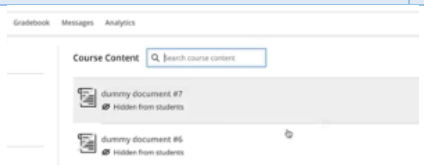
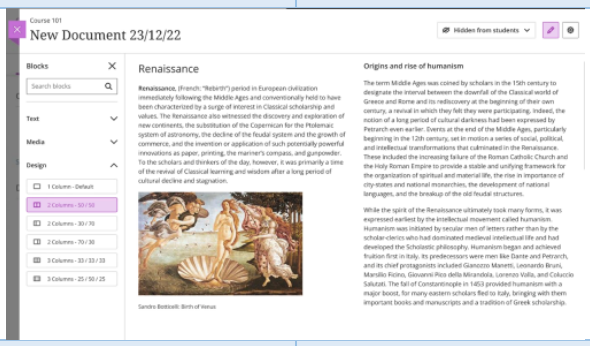
Blackboard Learn Ultra Roadmap (January 2023)

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING		
1-3 Months		
Assessment Exemptions (February) - Support individual - Drop/remove assessment for single student in GB column - See which graded items are exempt for each student (individual or group)	**Extra Credit Questions** - Allow for overachievement - Make up points lost on other tests - Not penalized for answers - Can be disabled institution wide	**Reuse Questions Across Banks** - Reuse questions across multiple banks - Quickly copy local test questions into bank
Grading Improvements - Reduced clicks for efficient grading - Easy attempt switching for multiple attempts - Quicker access to submissions that need grading	**Bb Annotate Improvements** - Quickly edit already placed comments - Anonymous commenting - Richer commenting options/feedback	**Gradebook Sort & Filter Improvements** - Organize tasks find info quickly - Record sorting controls in instructor gradebook list views - Record sorting controls in student gradebook
1-3/3-6 Months (Phased)		
Multiple Grading Schemas & Complete/Incomplete - Support more varied measurement methods - Each GB column can have its own schema - Reduce student anxiety for low-stakes tasks - Track completion status for for-credit work	**Hotspot Question Type Improvements** - Circular Shape support - Further accessibility improvements	
3-6 Months		
Send Messages from Submissions page	**Import Questions from File**	**Partial and Negative Credit Improvements**

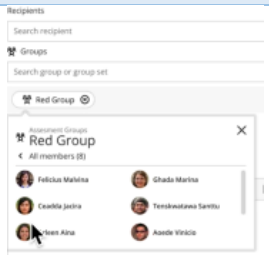
- Quickly send messages to one or more students - Filter view to find recipients - Send personalized reminders	- Quickly create and import question in csv file format - Import questions to tests & banks - Ability to print tests	- Support for MCQ, Matching, FIB, & Hotspot questions - Question type usability improvements
Anonymous Assessment Attempt MGMT - Ability to grade additional attempts and set personalized due dates - Drop/Remove an assessment for a single student from GB calculations	**Gradebook Grid Improvements** - Organize and find info quicker - Access to exemptions and exceptions workflows - Improved usability	**Printing Tests** - Enabled printing tests for archiving and validation - Question & Answer options optimized for printing
3-6/6+ Months (Phased)		
Student Assignment Submission UI - Enhanced assignment interface - Distinction between assignments and tests - Clearly identifiable drop zone to improve file-based workflow - Begin attempt button to prevent students from starting attempts by mistake. - Restrict submissions by file type and size	**Rubrics Improvements** - Pop-out rubric for improved overview when working on assessments - Improved rubric creation workflow - Import/export rubrics	**Formative Assessment** - Designate assessment as formative - Filter GB by formative vs. summative assessments - Designate assessment as program assessment – supporting Anthology Outcomes - Course Surveys for feedback and student opinions - No-points rubric
Safe Assign Improvements - Support PDF printing of originality report - Direct Submit		
6+ Months		
Delegated Grading of Assessments	**Mastery Learning & Achievements**	**Assessment Settings Improvements**

- Enabled instructors to split the grading workload across a teaching team - Support for anonymous grading	- Supporting learning outcome performance based on object alignment - Supported using points aggregation - Flexible definitions of mastery (required and option/choice activities) - Supporting learner pathway development and achievement	- More intuitive assessment settings - Better setting organization and improved efficiency and defaults
File Rendering Improvements - Improved rendering of office documents in Bb Annotate and the course outline.	**Flexible Grading** - New more efficient grading UI - Flexibility to grade by question or student - Per question feedback and rubric - Pop-out Rubric - Range of feedback mechanisms including audio, video, and file upload	

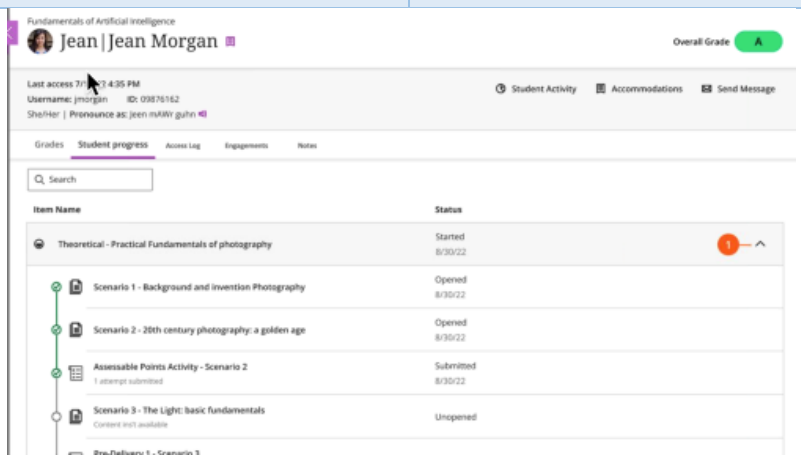
COURSE CONTENT ACTIVITY AND DESIGN		
1-3 Months		
Course Content Search - Quick course content searching by title and description.		
3-6 Months		
Enhanced Course Links - Creation of links within Ultra content editor to course content - Create links in announcements &	**Inserting & Resizing Media** - Improved workflow for adding images to Ultra document - Easily resize and reposition images within an Ultra document	**Additional Layer Depth** - Supporting an additional level of depth on course content page for complex course structures

other areas to course content	- Context menu to control settings	- Admin controlled and institution wide
1-6 Months (phased)		
Improved Course Outline - Simplified Details and Actions menu with dedicated Course Settings Area - Move Announcements to top of D&A menu - Improved course content visual hierarchy	- Improvements to setting and displaying primary instructor - Improved & sticky navigation between items - Improved content creation workflow	
6+ Months		
Richer Ultra Documents - Advanced Layouts - Embed questions and knowledge checks - Page templates for easier rich content creation		
AI Content Creation and Detection - Exploration of opportunities for utilizing recent advances in AI content creation	Examples: - Automated suggestions for test questions, alignment for goals, writing aid, dialogue activity, etc.	Researching - ChatGPT and AI detection in SafeAssign

COLLABORATION		
1-3 Months		
Discussion Post and Edit Restrictions - Prevent confusion by locking discussion after due date	**Group Management** - Group members can easily see other members of their group	

- Restrict post edits/deletes for discussion integrity.	- Search capability makes larger group sets easier to use - Non-students can be member in groups for easier management and can be members in more than one group at a time	
3-6 Months		
Group Spaces - Dedicated group space with associated tools (meeting, messaging, discussion) for greater collaboration - Overview of group's activity in a single place	**Messaging Improvement** - Unread message indicator providing guidance within the course. - Group messaging for greater instructor efficiency	
6+ Months		
Discussion Improvements - More engagement with Reactions to posts - Anonymous posting option - Subscription notifications!		

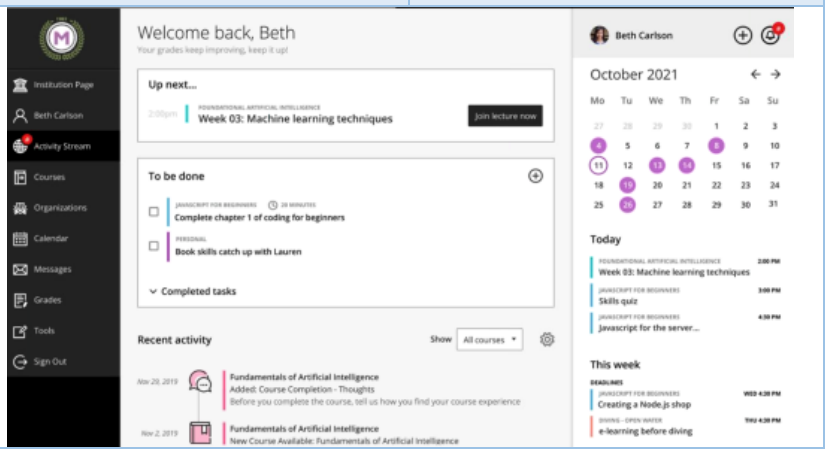
ACTIONABLE INSIGHTS		
1-3 Months		
Course Activity Report (March) - Quickly identify at-risk students and engage - See correlation between students' time spent in your course and overall grade	**Progress Tracking Configuration** - Enable progress tracking by default in all courses.	**Progress Tracking – Ally Integration** - Accessing Ally Alt. Formats contributes to progress tracking - Accurate picture of engagement with content

- Compare students based on overall grade, time spent in course, last access and missed deadlines - Access from Analytics tabs		
Holistic Student Overview - Comprehensive look at student's activity, performance, and progress in course - Insights inform instructor communication and intervention - Access wherever student shows in course		
3-6 Months		
Progress Tracking – Additional data - Detail about frequency of access and duration of engagement - Better understand when student last engaged	**Holistic Student Overview – Extensions** - Record private notes about student - Activity log shows how a student has most recently interacted with course	Other possible additions to overview - discussion contributions - student interaction w/ other students - more
6+ Months		
Flagging & Nudging - Flag students on instructor defined conditions - Automated nudging and rules-based communication		

DEEP AND SEAMLESS INTEGRATIONS		
3-6 Months		

Turnitin - Use TII's originality checker with Learn Ultra Rubrics, feedback, and markup tools - Partnering with TII and 1EdTEch to drive new open standards	**Google Integrations** - Google Docs for collaborative authoring - Google drive for importing and linking content	Virtual Classroom Integrations - Richer integrations with best-in-class virtual classroom solutions - Attendance & group integrations for instructor efficiencies
6+ Months		
Cloud Assessments - Use collaborative documents for gradable assessments - Use native version history, track changes, comments to understand student engagement - Leverage built in feedback mechanisms	**Multi-Deployment of LTI Tools** - Support distinct employments of the same LTI tool in Learn - Support for consortia or multi-campus institution in LTI tool deployment - Wider control of third-party app licensing and node/delivery	

BASE NAV IMPROVEMENTS		
1-3 Months		
Base Navigation Tool Availability - Align experience to policy and practice - Hide organizations (institution-wide) - Hide Messages (institution-wide)	**Base Navigation – Unread Message Indicator** - Course with unread messages shown at top of list - Improved visual indicator for unread messages	**Student Self-Expression: Mobile App Profile** - Update profile via mobile app
3-6 Months		
Base Navigation Filter and Display Control - Alignment of filter options between different pages (Grades) - New searching and filtering options		

- New Term dropdown selector		
6+ Months		
Personal Dashboard - Activity stream starts with Dashboard to help students/instructor what to do next - Actionable overview of upcoming deadlines and to-dos - Simplified activity stream		

INSTITUTIONAL CHOICE AND ADMIN CONTROL		
1-3 Months	**6+ Months**	**6+ Months**
Impersonate User/Login As - Allow admin to log in as user in system for support purposes - Entitlement/permission control to other system roles - Access to audit reporting	**Observer Support** - Observe 1 or multiple students - Dashboard with overview of all observed students - See grades, feedback, and course progress by course	**Course Catalog & Self-Enrollment** - Supporting guest access into Ultra courses. - Access to Ultra from Course Catalog