Groups

Users will enjoy a new Groups tool which includes robust, flexible features and an improved user interface. Instructors should be educated about the new features and best practices for using them in their courses.

Features Gained

+ Group Creation Options

There are more ways to create groups with Blackboard Learn, Release 9. Students can sign up for groups they would like to join. Alternatively, Instructors can create sets of related groups and manually enroll users or randomly distribute all students amongst the groups.

+ Student Created Groups

Students have the ability to create their own groups that other students can sign up for without any involvement by the instructor.

+ Bulk Management of Groups

Instructors can manage groups and their properties in bulk upon group creation.

+ Quick Access to Group Areas

Students will have access to their group area from the Groups palette in the Course Menu and the Notifications module.

+ Group Module Page

The group area is a module page that provides access to new and existing group modules. The page also allows group members to add any additional modules that will help with group work.

+ Customizable Group Area

Groups can customize their group area to create their own space with its own look and feel.

+ Group Assignments

Instructors can create Assignments to be completed by an entire group and then give one grade for the group while still allowing individual grades to be overwritten. (See the Assignment feature for additional details).

+ Group Blogs and Journals

Groups can have their own Blog for the rest of the course to view and comment on, or a Journal for private communication within the group.

+ Group Tasks

Groups can create tasks to track progress of the group deliverables.

+ What's New Group Modules

Groups will have access to modules that provide group specific data about new material and due dates.

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