

## Basic Blackboard Customizations

You can always hide/show/rename any menu items and can add new ones, such as:

Content Area, Module Page, Blank Page, Tool Link, Web Link, Course Link, Subheader, Divider

### Course Management Sidebar → Customization → Teaching Style

**Select Course Entry Point** = change the home page (for example, to Announcements page)

**Select Course Theme** = change the look / background of the entire shell

**Select Menu Style** = change the background and text color of your navigation menu

**Select Banner** = add a course header image (best formatted as 480 x 80 pixels)

Upload an image from your computer, can be cropped after upload

### Explore Course Menu Options under Course Structures

The default menu is Blackboard Learn - Default

- Home Page
- Information
- Content
- Discussions
- Groups
- Tools
- Help

Note when you hover over one, you see its default navigation menu of existing Blackboard tools (and remember, these can always be altered)

- I. Activity-Based
  - a. Activity  
[Activities, Conversations, Live Chat | Stay on Track, Tips&Resources, Tools | Game Plan, Instructor Info | My Grades, Help]
  - b. Case study  
[ Case Studies, Brainstorm | Apply the Theory, Blog About It, References | Agenda, Course Overview, My Instructor | My Grades, Tools, Help]
  - c. Conference Session  
[ Announcements, Session Information, Your Presenter | Session Materials, Resources & Links, Participation | Research, Session Plans | Tools, Help]

- d. Constructivism  
[Learning Hub, Weekly Planner, Knowledge Base | Share, Reflect, Chat | Groups, Course Overview, My Coach | My Grades, Tools, Help]
  - e. Expedition-Based  
[ Explorations, My Trip Journal, Stay on Track | Storytelling, Base Camp, Fireside Chat | Trip Resources, Roadmap, Leader Information | My Grades, Tools, Help]
  - f. Experiential Learning  
[ Action Plans, Collaborate | Round Table, Our Blogs, My Reactions | Groups, Resources, Tools | Course Organizer, Getting Started, My Facilitator | My Grades, Help]
  - g. Lab Format  
[ Lab Supplies, Resources | Hypotheses, My Conclusions, Lab Groups, Glossary | New and Due, Methods, Leader Info | My Grades, Tools, Help]
  - h. Project Format  
[ Projects, Materials | Teams, Solutions, My Ideas, Connect Live | Planner, Overview, Project Advisor, My Grades | Tools, Help]
2. Organized around Communication
- a. Cooperative Learning (Groups / Teams)  
[Learning Activities, Resources | Our Wiki, Idea Share, My Reflections, Chat, Teams | What's New, Course Info, My Coach | My Grades, Tools, Help]
  - b. Guided Discussion  
[ Discuss It!, Let's Meet, My Journal | Group Think, References, Dashboard | Course Overview, My Facilitator | My Grades, Tools, Help]
  - c. Social Learning  
[ The Hub, Wikis | What Do You Think? Blogs, Social Circles, Let's Talk | New Today, Course Basics, My Facilitator | Tools, My Grades, Help]
  - d. Web 2.0  
[Discuss, Share, Meet | Course Central, Our Wiki | Recent Activity, Intro Materials, Course Mentor | My Grades, Tools, Help]
3. Organized by Content
- a. Chapter  
[ Chapters, Organizer | Discuss, Blogs, Chat | Resources, Glossary, Syllabus, Instructor | Grades, Tools, Help]

- b. Lecture  
[ Lectures, Questions & Answers | My Reactions, Meeting Center, Resources | Intro Materials, Stay on Track, My Instructor | My Grades, Tools, Help]
  - c. Lesson  
[ Lessons, Our Conversations, My Reflections | Glossary, Resources | What's New, Course Basics, Instructor Details | My Grades, Tools, Help]
  - d. Module  
[ Modules, Study Teams, Resources | Discuss, Collaborate | My Grades, Requirements, My Instructor | New Today, Tools, Help]
  - e. Subject  
[ Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies | Talk About It, My Journal, Study Aids | Syllabus, Teacher Info, My Planner, Announcements | My Grades, Tools, Help]
  - f. Topic  
[Hot Topics, Deadlines | The Buzz, Editorials, Reflection | Additional Sources, Overview, Instructor Details | My Progress, Tools, Help ]
  - g. Unit  
[ Unit A, Unit B, Unit C, Unit D | Course Dialogue, Collaborate, Blog It, Socialize | New And Due, Study Aids, Course Basics, Instructor Info | My Grades, Tools, Help ]
  - h. Science-Focused  
[Units, Research and Tips | Discoveries, Lab Wiki, Experiment Journal, Live Chat | Terminology, Methods, My Instructor | Updates, My Grades, Tools, Help]
  - i. Traditional  
[ Home Page, Course Information, My Instructor | Content, Assignments, Tests & Quizzes, Discussion Board, Chat | My Grades, Tools, Instructor Alerts, Help]
4. Organized by Time
- a. Daily  
[ Today's Buzz, Daily Work | Discuss, Log It, Email, Meet | Startup, Updates, Resources | Instructor, Grades | Tools, Help]
  - b. Weekly  
[Current Week, Planner | Course Dialogue, Ideas to Share, Weekly Journal | Syllabus, Previous Weeks, Going Further | My Instructor, My Grades | Tools, Help]