## 10 Blackboard Learn Ultra Tips & Tricks for MC Faculty

- Responsive Design: The streamlined, responsive design makes navigation easy for instructors and students regardless of device type. Download the <u>Blackboard app</u> for free in the <u>App Store</u> (iOS) and in the <u>Google Play Store</u> (Android).
- 2. Accessibility: Adding alternative text to images has never been easier. <u>Creating visually appealing and</u> accessible content is simple and intuitive.
- 3. Future Ready: Live courses for a given semester must be converted to Ultra before adding any content AND before students have access to that semester's courses. Reference the <u>Key Dates for Winter and Spring 2025</u> and <u>Instructions to enable Ultra guides</u>.
- 4. Three Levels Deep: Keep the three-level limit for nested content in mind when designing a new course in Ultra or reusing content from Original courses. Learn more about nested content and copying from Original.
- 5. **Smooth Copy Process:** When reusing existing content, start the copy process from the destination course. **Check out our step-by-step guide to copying content**.
- 6. **Centralized Messages:** All Messages are sent from within Blackboard Ultra to ensure a centralized record of communication. The option to send a copy of messages to MC email is also available. **Learn more about Messages**.
- 7. **Customizable Gradebook**: The Gradebook and Overall Grade column can be easily customized to fit your grading schema. Rubrics can also be added at the assignment or test level. Learn more about <u>setting up Overall Grades</u> and <u>using Rubrics</u>.
- 8. **Schedule Announcements:** Draft Announcements and Schedule Send in advance to simplify communication with your students. Announcements can also be copied to MC email. **Learn more about scheduling Announcements**.
- 9. **Flexible Discussions:** Discussions facilitate students' engagement and can be graded or ungraded based on the structure of your course. **Learn more about Discussion settings**.
- 10. Robust Student Preview: Student Preview allows you to verify that content Visibility, Forced Sequence, and Release Conditions are set up as designed to ensure a smooth student experience. <u>Learn more</u> about using Student Preview.

Bonus! Who to Contact if you have Blackboard questions
Visit our website at tinyurl.com/MC-BB-Ultra for more information.