What's New in Blackboard 9.1 SP 9

Design and Style, New Features, Enhanced Features, Resolved Issues

**Browsers**

Blackboard updated its browser support page for Mac (10.5, 10.6, 10.7) and Windows (XP, Vista 32- and 64-bit, Windows 7 32- and 64-bit) to include:

- **Chrome** (Stable Channel)
- **Firefox** (Final Release Channel) - users may want to install PDF Viewer to display PDF files directly in Firefox
- **Safari** 5.1 (10.6 & 10.7), 5.0 and 4.0 (10.5 & 10.6) for Mac. We recommend the newest version for Windows

- Windows Only

- **Internet Explorer** Blackboard lists this browser, but we do not recommend it.

Bb recommendations for OS X 10.8, Mountain Lion, and Windows 8 are not available for Bb 9.1 SP9.

In general, if one browser is not functioning as expected, switch to a different browser. Sometimes quitting and restarting a browser will alter its actions. Sometimes rebooting the computer will alter browser actions.

**Quick Setup Guide**

The *Quick Setup Guide* opens upon entering a course until you check the box to *Hide Quick Setup Guide when I enter this course*. To view after hiding it, go to the *Control Panel > Customization > Quick Setup Guide*.

1. **Set Up Your Course** - update the course name and description.
2. **Choose a Course Structure** - select a style for your course: menu, activity, case study, conference session, constructivism, expedition-based.
3. Choose a Course Theme - colors, styles, graphics to match your course mood. ⭐ Learn about using your course - Menu, Content Area, Content, Availability, CSU Stan Bb Help page, Bb Help and On Demand Learning Center.

The SP 7 menu always displayed the up/down arrows and the chevrons. The SP 9 menu displays a cleaner interface. Click the Home icon on the SP 9 menu to go to the course entry page.
More about Chevrons and Arrows

The SP 7 menu always displayed the arrows and chevrons, taking space and adding to visual clutter.
The SP 9 menu displays arrows and chevrons upon hover-over.
Other icons remain the same for No Content or Hidden Link.

Course to Course Navigation

Click the chevron to the right of the House icon (course Home Page).
Select a course - Bb opens that course on the same page. If no similar page exists, Bb will open
the Home Page.
The *Hide/Show* arrows are hidden by default. Hover over the right edge of the menu to display the *Hide Arrow*. Hover over the left edge of the page when the menu is hidden to display the *Show Arrow*.

Bb modified the course menu to retain the hidden state only for the duration of the user session and on a per-course basis. When the user enters a course the first time in a session, the menu will display in the *Show version*. If the user hides the menu, it remains hidden only for that course until the user shows the menu or until the user logs out and back in.

### Menu Names

SP 7 menu (left) displays the menu item name with the word *Create*. SP 9 menu (right) displays the menu item name only. - *External Link* in SP7 is replaced with *Web Link*. 
- order is modified.

**Action Bars**

**SP 7 Menu**

**SP 9 Menu**

SP 9 simplifies names in the Action Bar.
The name URL is again replaced with Web Link in the Build Content menu, as in the main navigation menu.

**Tools Menu**

The Tools menu expands for More Tools.
Tools displayed on the menu are based on installed system tools and on course tool availability (see Customization > Tool Availability)
The Select Course Materials area has 2 buttons. 
**Select All** - places checks in all boxes. 
**Unselect All** - removes checks from all boxes.

**Automated Re-Grading**

Bb 9.1 SP9 no longer warns instructors of dangers in editing a test someone has taken, as in SP7. SP 9 displays an information bar that indicates how many attempts have been completed and offers a *More Help* link in the *Help* text area.
Editing or Removing Questions, Editing Answers, or Adjusting Point Values will result in Bb automatically recalculating previously taken test attempts.

**Delete a Question and Regrade the Test**

Delete a single question by clicking the *Chevron* on the question and select **Delete and Regrade** on the contextual menu.

Delete multiple questions by placing checks in the boxes and click **Delete and Regrade**. Adjusting point values will also regrade the test based on the new point values. After altering values, click **Update and Regrade**.

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Each column in the Grade Center has a View Grade History selection.

Grade History Page

1. By default, the changes over the past 14 days are displayed. Click the menu to select other options.
2. Download the report by clicking the Download button to save the results as a spreadsheet.
**Course Reports**

Course Reports are available in the Control Panel > Evaluation area.

**Select a Report**

- **All User Activity Inside Content Areas** - summary of activity in Content Areas.
- **Course Activity** - overall activity, sorted by student and date, including total and average time spent per user and total activity of the user.
- **Course Coverage** - displays goals coverage information, both covered and gap values with a breakdown of course items aligned to goals.

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Course Performance - information about how the course performs against a selected set of goals. We do not use Blackboard Goals packages.

Overall Summary of User Activity - user activity for all areas of the course, with dates, times, and days of the week.

Student Overview for Single Course - individual student activity, sorted by date. Includes total overall time and detailed information about the student's activity.

User Activity in Forums - summary of user activity in Discussion Board Forums.

User Activity in Groups - summary of user activity in Groups.