


Building Content Tips for Blackboard Learn

The following are quick tips for identifying various Content Items inside of Blackboard Learn. Additional resources, videos and handouts can be found at <http://www.gvtc.org/bblearn> under the guides and tutorials area.


- 1. Folder** – A course area that contains content items. Folders allow content to be structured with a hierarchy or categories.
- 2. Item** – An item can contain text, audio, movies, files, images, and mashups. If you add text, you can format it using the content editor functions. **Items** display all of the content placed inside of the Content Editor directly below the title.
- 3. Blank Page** – The blank page tool allows you to include files, images, and text as a link in a course area. Blank pages present content in a different way than items do. There is no description that appears below the title of the page. Users see your content only after clicking the link.
- 4. File** – An HTML file that you can use in your course. These files can be viewed as a page within your course or as a separate piece of content in a separate browser window.
- 5. Web Link** – Link to an outside website or resource. It is always recommended to open web links in a new tab/window.
 - a. Note:** Web Link URLs should **NEVER** be in all CAPS. This will cause an error locking you out of the content area.
- 6. Mashups** - Mashups allow you to include content in a course that is from an external website. Three types of mashups are available:
 - a. Flickr Photo®:** Link to a site for viewing and sharing photographic images.
 - b. SlideShare:** Link to a site for viewing and sharing PowerPoint presentations, Word documents, or Adobe PDF Portfolios.
 - c. YouTube™:** Link to a site for viewing and sharing online videos.



Folder Example

Subtitle for your folder goes here.


1




Item Example

This is an example of an item.

All content will display below the title.



2




Blank Page Example

3




File Example

4




Web Link Example

5



Mashup Item Example



How to grow tulips in container pots

Duration: (3:26)
User: Sarah Raven's - Added: 5/6/15

Watch Video


Description of the mashup goes here.

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7. **Learning Module** - A set of content that includes a structured path for progressing through the items. Learning Modules can hold the same content as folders, however, they are not stackable. You cannot put a **Learning Module** inside of another **Learning Module** as you can a folder.

- Sequential Viewing** – The option to force sequential viewing is available for Learning Modules, however, items will always have to be viewed sequentially even if a student has already viewed the materials.
- First Page of Learning Modules** – **NEVER** place a **Web Link** or **File** as your first page of the Learning Module as this will cause your students to exit the module before they are on the first page. An **Item** or **Blank Page** as an introduction to your Learning Module is a great way to give students basic information about the content inside of the Learning Module.
- Item Availability** – Though each individual item can have its own availability dates, it is recommended to keep content simplified by using one over-arching **Availability Date** for the **Learning Module** as a whole.
- Module Page** – This is **NOT** to be used with Learning Modules. Though terminology is similar, a Module Page is a page of modules similar to most courses' **Home Page**. (See #8 Below).



Learning Module Example
Subtitle for your Learning Module goes here.

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Item Example Introduction


Example 1 Item
Blank Page Example
Web Link Example
Example Discussion Forum Link
Lighthouse Assignment

Item Example Introduction

Page 1 of 6

Welcome to your Learning Module!

The first page of your learning module could contain basic information or directions for the module as well as images, videos or links to additional information.



You could also put your objectives for the module in this area.


- Objective 1
- Objective 2
- Objective 3

Example of a Student's View of a Learning Module

8. **Module Pages** – Module Pages are specialized content pages that present content in discrete boxes. The modules that appear on this page can be arranged in any order. Most courses have a **Home Page** that is classified as a **Module Page**.


- Note:** Module Pages are **NOT** used in Learning Modules.

9. **Course Link** – A shortcut to an item, tool, or area in a course. The **Course Link** will have the same icon as the linked content plus a small link symbol in the upper left corner.



Module Page

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Course Link Example

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