

What's new...

Blackboard Collaborate 12

THE ONLY COLLABORATION PLATFORM BUILT FOR EDUCATION

You talked. We listened. New Blackboard Collaborate™ 12 includes mobile web conferencing, an enhanced user experience with echo cancellation, and deeper LMS integrations, enabling you to:

- ▶ Learn and collaborate anywhere, anytime, and with any LMS
- ▶ Help ensure success of first-time and less-technical users
- ▶ Build a better education experience—for everyone

Mobile Web Conferencing

For today's active learners, access to classes and meetings on their mobile devices is a priority. By enabling access for anyone, anywhere, and on any LMS, we provide a wide variety of ways to collaborate and learn—on the go.

Accessing Mobile Web Conferencing Sessions

With Blackboard Collaborate mobile, you can easily join a live web conference from all the typical ways—via LMS join link, email link, or calendar invite. When you click a join link, the Blackboard Collaborate mobile app automatically launches, and you join the session.

Participating in a Live Mobile Web Conference

With just a swipe or a tap, you can interact in many ways, including:

- **Text chat and audio:** Communicate from your iPhone or iPad
- **Emoticons:** Indicate emotions like laughter, confusion, or approval
- **Shared content:** See whiteboard content, annotations and shared applications
- **Polls:** Respond to Yes/no and multiple-choice questions
- **Hand raising:** Display a “raised hand” if you have a question or comment
- **Participant list and status:** See names, polling responses, and emoticons
- **Breakout rooms:** Place students into breakout rooms for small group work



Go Mobile Today

This release supports mobile devices, including iPad® 2, iPad 3, and iPhone™ 4 and better. Blackboard Collaborate mobile is available to users with enterprise/departmental Blackboard Collaborate 12 web conferencing. If you are using Elluminate Live! or Wimba Classroom, start planning your upgrade now to provide mobile web conferencing to your users as soon as possible.

The Blackboard Collaborate mobile app is available from the App Store, and it's free.

Enhanced User Experience

Blackboard Collaborate provides tools for educational interaction that mirror what happens in the physical classroom and meet student expectations for engagement.

Echo Cancellation

Our latest versions of Blackboard Collaborate web conferencing and enterprise instant messaging include echo cancellation for a single talker with a standard microphone and speaker set up. With no need to purchase and distribute headsets, barriers to wide adoption are reduced. Just press the Talk button once for an easy, open communication channel.

Students in their dorm room or at home can participate using their computer speakers and microphone. In the library or an office where there is a lot of ambient noise, they can use a headset. Or if without reliable Internet access, they can dial in via teleconference. In addition, automatic gain control moderates the volume for everyone automatically, reducing audio if a participant is too loud and boosting if too soft.

Improved Classroom Management

With Blackboard Collaborate 12, enhanced tools for educational interaction put the instructor in control. Improved chat helps instructors monitor the pulse of the classroom to check for student comprehension. Instructors now have the option to see public and private chat all in a single window and can quickly move to private chat tabs to respond. What's more, instructors can choose to show or hide event-related messages, like when someone enters or exits the room, enabling them to focus on the chat.

The new global permissions icons facilitate session management. The instructor can easily toggle permissions for features, such as audio, video, and whiteboard, on and off for all students with a single click.

Blackboard Collaborate's new echo cancellation tool will allow our online learners who don't have access to headsets to fully participate.

Dominic Gore
University College Birmingham



Enhanced Closed Captioning

We are committed to helping you to eliminate barriers to support individual needs and learning styles. In Blackboard Collaborate 12, an enhanced closed captioning window offers more viewing options, like font size, color, and contrast, to increase visibility and reduce eye strain. The end result is a richer, more interactive online teaching, learning, and collaboration environment for everyone.

Seamless Integration

Upgrade to Blackboard Collaborate 12 and continue to teach in real time, or any time, from your preferred learning management systems. Those using Blackboard Collaborate 11 integrated with an LMS can upgrade to Blackboard Collaborate 12, and the integration remains compatible, with no additional configuration required.

Easy Session Recording Conversion

Blackboard Collaborate 12 provides a seamless workflow for recording, converting, and publishing web conferencing sessions in industry-standard MP3 and MP4 formats. So instructors and students can easily stream or download session recordings from their desktop or ANY mobile device. Plus, you can distribute recordings through common channels, like YouTube, iTunesU, and SchoolTube. Now your institution can broaden the reach of its learning events, providing even more options for mobile learning.

Deeper LMS Integrations

As part of the Blackboard Collaborate 12 release, we are launching a new version of the Blackboard Collaborate Building Block for Web Conferencing. In addition, we are certifying our Moodle integration for web conferencing to work with the Moodle® Learning Management System Joule release from MoodleRooms.

Mobile Access

Mobile web conferencing is enabled for any LMS, including new Blackboard Learn and Moodle integrations, allowing those who join a course via a mobile device to participate in a live web conference.

Improved Integration with Key Blackboard Learn Functions

With the new Building Block, instructors can automatically assign a grade in the Grade Center for attending a live web conferencing session or viewing a recorded session. Set up on a session-by-session basis, with defaults at Institution, Node, or Course level to help measure learning outcomes and effectiveness.

3. Integrate with Grade Center

Enable Grade Center Integration

Once Grade Center integration is enabled, students will be graded for attending the Blackboard Collaborate sessions or viewing the recording archive.

All web conferencing sessions appear in the Blackboard Learn Calendar, each with a direct link to give students and instructors quicker access.

For users of Blackboard Learn SP8 and above, the Blackboard Collaborate Building Block supports institutional hierarchy. For enterprise-wide deployments, this feature enables the institution to create separate Blackboard Collaborate administrators for each school.



Streamlined Workflows for Students, Instructors, and Administrators

The new Building Block lets instructors and administrators add session or recording links to sub-folders, and session and recording links are now available for external attendees.

Instructors can easily convert session recordings into MP3/MP4 formats for downloading or streaming to desktop or any mobile device from Blackboard Learn.

Blackboard Collaborate 12 at a Glance

Why Blackboard Collaborate 12	New Features	Benefits
Interaction students want with mobile web conferencing	Live web conferencing from iPhone or iPad	Classes and meetings on the go for today's active learners—anywhere, from any LMS
	Enhanced student-instructor communication with two-way audio and text chat.	Teach, learn, and collaborate more effectively, enabling teachers and students to better communicate, wherever they are.
	Student engagement via whiteboard, application sharing, polling, emoticons, hand raising, and breakout rooms	Deliver personalized learning experience, helping even first-time and less-technical students be more successful.
Customer-driven development for an improved user experience	Echo cancellation for Blackboard Collaborate web conferencing and enterprise instant messaging, with no special equipment required	Online student can participate more fully, and with no need to purchase and distribute headsets, barriers to wide adoption are reduced.
	Public and private chat displayed in single window	Instructors can monitor comprehension and quickly move to private chat tabs to respond to questions.
	Easier-to-manage global permissions	Facilitate session management with ability to easily toggle permissions for features, like audio and video, for all students.
	Enhanced closed captioning window	Get a richer, more interactive online environment with more viewing options, like font size, color, and contrast.
Satisfy student expectations for accessible learning with easy session recording conversion and distribution.	Server-side conversion of native web conferencing recordings to industry-standard MP3/MP4 formats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broaden reach of learning events. • Meet student needs for learning on own time, own device—wherever they are.
	Streaming playback on desktop and ANY mobile device, even offline	Expand support for mobile learning.
	Simplified recording management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access through Session Administration Service (SAS) or Blackboard Learn integration. • Store recordings locally
Increased reach and engagement with deeper LMS integrations	Mobile access from ANY LMS	Support live session delivery, whatever your LMS strategy.
	New Building Block for Blackboard Collaborate Web Conferencing with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved integration with key Calendar and Grade Center functions • Support for SP8 institutional hierarchy • New tools that streamline workflow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quicker access to sessions and more options for measuring learning outcomes • Create separate Blackboard Collaborate administrators for each school in enterprise deployment • Simplified user experience for students, instructors, and administrators
	New integration certified for Joule enterprise-level Moodle platform	Greater interoperability and technology choice, increased flexibility

For more information, contact us at collaboratesales@blackboard.com. Learn more about upgrading from Elluminate or Wimba at bbcollaborate/upgrade.

