

Item/Tool	What's New in Blackboard 9?
Bb Assignment Tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group Assignments Assignments can be deployed to groups of students allowing one group member to submit the assignment. The instructor can then provide one grade for the submission that is assigned to all group members or assign individual members separate grades. ▪ Multiple Submissions Students can submit multiple attempts for the same assignment. Each submission can be graded and commented on individually. The instructor can choose how the attempt grades are aggregated. ▪ Additional Attempts Instructors can give specific students an additional attempt. ▪ Submission Field Student can use a submission field to provide links, additional attachments and text. ▪ Submission History Student can view the submission history with content, feedback, comments, grades and participants of each submission if the instructor's settings allow it.
Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Multiple Groups Students can be enrolled in multiple groups at one time. ▪ Student Created Groups Instructors can allow students to create their own groups (ie. if they want to have an online study group). ▪ Group Creation Enrollment can be done automatically by Bb, manually by instructor, individually by students. ▪ Bulk Group Management Instructors can manage group sets in bulk. ▪ Group Assignments (see Assignments section) ▪ Group Tasks Students and instructors can add tasks to the group task list within the group page.
Course Site Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Easily Accessible "Control Panel" The "Control Panel" can be accessed from any page in a course. You no longer have to go a separate area in the course site to complete most tasks. ▪ Empty Content Areas Hidden Content areas without content available to students are hidden from student view, making the course site easier to navigate. ▪ Quicker Course Menu Management The Course Menu can be altered from the any page in the course using in-line editing and drag and drop ordering rather than navigating to multiple areas of the control panel to make changes. ▪ Tool Management Easier Course tools, communication tools and building block tools have been combined into a single interface.
My Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ One Click Access to Common Links and Preferences Users can create a kind of bookmark type list to give quick access to courses, content areas, tools and individual content items.

<p>Notification Dashboard</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Change Notifications for Students Alerts students when new content is posted, assignments, tests and surveys are available or past due, grades are posted or changed, when there are new discussion board entries and when assignments are due. ▪ Course Change Notifications for Instructors Alerts faculty when assignments, tests and surveys have been submitted, when students have not submitted assignments or assessments by the due date and when discussion board entries are posted.
<p>Announcements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reorder Display Can reorder display of announcements ▪ No more tabs ▪ Announcement Email Email does not include full body of announcement text ▪ Disable System Announcements Instructors can disable system announcements within their course site
<p>Discussion Board</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New Post Alerts from Homepage Notification Dashboard alerts students of new posting activity. What's New module will include links directly to the forum
<p>Grade Center</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ User can define a minimum number of rows to display regardless of browser size or screen resolution. ▪ Action Bar menu items rearranged ▪ Students will receive notifications of new or changed grades in Notification Dashboard.
<p>Course Entry Point (Modules Page)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Homepage Modules Instructor can decide which modules are displayed on course homepage as well as the organization of the modules ▪ Course Banner Options The course banner can be displayed on the course entry point regardless of which page it is
<p>Messaging Tool</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Course Specific "Email" System Provides an "email" system which is course specific. Users access the messages from within the course site.
<p>Grade Center</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grade Center Row Display Users can now define a minimum number of rows to be displayed regardless of browser size or screen resolution. ▪ Action Bar Options Reorganized to align with the task oriented categorization of action bars throughout Bb9. ▪ Notifications of New Grades will be sent to students anytime grades are changed or posted by the instructor.
<p>Embedded Help</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Embedded Help within Pages In the header of each page, there is a help link that provides additional information about the page options.

More information

- Current Blackboard 9 Support Site: <http://www.umkc.edu/ia/its/support/blackboard9/faculty/>
- Blackboard 8 Support Site (will become Bb 9 Support Site May 15): <http://www.umkc.edu/ia/its/support/blackboard/faculty/index.asp>
- Instructional Technology Services: 816.235.6700 | its@umkc.edu | <http://www.umkc.edu/ia/its>
- ITS Training Opportunities: <http://www.umkc.edu/ia/its/support/training/>