

# What's New in Blackboard 7?

## 7.0 Features:

- **Multibyte character support**

Although not of significance to most users, Blackboard now supports Multibyte characters, which means that non-European character sets can be directly typed into boxes in Blackboard, and handled correctly by the system.
- **User & Course-level Language Packs**

Users can choose to have the Blackboard dialogs and menu items automatically translated into other languages for them. However, even if a user selects the use of another language, instructors can force use of a particular language in their course sites. (So, for example, a French class can have the menus and dialog responses show up only in French for all users of the course.) Available languages are English (of course), Deutsch, Español, Français, Italiano, Nederlands, Português, Chinese (中文), and Japanese (日本語).
- **Quick Tutorials**

Blackboard has prepared numerous online videos about using various features of Blackboard. These tutorials are linked from the PCOnline website, as well as being referenced from the Control Panel (in the lower right corner, usually).
- **Blackboard Backpack capabilities**

Bb7 supports student use of the new “for-pay” product “Blackboard Backpack”, which enables students to port course content offline for later browsing. More information can be found on this at <http://www.blackboard.com/extend/backpack/>.
- **New Course Export/Archive Manager**

The links from the Control Panel to Export Course and Archive Course now both lead to the Export/Archive Manager, which maintains a log of previous course exports and archives. (Remember that, if you don't need an old Archive or Export, it is wise to remove these from the system...) Of course, for an Archive to be of much use, you will have to save the file locally on your own computer, too.
- **Course Copy Changes**

A new check box is available when copying content, which can also transfer any Adaptive Release rules along with the content.  
A new check box is available to specify if Course Cartridge materials should be transferred along with other content. If cartridge materials are copied, any security restrictions (such as students needing purchased Access Keys) will still be in effect in the new course site.
- **Email Subject Line IDs**

The subject lines of emails sent from within a Blackboard course will start with the course ID of that course. (i.e. 2063-30001: Homework Due) This should make it quite easy to create Outlook or Webmail Rules to organize email from your students, when they send from within Blackboard.
- **New & “Improved” Problem**

There is a problem with the Course Copy tool, where content is not properly placed into folders, but rather left laying out in the content area root. The workaround for this is to Export from your old course, then Import that file into the new course, and the content will be correctly arrayed.  
This workaround may have problems in courses with an unusually large number of tests and question pools. In this case, please contact us at [onlineclasses@palomar.edu](mailto:onlineclasses@palomar.edu) or X2862.

Blackboard  
learning System



## 6.3 Features:

### ➤ New Question Types

There are ten new question types; of interest: HotSpot, File Response, Likert, and Fill in Multiple Blanks.

Now available as a component of Multiple Choice questions, you can cause the possible answers to be displayed in random order for each student.

### ➤ Performance Dashboard

This console shows a list of students, with information on the last time they accessed the Blackboard system, as well as status reports on what Review Status and Adaptive Release options are available to each student. The Dashboard also includes a grade summary for each student.

### ➤ Content Management

Mark Reviewed

Reviewed

#### ○ Review Status

Each Item or Folder can have a Reviewed Status set, so that students may mark individual entries as having been reviewed. By itself this can be an aide memoir, or can be used in conjunction with Adaptive Release of additional content.

#### ○ Adaptive Release

Content can be released to students under certain conditions. For example, the link to the Midterm may only be available to students who have reviewed the Midterm Study Guide. Alternately, a review document may only be available to students who scored lower than 50 points on the 100 point exam. Also, a folder containing research materials on Latin America could be available only to students in the Latin America research group, or the Chapter Four test could be made available only to the student who was hospitalized during the previous testing interval so that no other students could get in if they missed the deadlines.

Setting a Date criteria for this item will restrict the dates and times of the visibility of this item.

Choose Date  Display After  Display Until

Jan	26	2006	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jan	26	2006	<input type="checkbox"/>
09	00	AM		09	00	AM	

### Membership

This content item is visible to all users until a Membership criteria is created. Users must be specified in the Username list or must be in a selected Group.

Enter one or more Username values or Browse to Search. Separate multiple Username values with commas.

Username

### Gradebook Item

This content item is visible to all users until a Gradebook item criteria is created. Possible points on a Gradebook item are listed in brackets beside the name. The score entered must be numeric.

Select a Gradebook item

#### Select Condition

- Item has at least one attempt.  
An attempt is recorded for any Gradebook item when the user submits a test or survey, or when a score is entered or modified.
- Score
- Score Between  and

### Review Status

This content item is visible to all users until a Review Status criteria is created. Selecting an item will enable Review for that item.

Select an item