Learning Blackboard

This workshop series will guide new faculty through the basics of the Blackboard Learn LMS software. The series is also great for those who need to brush up on the technical aspects of assignments and test building. You will be introduced to the software and begin a discussion about the differences between teaching online and in the classroom. This workshop series is appropriate for beginners and competent users.

### Introduction to Teaching with Blackboard

In this workshop, you will learn the basic functionality and user interface for UMass Boston’s Learning Management System (LMS), Blackboard Learn. The workshop will also introduce the following basic elements: main menu, content areas, containers, items, files, video and the Text Editor.

- Wed., Jan 27, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm, room H-LL-P6
- Mon., Feb. 8, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm, room H-LL-P6
- Thu., Feb. 18, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm, room H-LL-P6

### Web Conferencing with Blackboard Collaborate

Learn how to use Blackboard Collaborate to hold interactive online meetings with your students.

- Mon., Feb. 8, 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm, room H-LL-P6
- Thu., Feb. 16, 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm, room H-LL-P6

### Introduction to Grade Center

Using Blackboard’s grade center is an easy and effective alternative to calculating grades in Excel, eliminating the need to create formulas and perform laborious calculations. Final grade calculations have never been easier with just a click of a button. In this workshop we will use hands-on practice to gain experience with using Blackboard’s powerful grade center.

- Mon., Feb. 22, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm, room H-LL-P6
- Thu., Feb. 25, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm, room H-LL-P6
- Thu., Mar. 30, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm, room H-LL-P6
- Tue., Apr. 19, 1:00 pm -3:30 pm, room H-LL-P6

### Building Social Interactions for Online Communities

Learn the Phases of Engagement Model from Conrad and Donaldson to build quality social interactions for your blended or online course. Scaffold your student community over the semester by moving from student pairs to large collaborative projects. Deepen understanding of course concepts through the Discussion Board and learn how to split students into Groups for targeted small group work. Structure self and group reflection using the Journal and Blog tools.

- Wed., Feb. 24, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm, room H-LL-P6

### Register

[Register for workshops](#)
Now that you’re using Blackboard Learn, this workshop series will introduce the best practices for using the LMS technology. Learn to make strong decisions with Blackboard that will enhance learning and support students. This workshop series is appropriate for beginners and competent users.

**Online Content Delivery: Asynchronous vs. Synchronous**
Learn the pros and cons of delivering your online content asynchronously and synchronously, and when it’s best to use each method.  
**Tue., Feb. 9, 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm, room H-LL-ITC**  
**Wed., Mar. 2, 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm, room H-LL-P1**

**Aligning Your Course**
Learn how to identify the goals and objectives for your curriculum. Develop objectives that reach the top of Bloom’s Taxonomy. Rewrite your objectives using strong action verbs. Understand how an objective condition will affect the course goal. Please bring your syllabus.  
**Tue., Mar. 1, 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm, room H-LL-P6**

**Absorb, Do, Connect**
Learn to use the Absorb, Do, Connect model to structure engaging activities for the blended or online classroom.  
**Tue., Mar. 8, 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm, room H-LL-P6**

**Aligning Your Assessments**
Take your classes to a new level by aligning course assessments to objectives. Learn how to create activities that will help measure the objective for the course. Learn how to include Writing Competency objectives that complement your content area. Please bring your syllabus.  
**Wed., Mar. 23, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm, room H-LL-P6**

**Making Great Screencasts**
Learn about setting up your screencasting environment to make powerful videos. Learn how to set up lighting, camera angles and video environments for little to no money. Storyboard and script so that your videos feel friendly and casual. Understand your software choices and the difference between a video cast and a video demo. If you’re using video for a course, this is the workshop for you.  
**Thu., Mar. 31, 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm, room H-LL-P6**

**Building Rubrics**
Learn to build structured rubrics with clear criteria for better student engagement. Learn how to align your rubrics to course goals and objectives. Understand how to step up qualitative criteria in your rubrics so students can better understand what they need to accomplish. Please bring your syllabus with assignments.  
**Thu., Apr. 5, 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm, room H-LL-ITC**
This workshop series will introduce other technologies to innovate your classroom. If you are interested in a blended or flipped classroom these technologies will bring your class experience to the next level. Learn about technologies that will make students the content creators. This workshop series is appropriate for beginners and competent users.

ECHO 360 Active Learning Platform (ALP)
Learn how ECHO360 Active Learning Platform can combine with your classroom and/or personal capture to transform learning. ALP allows you to live stream straight to student’s laptops from the classroom or remotely from home. Never have a sick student miss a lecture again! Students can take notes and bookmark the presentation creating their own study guide. With ALP, you can add quizzing and polls making your lectures interactive and gather extensive analytics to catch struggling students early. ALP is right for lecture, blended and online classrooms.

Presentations Outside the Box with Prezi!
Learn how to use Prezi to create dynamic presentations that are unique and thematic. You will learn how to create a Prezi from scratch as well as how to convert your PowerPoint presentations into a Prezi.

Creating Voice and Video Presentations with VoiceThread
Learn how to use VoiceThread to upload, narrate, and share your lectures with students. Practical applications include uploading lectures to Blackboard when snow closes the campus [remember last year!] or if you are flipping your classroom.

The eLearning & Instructional Support team is here to help you succeed. We offer one-on-one consults and training workshops. Please email eLearning@umb.edu to set up an appointment.
Learning Continuity

 Interruptions to learning come in all forms, from weather-related emergencies to illness. Keep students learning and on-track even when you can’t meet with students in the classroom. This workshop series is appropriate for beginners and competent users.

Managing Missed Classes

Learn how to mitigate disruption and create effective back-up plans for any downtime. Get tips for communicating with your students online and develop a “just-in-case” assignment to deploy when you need it most. Please bring your syllabus.

Wed., Feb. 17, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, room H-LL-P6
Tue., Feb. 23, 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm, room H-LL-ITC