



Course Review Services

For many institutions, online programs have grown organically, with individual instructors responsible for transitioning their courses from face-to-face to online. This approach has often resulted in uneven online course quality and a failure to comply with accessibility requirements that may negatively impact the learner experience and result in legal implications.

Blackboard's Enterprise Consulting now offers Course Review services that provide institutions like yours an organized, structured assessment of the quality of their online courses and recommendations on improving adherence to accessibility standards.

As institutions are faced with supporting a growing number of non-traditional students, the demand for quality online courses is becoming increasingly critical. While the case for online learning has been made, many institutions struggle to make sure that their online programs are able to attract, engage, and retain today's learners.

Institutions today understand that online requires a different approach. Yet they struggle with how to provide courses for learners who are accustomed to a world full of rich content and the ability to acquire and share information from anywhere, at any time. They're concerned with how well their online programs are able to reach learners whose work, family life and/or geographic location may keep them from traditional classroom learning opportunities. And they're responsible for making sure that their online programs meet accessibility requirements.

For these and other reasons, the task of developing online programs and courses that are interactive, engaging, accessible and pedagogically sound can be a daunting one. Blackboard's Enterprise Consulting now offers Course Review services to support institutions that need help with ensuring that their online courses meet quality and accessibility standards.

Quality and accessibility: A close look, an expert recommendation

Our Course Review services help you validate the quality and accessibility alignment of your online courses. Through these services, our teams of online learning experts will review your courses for design and delivery quality standards that meet national and regional accreditation expectations, as well as review courses against our proprietary rubric and checklist designed for alignment with requirements of ADA, Section 508, to ensure your courses meet the highest acceptable standards.

Our course review work:

- Assesses courses for quality based on Blackboard's Exemplary Course Rubric, or another industry-recognized quality rubric of your choice
- Evaluates course accessibility against Blackboard's proprietary accessibility rubric and checklist
- Reflects the insights of a team of experienced online faculty and staff who hold Master's and PhD level credentials
- Provides recommendations for enhancing existing courses for successful online learning, including accessibility alignment

As a result of our Course Review service, clients receive:

- A score sheet based on the selected quality rubrics for every course
- A 1-3 page subjective summary of observations about each course
- A summary score based on our proprietary accessibility rubric
- General recommendations for aligning each course with Section 508 compliance requirements
- A summary report identifying overall trends and a universal look at all courses reviewed

The Blackboard experts

When it comes to online learning, Blackboard's experience and expertise are unparalleled. Our consultants and strategists bring years of educational experience working with learning communities—universities, colleges, schools, governments, and corporations—around the world, driving the transformation that 21st century learning demands. They come armed with a proven framework, rubric evaluation expertise, and a partnership ethos that will help you fulfill your mission and vision.

By partnering with us, you'll be able to:

- Improve your students' experience by taking steps to ensure consistent, high-quality, pedagogically sound courses for your online learners
- Bridge any gaps you may have in course design and development
- Find comfort that your institution is aligned with ADA, section 508 requirements

Online learning has grown rapidly to the point that it is now a part of every institution's offering. We understand the challenges that come with this quick and often organic growth. With our Course Review services, Blackboard's Enterprise Consulting team can help you make sure that your online courses will reach today's learners, wherever they are and wherever they are, and engage them in the ways that they want to learn.

Our course review work evaluates course accessibility against Blackboard's proprietary accessibility rubric and checklist, reflects the insights of a team of experienced online faculty and staff who hold Master's and PhD level credentials, and provides recommendations for enhancing existing courses for successful online learning, including accessibility alignment.



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