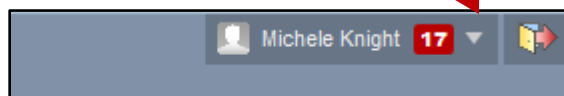


Blackboard Learn 9.1 Update Guide

On May 24th, 2013, Montgomery College will be upgrading to Bb 9.1 SP 11. This update guide highlights the new features that are available.

New Global Navigation Menu

The new global navigation menu is available all the time in the top right corner of the Bb interface and provides one-click access to your Courses, Organizations, Settings, and Blackboard Help.



The numbers in red tell you if there's something that's new or needs your attention – so you never have to worry about missing anything. With this new Global Navigation menu, you can access everything you need quickly and easily, from wherever you are in the Blackboard Learn platform.



Stay up to date on new discussion posts, alerts, grades (students only), and more.

Click the arrow to the right of the navigation menu for updated information about the tools (see the left

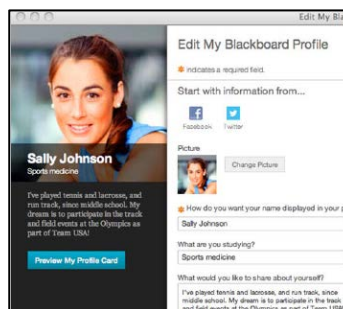
hand side of the image, highlighted in red).

[Click here to Review a Tutorial About the New Navigation Menu](#)

My Blackboard Profile & Profile Card

You now have an identity in Blackboard Learn, a profile, so you can share academic information about yourself with others at your school.

Profiles also have privacy options, so you can keep your profile hidden, make it available to just the people who are in your Courses and Organizations with you, or make it available to everyone at your school.



Once you complete your profile, your profile picture will appear in multiple places throughout the Blackboard Learn platform wherever your name appears: in the new People

tool, the Roster, the User Directory, Discussion Boards, Blogs, Journals, and Wikis.

[Click here to Review a Tutorial about setting up your Blackboard Profile](#) (Please note, that we cannot pull information from Facebook and Twitter accounts in our profile cards as the tutorial mentions, these features are a part of a license package that MC has not purchased).

New Math Editor supporting Math ML

There is a new math editor in Blackboard Learn that simplifies creation and delivery of equations by enabling editing directly from the Content Editor. The new math editor supports saving and copy/paste of equations using mathML.

Fill in the Blank Question Enhancement

Educators can now take advantage of using “contains” and “pattern match” logic when grading Fill in the Blank questions. That means you no longer have to rely upon an exact match for Blackboard to automatically grade a fill-in-the-blank question.

Example: “Who was the first president of the United States?” Instead of entering all possible correct answers (George Washington, Washington, President Washington, etc.), you can simply select “contains” and type Washington.

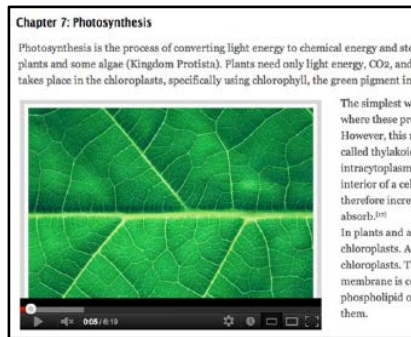
[Click this video for a tutorial on the new Fill in the Blank Questions.](#)

New Content (Text) Editor

The new and improved Content Editor enables simple content creation through an easy to use interface.

The editor reads, writes and renders modern HTML – so the content you created in Microsoft Word and the course pages you designed so carefully in Dreamweaver will render with great fidelity within Blackboard Learn.

The essential functions you need are there – the ability to resize images, find/replace, and simple icons in the toolbar for everyday tasks.



And you can easily add rich content by pulling in mashups from YouTube, Flickr, Slideshare, and more.

Another great feature of the new Content

Editor is that you can expand it for full-frame editing, giving you a lot more real estate to build rich content.

[Click here to Review a PDF that compares the old text editor to the new text editor](#)

[Click Here to watch a tutorial about using the new text editor](#)

Item Analysis

The new Item Analysis feature helps you easily refine your tests and quizzes by helping you to evaluate the quality and validity of each question.

Ineffective questions can be easily identified and then you can quickly correct them with the Automatic re-grade feature.

As an educator, you will be able to access an at-a-glance summary of your Blackboard assessments.

The screenshot shows the 'Fitness Quiz' Item Analysis page. It includes a table with the following data:

Possible Points	Possible Questions	In Progress Attempts	Completed Attempts	Average Score	Average Time
80.0	8	0	9	46.89	00 hr 01 min

This summary provides insight into student performance on that assessment and how the question items performed.

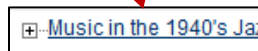
After examining the question, you can see whether questions suffered from poor wording, vague answer choices or some other factor. If you decide to change or update that question, you can immediately take action right from the item analysis page by updating the question, deleting the question, or re-grading the item.

[Click here to watch a tutorial about Item Analysis](#)

New Discussion Board

The new discussion board is redesigned, yet retains its existing functionality.

All of a thread's posts are now immediately visible at the same time, on one page, after you click a message thread.



You may then choose to read all of the messages in a thread, and reply on the same page.



As you scroll down the page, messages are automatically marked as read.



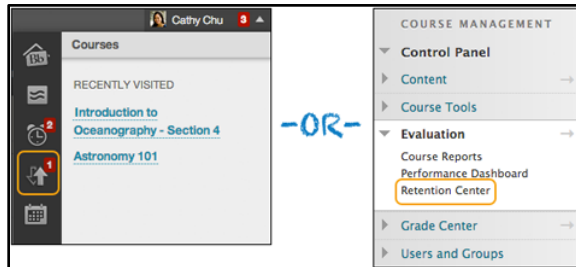
You may also mark posts as unread, or flag messages that you would like to return to later.

[Click Here to watch a tutorial Showing the New Discussion Board](#)

Retention Center (replaces the Early Warning System)

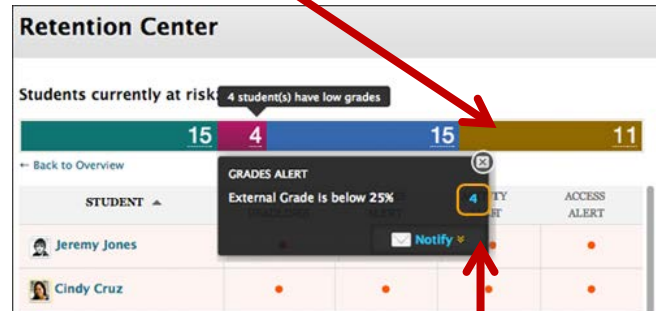
The Retention Center provides an easy way for you to visually monitor student engagement and participation.

The Retention Center is automatically on and immediately visible in your My Blackboard menu, and also accessible in the Evaluation section of a course's Control Panel.



The information in the Retention Center is for instructors only and is not seen by your students.

Click the colored bar to display a summary of the at-risk students in your course. Click a colored section to access more information.



You can drill in further by clicking links in the pop-up boxes. For example, in a grade alert box, you can click the displayed number to access a list of students triggering the alert.

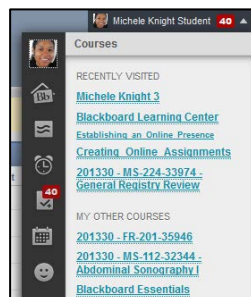
Email notifications you sent have a default subject and message that you can edit. If you are sending an email to more than one recipient, the list is not revealed to the group.

[Click here for a tutorial on using the Retention Center](#)

Updated My Grades View for Students in Global Navigation

An updated My Grades View is available for students in the Global Navigation menu.

It consolidates student's grades in all courses into one view. They can quickly see a stream of the latest grades they have received, so they never miss a new grade that is posted.



After clicking on a grade in the stream, students see additional detail, such as instructor feedback.

