10 Blackboard Learn Ultra Tips & Tricks for MC Faculty

1. **Responsive Design:** The streamlined, responsive design makes navigation easy for instructors and students regardless of device type. Download the **Blackboard app** for free in the **App Store** (iOS) and in the **Google Play Store** (Android).

2. **Accessibility: Creating accessible content and adding alternative text to images is straightforward**, and the intuitive navigation removes the need for interface-specific directional prompts.

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 **Key Dates for Winter and Spring 2025** and **Instructions to enable Ultra** guides.

4. **Three Levels Deep:** Keep the three-level limit for nested content in mind when designing a new course or reusing content from Original. **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**. **Some content types do not convert from Original**.

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 **setting up Overall Grades** and **using Rubrics**.

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. **Learn more 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.