

**Blackboard** 

# **Blackboard LMS Office Hours - APAC**

**June 2026**



# About Office Hours

- Office hours are facilitated by the Product team, Customer Success Managers, and the wider team.
- Join the Blackboard team to discuss in detail the latest feature releases, product developments, and emerging current issues.
- Opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions of the Blackboard Learn Product Management team and fellow clients.
- The slide deck and recording will be shared after the meeting.

# Blackboard APAC User Group

Sessions take place 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month  
at 1:00pm NZST | 11:00am AEST | 9:00am SST.

Please [follow the community site](#)

and

Contact Sharon Long ([sharon.long@jcu.edu.au](mailto:sharon.long@jcu.edu.au))

for the monthly meeting calendar invite

# Today's Webinar

This webinar will be recorded and will be available to all clients on the Blackboard Community.

Closed captioning is available on today's webinar.

*Based on Blackboard's AI Trustworthy Framework, the use of third-party AI generator software for notetaking or recording of this session requires consent from all webinar attendees and prior approval from Blackboard.*

# Agenda

- Welcome & Announcements
- Release Updates
- Demo: Descriptions for Discussions and Journals
- Demo: AI Conversation – Conversation Timer
- Demo: Add Supplemental Content to Learning Object Repository Folders and Learning Modules
- Demo: System Navigation Phase 2 Improvements
- Feedback: Rubrics Management
- Feedback: To Do List
- Open Discussion

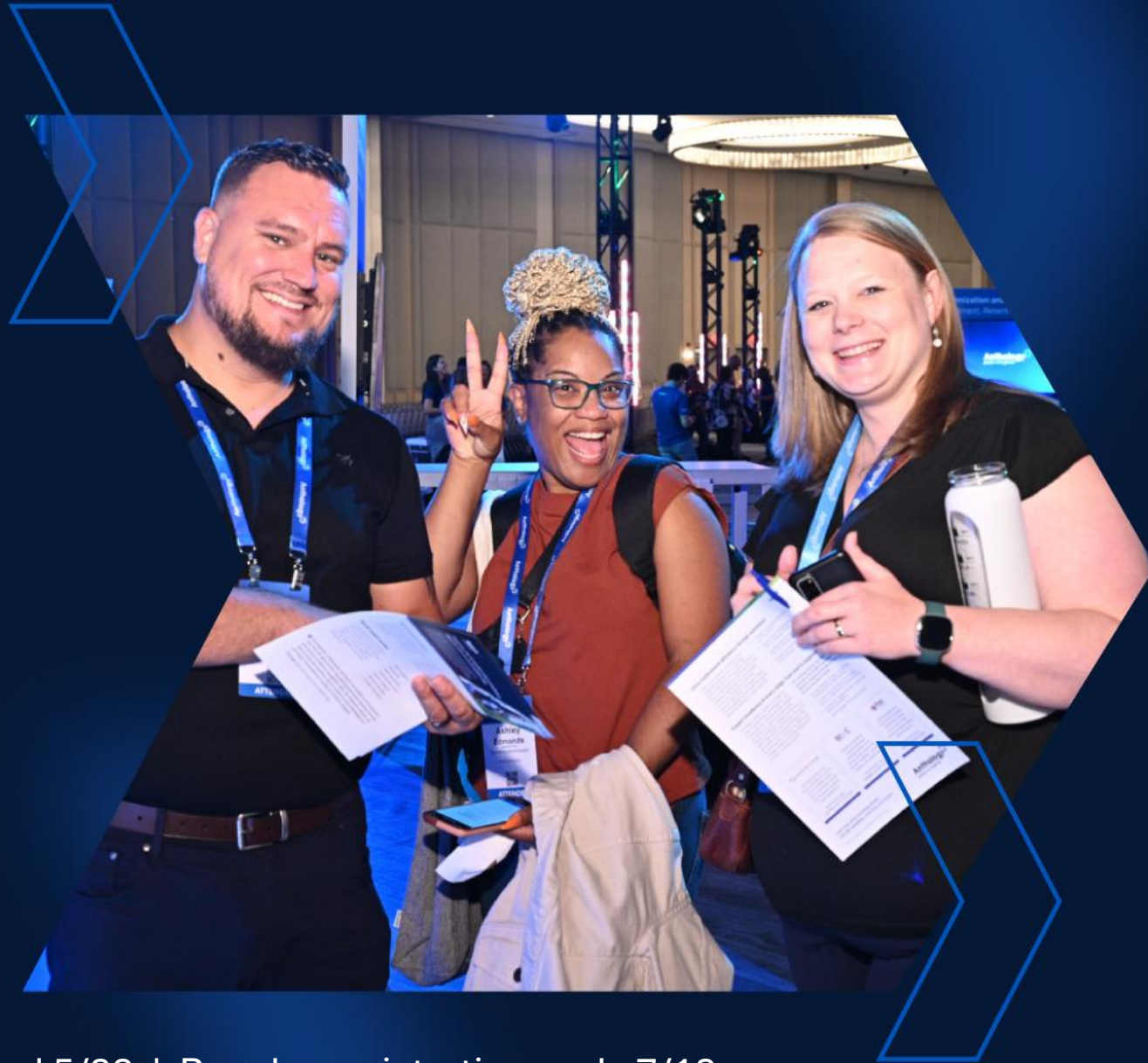
# Building Blackboard Together 2026

# ALL IN

July 13-15, 2026 | Hilton Anatole | Dallas, Texas

**REGISTER NOW!**

[conference.blackboard.com](https://conference.blackboard.com)

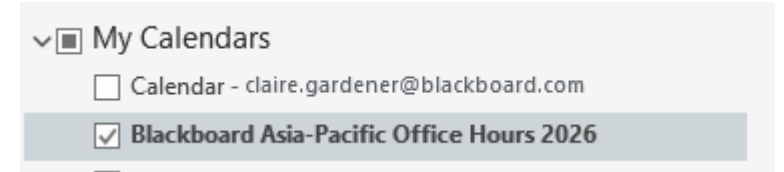


Earliest Bird savings end 2/20 | Early Bird savings end 5/22 | Regular registration ends 7/12

# IMPORTANT: Date of Next meeting

## Upcoming Sessions

- **Thursday 23 July (moved from 16 July) – 2:00 pm AWST**
- **Thursday, 20 August – 2:00 pm AWST**



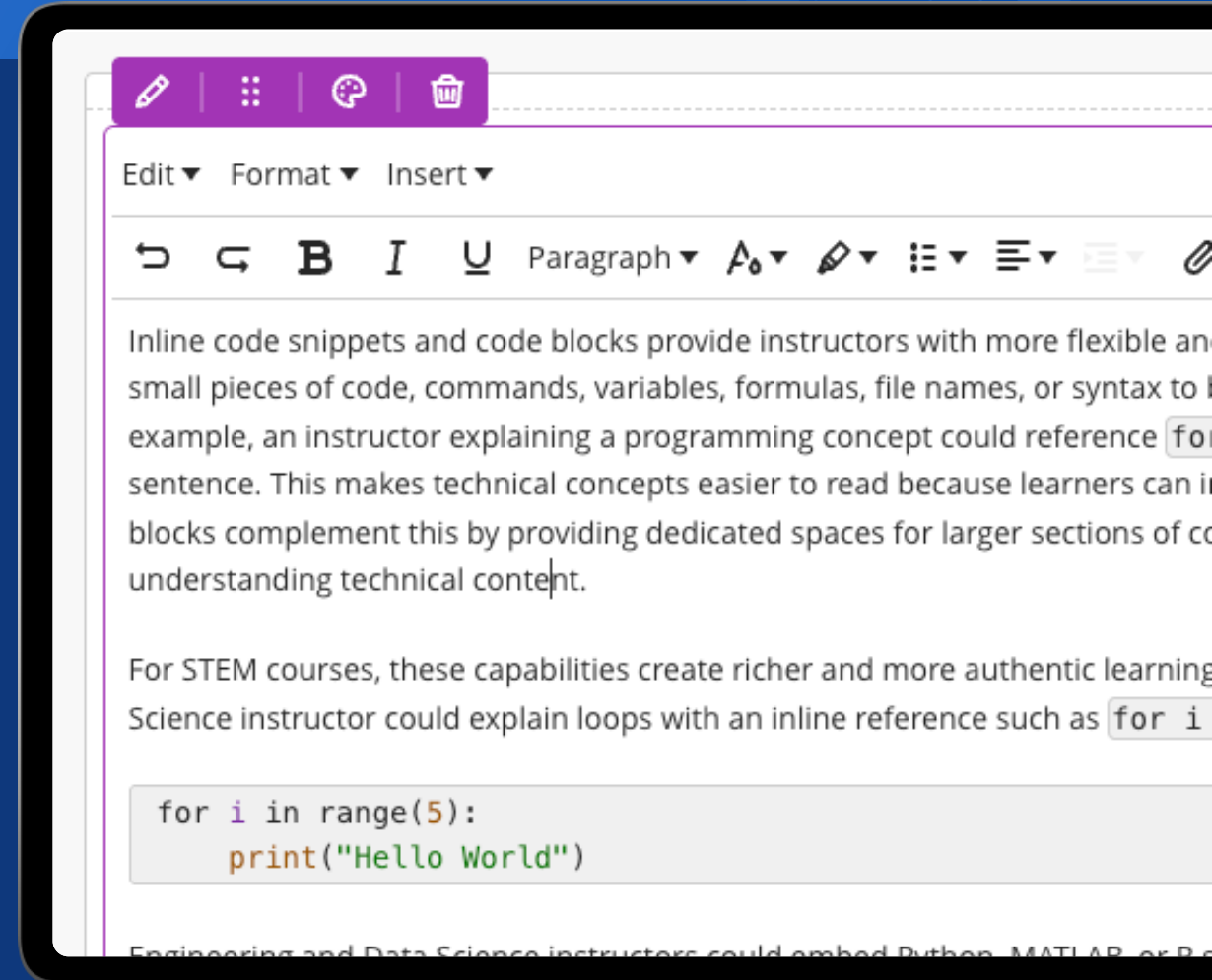
# New Editor Early Access Program

An opportunity to shape the authoring experience in Blackboard

## June 12<sup>th</sup> Updates

- Resize Images
- Add Video from URL
- Code Blocks convert correctly
- List labels/styles are no longer cut off
- Tables within tables is no longer allowed
- Undo/Redo now works for file uploads
- Dividers added to menu bars and tool bar to group items.
- Reverting a block to the current editor requires a single click instead of two

[Sign Up for Early Access](#)



# Release Updates

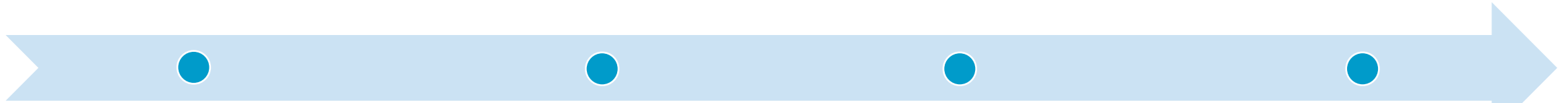
The bottom half of the slide features a decorative design with two overlapping blue shapes. On the left, there is a dark blue triangle pointing towards the top-right. Overlapping its right side is a larger, lighter blue trapezoidal shape that extends across the bottom of the slide.

# Recent Releases: 2026 Blackboard SaaS

## 4000.17.0 - Blackboard SaaS Production

May 26 – Release of version 4000.17.0  
(4000.17.0-rel.19+8b95365)

June 11 – Release of version 4000.17.0  
(4000.17.0-rel.26+2644e92)



June 4 – Release of version 4000.17.0  
(4000.19.0-ci.13473+fe38236)

June 18 – Release of version 4000.17.0  
(TBD)

### Fixes in the upcoming 4000.17.0 Release – June 18, 2026

- There are no fixes to report for now. Please check the article on Thursday.

**Note:** this is a preliminary list, the final list with all fixes will be available in Thursday's article.

# June Release - V 4000.17 – Production Update

Test/Stage on May 12  
Prod on June 4

## Instructional Design

- Add Folders and Learning Modules to the Learning Object Repository
- Choose what happens to course content when deleting an object from the Learning Object Repository
- Sort objects by type in the Learning Object Repository

## Assignments and Tests

- Improved rubric usability when adding or adjusting grades
- Provide answer-level feedback for multiple choice and multiple answer questions
- Lock answer options in a fixed position for multiple choice and multiple answer questions

## Upgrade to Ultra

- Preserve activity data for Group Assignment submission through Bulk Copy and Convert

## Learner Progression and Personalized Experience

- ~~Centrally manage Automations availability across your institution~~
- Track Announcement engagement by student

## Blackboard Admin

- Restrict grading activity in completed Original courses

## Integrations

- Use Institutional Hierarchy for Microsoft Education integration
- Use API for managing course user accommodations
- Grade Export: Configure OAuth 2.0 scope settings

## Course Catalog *(Requires Course Catalog license)*

- Unenroll learners through managed enrollment workflow

## Video Studio *(Requires Video Studio license)*

- Record videos on Blackboard App

# July Release - V 4000.19 – Production Update

Test/Stage on June 9  
Prod on July 2

## Instructional Design

- Add supplemental content to Learning Object Repository folders and learning modules
- Add descriptions to Discussions and Journals

## Assignments and Tests

- Run a Rubric Evaluation Report for graded activities

## Blackboard Admin

- ~~Manage institutional resources with a new Institution Page module~~
- Restrict content edits in completed Original courses

## Blackboard Core

- Find favorite courses faster with the Course Switcher

## Communication and Collaboration

- Control AI Conversation duration with time limits
- Preview existing message thread in Course Messages (available now in production environments)

## Learner Progression and Personalized Experience

- Access course Announcements as an observer

## Milestone *(requires Milestone license)*

- Identify micro and macro badge hierarchy from new Relationships column
- Explore badge relationships with new Tree View

## Video Studio *(Requires Video Studio license)*

- Extended recording time
- Record videos in more areas on the Blackboard App
- Optimize player layout by moving transcript control to Settings

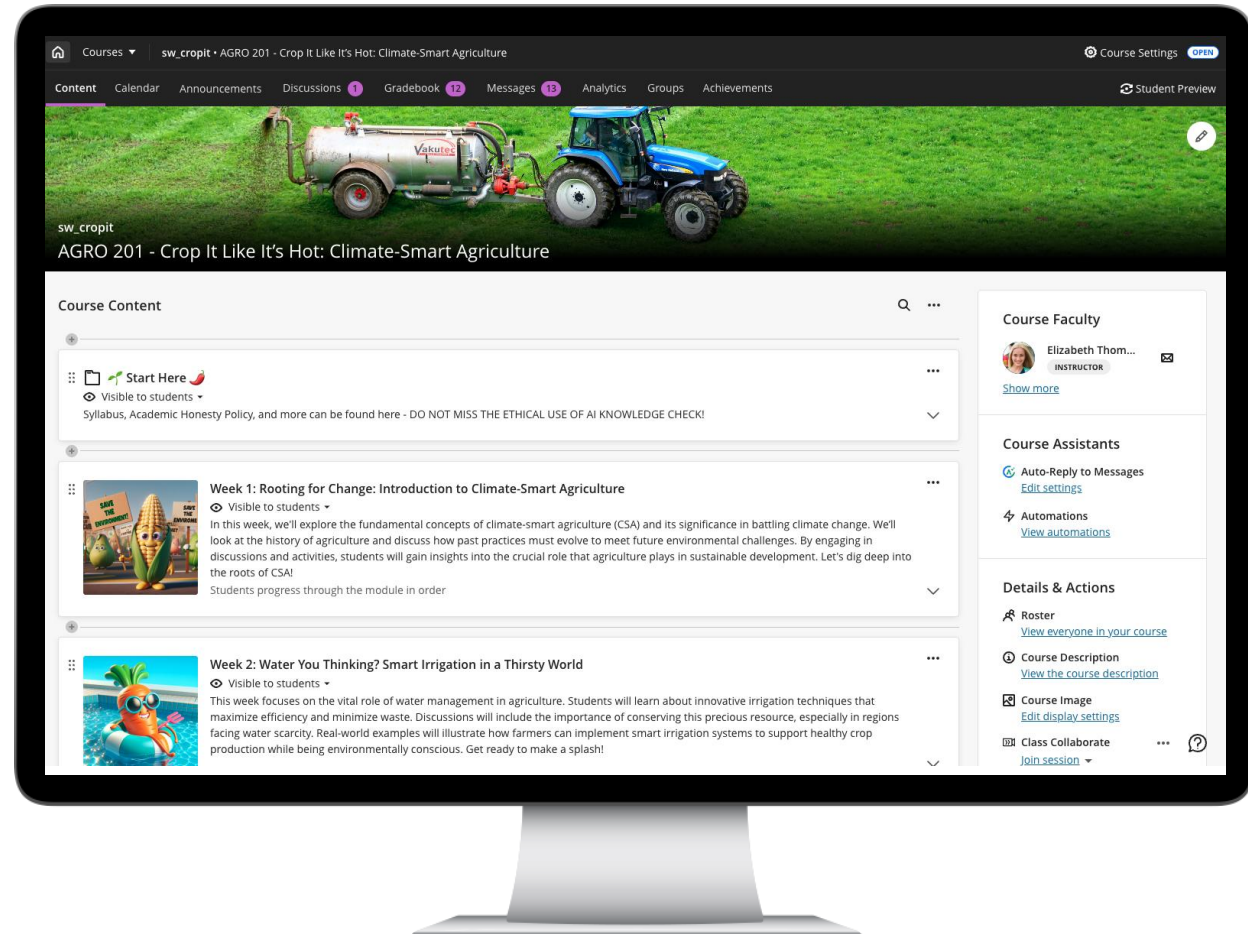
# **Demo: Descriptions for Discussions and Journals**

# **Demo: AI Conversation – Conversation Timer**

# **Demo: System Navigation Phase 2 Improvements**

# Focused improvements

- Better use of screen real estate
- Reduce unpredictable behavior
- Reduce navigation errors
- Added contextual clarity
- Performance and reliability



139m+

Total actions

**Improving course to course navigation**  
Utilizing the course switcher to reduce workflow clicks

37%↓

Reduction

**Journeys back to the courses page**  
Giving users more time in the course

32%↓

Reduction

**Accidental Exits reduced from in course**  
More effective and intentional navigation

# System Navigation phase 2



Next Phase of System  
Navigation Improvements



Reduce complexity and  
friction



Improve consistency  
across the platform



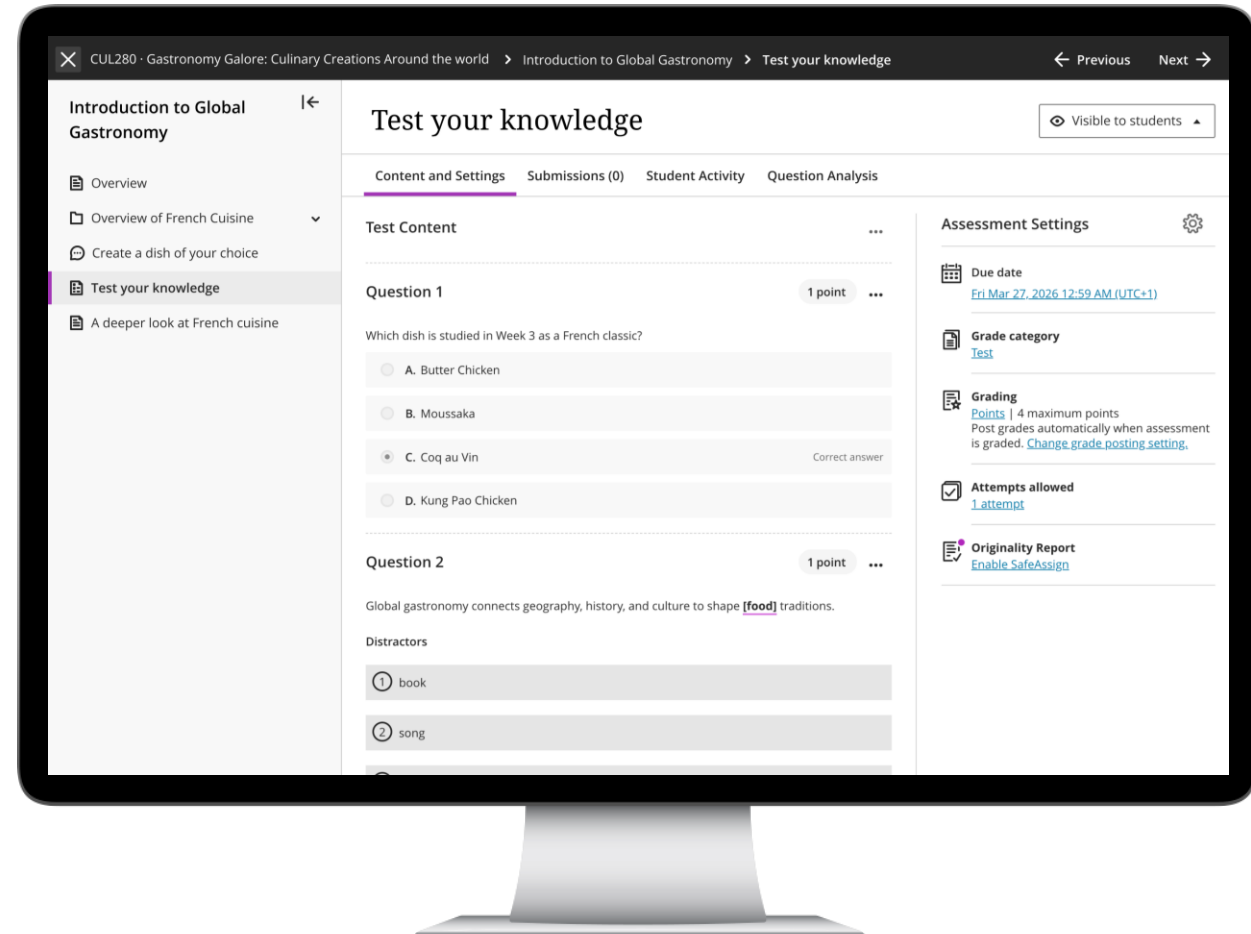
Help users stay oriented  
and focused



Outcome: Less navigation  
overhead, more  
confidence and efficiency

# Summary of changes for Phase 2

- Conversion of **course content panels to pages**
- Introducing **breadcrumbs** into these new **content pages**
- Following feedback on Exiting a course, the **Home button will now take you to Courses**  
*(System login will still take to Institutional landing)*
- **August Release (4000.21.0)**



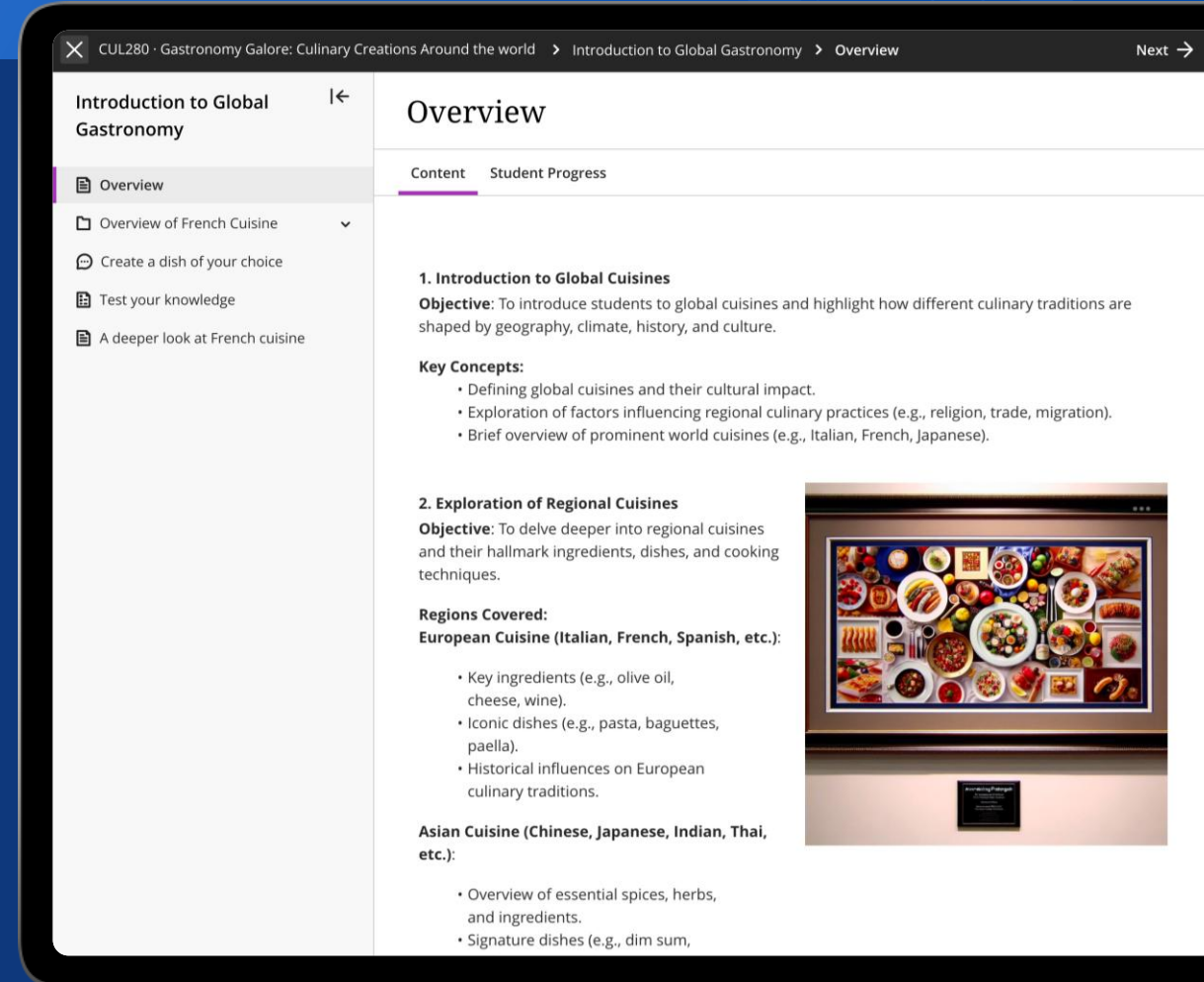
# Sign up to preview System Navigation Phase 2

Register now

Sign up to preview Phase 2 of the system navigation changes coming to Blackboard – COMING SOON



<https://forms.office.com/r/mpxTU7Jm4j>



The screenshot shows a Blackboard course page for 'Introduction to Global Gastronomy'. The breadcrumb trail at the top reads: 'CUL280 · Gastronomy Galore: Culinary Creations Around the world > Introduction to Global Gastronomy > Overview'. The page title is 'Overview'. There are two tabs: 'Content' (selected) and 'Student Progress'. The left sidebar shows a navigation menu with the following items: 'Overview', 'Overview of French Cuisine', 'Create a dish of your choice', 'Test your knowledge', and 'A deeper look at French cuisine'. The main content area is divided into two sections:

- 1. Introduction to Global Cuisines**  
**Objective:** To introduce students to global cuisines and highlight how different culinary traditions are shaped by geography, climate, history, and culture.  
**Key Concepts:**
  - Defining global cuisines and their cultural impact.
  - Exploration of factors influencing regional culinary practices (e.g., religion, trade, migration).
  - Brief overview of prominent world cuisines (e.g., Italian, French, Japanese).
- 2. Exploration of Regional Cuisines**  
**Objective:** To delve deeper into regional cuisines and their hallmark ingredients, dishes, and cooking techniques.  
**Regions Covered:**
  - European Cuisine (Italian, French, Spanish, etc.):**
    - Key ingredients (e.g., olive oil, cheese, wine).
    - Iconic dishes (e.g., pasta, baguettes, paella).
    - Historical influences on European culinary traditions.
  - Asian Cuisine (Chinese, Japanese, Indian, Thai, etc.):**
    - Overview of essential spices, herbs, and ingredients.
    - Signature dishes (e.g., dim sum,

On the right side of the page, there is an image of a digital display showing a collage of various international dishes.

# **Feedback: Rubrics Management**









The bottom half of the slide features a dark blue background with a diagonal line separating a lighter blue triangular area on the left from a darker blue trapezoidal area on the right.

# Current Rubrics Area

Home Courses ▾ Astronomy 101 • fk008

Content Calendar Announcements 2 Discussions Gradebook 2 Messages 4 Analytics Groups Achievements

Overview Gradable Items **Grades** Students [2 items hidden](#) Search gradebook

Students	Discussion	Journal	AI in Astronomy	Total test inc EC	Extra credit test	Check your knowl...	Check your knowl...
200 points	100 points	100 points	230 points	100 points	50 points		
8 Graded   6 Posted	8 Graded   6 Posted	2 Graded   2 Posted	4 items	7 Graded   7 Posted	7 Graded   6 Posted	2 Graded   2 Posted	2 Graded   2 Posted
 (Albin) Fredrik An... ID: aistudent4	190	80	-	38 2 ungraded	0 Automatic zero	38	Ar...
 John Davies ID: aistudent4	185	65	55	4 ungraded	-	-	Ar...
 Jessica Evans ID: aistudent5	200 Posted	75 Posted	76.25	84 1 ungraded	0 Automatic zero	39 Posted	Ar...
 Mark Jones ID: aistudent1	190 Posted	0 Automatic zero	-	50 1 ungraded	0 Automatic zero	0 Automatic zero	Ar...
 Sam Taylor ID: aistudent3	0 Automatic zero	0 Automatic zero	-	35 1 ungraded	0 Automatic zero	35 Posted	Ar...
 Olivia Thompson ID: aistudent10	0 Automatic zero	0 Automatic zero	77.5 Posted	0 1 ungraded	0 Automatic zero	0 Automatic zero	Ar...
 Nicholas Walker ID: aistudent6	0 Automatic zero	0 Automatic zero	-	0 1 ungraded	0 Automatic zero	0 Automatic zero	Ar...
 Nathalie Williams ID: aistudent2	0 Automatic zero	0 Automatic zero	63.75	40 1 ungraded	0 Automatic zero	40 Posted	Ar...

Astronomy 101

## Gradebook Settings

Course Rubrics

Create Generate

- AI Essay Rubric
  - Duplicate
  - Delete
- Grading Rubric
- Large Grading Rubric
- New Rubric 3/31/23
- Rubric
- Grading Rubric
- Large Grading Rubric

# New Rubrics Area

Name	ID	Overall G	Attendance	My Initial Un...	My Initial Un...	My Initial Un...
KA Al-Mansoori, Khalid	4471258..	77	B	21	12	
KA Yamamoto, Emiko Tanaka	4471258	93	-			
KA Al-Mansoori, Khalid	4471258..	77	B			
KA Yamamoto, Emiko Tanaka	4471258	14	-			
KA Ivanova-Mikhailov, Ekate...	4471259	62	C			
KA Yamamoto, Emiko Tanaka	4471258	93	F			
KA Al-Mansoori, Khalid	4471258..	77				
KA Yamamoto, Emiko Tanaka	4471258	14	A			
KA Ivanova-Mikhailov, Ekate...	4471259	62	B			
KA Yamamoto, Emiko Tanaka	4471258	93	D	Exempt		Exempt

Course name

## Gradebook Settings

### Student options

Choose how to display student details in your gradebook

Student name

- First name surname
- Surname, first name
- Student ID

### Course Rubrics

[Manage course rubrics](#)

### Grade Schemas

Grading schemas map percentages to letter grades or some other notation for reporting performance.

[Manage Grade Schemas](#)

Course name

# Course Rubrics



Generate

Create

25 items per page

Rubric name	Type		
[Rubric default 1 name]	Points	Open	⋮
[Rubric default 1 name]	Percentage range	Open	⋮
[Rubric default 1 name]	Points range	Open	⋮
[Rubric default 1 name]	Percentage	Open	⋮
[Rubric default 1 name]	No Points	Open	⋮
[Rubric default 1 name]	Points	Open	⋮
[Rubric default 1 name]	Percentage range	Open	⋮

- Export
- Print
- Duplicate
- Delete

# Coming up in Design: Todo List

# Student ToDo list

- Direct response to student feedback from our usability survey
- Place for students to see upcoming assignments to help with time planning and to reduce stress and anxiety
- Include overdue, due today and due soon in next 7 days items

The image displays the Monument University Courses page on both desktop and mobile devices. The desktop view features a navigation menu on the left with options like Institution Page, Activity, Courses, Organizations, Calendar, Messages (12), Grades, Assist, and Tools. The main content area is titled 'Courses' and includes a search bar, filters for terms and courses, and a '25 items per page' selector. Below this, there are sections for 'Spring 2026' and 'Winter 2025' courses, each with a thumbnail image and course details. The mobile view shows a 'Recent Courses' section with two course cards: 'Biology 101' and 'Culinary Arts'. Below this is a 'To Do' section with 'Overdue' and 'Due Today' items, including a 'Research Paper: Cell Mitosis' assignment and a 'Special Event Catering' assignment.

**Desktop View:**

- Navigation:** Monument University, Institution Page, Activity, Courses, Organizations, Calendar, Messages (12), Grades, Assist, Tools.
- Search and Filters:** Search your courses, Terms: All terms, Filters: All courses, 25 items per page.
- Spring 2026 Courses:**
  - bio\_101\_sec2 Biology 101 (Kadin Cook)
  - culart\_188 Culinary Arts (Megan Wheaton)
- Winter 2025 Courses:**
  - astro\_104 Astronomy for Beginners (Multiple)

**Mobile View:**

- Recent Courses:**
  - Biology 101 (blo:101.sec2)
  - Culinary Arts (culart 185)
- To Do:**
  - Overdue:**
    - Research Paper: Cell Mitosis (Assignment - Biology 101 - blo, 101. sec2..) (Thurs - 12/9/26 - 11:58PM) (Late submissions not allowed)
    - Week 12 Lab Report (Essay - Biology 101 - bio; 101. sec2) (Tues - 12/8/25 - 11:58PM)
  - Due Today:**
    - Special Event Catering (Assignment - Culinary Arts - culart\_188... (Fri - 12/10/26 - 9:59 PM)
    - Rover Navigation Simulation (Project - Astronomy for Beginners - ast... (Fri - 12/10/26 - 11:59 PM)
  - Due Soon:**
    - Thermodynamics Lab Write-Up (Essay - Physics Now - phys\_240... (Sat - 12/11/26 - 11:59 PM)
    - Biology Chapter 9 Quiz

## Open Discussion

- Any additional thoughts on content shared today?
- What are you looking forward to?
- Any clarifications needed?
- Any questions about the release updates
- What are your current challenges?

**Any other ideas? Post them on the Idea Exchange!**



<https://anthology-teachingandlearning.ideas.aha.io>

**Blackboard** 