
- When Editing Module Custom Content on Institution Pages Users Cannot Backspace From Current to Previous Line- Article #78107
- Essay Questions are Shown as Short Answers in Question Analysis in Ultra- Article #78088
- Matching Question Having Only Images in Question Editor Give "A value must be provided" Message- Article #75432
- 'Oops! Something Went Wrong' Error Occurs While Copying from an Original to an Ultra Course if Announcements are Disabled in the Original Course- Article #78218
- In Ultra Courses Adding an Add Text Item Into Pools Makes That Content Counted as a Question Changing Student's Score- Article #77755
- Unexpected " " Inserted Before Bold and Italicized Text in RTE- Article #78141
- The Blackboard Help Link Does not Work in the Tools Dropdown- Article #77614
- Input Fields for Fill in the Blank Plus Questions Float to the Next Line on Mobile Breakpoint- Article #78231
- Scores for Full Credit Questions do not Match Scores in the GUI on the Downloaded Test Result File- Article #77375
- Using Question Pool Adds the 'Add Text' as a Question- Article #78281
- Instructors Cannot Advance From Student to Student Grading a Journal- Article #78013
- The Notification Panel in Flexible Grading's View of Questions Tab Causes the Last Attempt of Question Pool to be Cropped- Article #78245
- Wrong Translation for Ultra Course Status from English to Spanish- Article #77822
- Adding a Bookmark to a Course from the Resource Picker Freezes the Browser Tab- Article #77802
- Screen Reader not Reading Test Questions- Article #78138

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- Instructor's Submission Counts in the Grade Center- Article #78008
- Ultra Conversion Report is not Created Leading to an Oops! box When Viewing the Conversion Details- Article #77993

#### Problemas recientes

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numero de artículo	Componente	de servicio	Descripción	version de la solución de destino	Parche disponible
000090904	Blackboard Learn SaaS	3900.121.0	<span style="font-size: 14px;">When a Learning Module has Forced Sequence enabled and contains a folder with documents, students encounter navigation issues. If additional items exist outside the folder, those items become inaccessible, even after students complete the content within the folder. The next item in the sequence displays a lock icon, preventing further progression. /span&gt; span style="font-size: 14px;"&gt;In the module view, clicking the dropdown arrow shows that the folder and its contents are marked with a partially filled black circle, indicating the content is 'In progress'. However, it should display a green check mark to indicate completion. As a result, the sequence is not recognized as complete, and students are blocked from advancing.</span>	Future Reference	
000090918		3900.110.0, 3900.112.0, 3900.114.0, 3900.116.0, 3900.118.0, 3900.121.0, 3900.123.0	<span style="font-size: 14px;">The error 'You can't access this course right now. Your instructor will allow access when the course is ready. Please try again later' is displayed to students who try to access a course via the Blackboard App using iOS devices. </span>	Future Reference	
000090903	Learn SaaS	3900.121.0, 3900.123.0	<span style="font-size: 14px;">A custom course role with the 'View Rubric' privilege cannot see the link to the rubric but can access it directly.</span>	Future Reference	
	Blackboard	3900.118.0,	<	Future	

000090920	Learn SaaS		a "refused to connect" error message. This happens in both Original and Ultra courses.	Reference	
000090910	Blackboard Learn SaaS	3900.121.0,	<span style="font-size: 14px;">In Ultra courses, the "Post All Grades" option is not available for discussion boards, unlike Assignments, where the option is present. </span>	Future Reference	
000090884	Blackboard Learn SaaS	3900.118.0, 3900.121.0	<pspan style="font-size: 14px;">When formatting is applied (bold, italic, underline) to distractor words in a Jumble Sentence question within an Ultra course, the formatting is not rendered correctly for students during the test attempt. Instead of seeing the styled text, students see HTML tags (e.g., &lt;span style="text-decoration:underline;"&gt;Bold&lt;/span&gt;). </pspan>	SaaS-Fixed (v3900.118.0)	
000076848	Blackboard Learn SaaS	Ultra	When a student posts a comment in a discussion, and then checks its status 24 hours later, it shows as "pending" when instead, it should be showing a result. <pre></pre>	SaaS-Fixed (v3900.123.0)	
000090058	Blackboard Learn SaaS	3900.102.0, 3900.104.0, 3900.106.0	<	SaaS-Fixed (v3900.123.0)	
000090791	Blackboard Learn SaaS	3900.116.0, 3900.118.0, 3900.121.0	<	SaaS-Fixed (v3900.123.0)	
000090118	Blackboard Learn SaaS		<	SaaS-Fixed (v3900.112.0)	

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### Problemas resueltos

Número de artículo	Componente	Versión:	Descripción	Versión de la solución de destino
000087977	Blackboard Learn SaaS	Blackboard Learn	Users enrolled in a significant number of courses experience errors when accessing the Courses tab on the Learn mobile app. When a user with such enrollments attempts to load their courses, an error message is displayed instead of the expected list of courses.	Fixed- Blackboard App_9.8
000055193	Blackboard Learn SaaS	SaaS	In Ultra courses, YouTube videos embedded in Document content items cannot be expanded to full screen in the Blackboard app on iPad.	
000055459	Blackboard Learn SaaS	SaaS	Blackboard's Mobile apps do not support Group Discussions, so these Discussions do not appear in the apps. However, when Ultra Group Discussions are set to be graded, the Blackboard and Instructor apps show a red banner error on the main course page: "There seems to be an issue on our side. Please try again later."	
000060666	Blackboard Learn SaaS		When instructors create announcements with multibyte characters in Ultra courses, the messages render unreadable text when using the Blackboard app on Android devices.	Mobile App - Q4 2020

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