

Blackboard Updates

May 2017

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Illinois Central College

What's New in this Blackboard Update?

- Drag & Drop Files
- Fewer Needs Grading Notifications
- Reminders: Missing Coursework
- Submission Receipts
- Fixes for Extra Decimal Places and Word-Wrap Issues



Please ensure you are using either the Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox browser for all Blackboard activities! Don't have either of these installed? Download for free at getfirefox.com or google.com/chrome/

The next upgrade to Blackboard features takes place in late May 2017 . . . while there are no major changes to functionality, there are several enhancements to existing Blackboard tools and features. All descriptions taken directly from "Release Notes: Learn 9.1 Q4 2016," (<https://goo.gl/zfRiuz>)

DRAG & DROP FILES

Attaching files to content items, assignments, and web links becomes much simpler – and more convenient – with this new feature that allows users to drag files from their computers to the "hot spot" in the **Attach Files** area.

Students can use this same feature when attaching files to their assignments.

ASSIGNMENT FILES

Attach Files

Browse My Computer

Browse Content Collection

FEWER NEEDS GRADING NOTIFICATIONS

When multiple attempts are permitted on an assignment or test, this can create a long list of items in the *Needs Grading* area, with many that will never need to be graded. New features in the *Needs Grading* area allow instructors to filter results so that additional attempts are hidden and only those that actually need to be graded will be shown in the list.

Learn more at <https://goo.gl/iyUloe>

REMINDERS: MISSING COURSEWORK

Instructors can send email reminders from individual Grade Center columns to students who have missing coursework. A system-generated email that lists the course, assignment, and due date (if set) will be sent to any students who are missing work from that column. Instructors will receive a success message at the top of the screen once the email is sent.

Learn more at

<https://goo.gl/W6UTYY>

SUBMISSION RECEIPTS

A **Review Submission History** page appears, along with a success message and confirmation number, when students submit assignments successfully.

Success! Your submission appears on this page. The submission confirmation number is 3c78-434b-9da8-43325f52. Copy and save this number as proof of your work.

Review Submission History: Week 1 Study Guide Questions

Assignment Instructions ^

Add two potential questions that could appear on the Week 1 test. Include the answers. I will compile all submissions for the class to use as a study guide.

- Students can copy/save this number as proof of submissions. *(A future upgrade will feature email notifications with confirmation numbers for all assignment submissions.)*
- When multiple attempts are allowed, students will receive a different confirmation number for each submission.

Instructors can access students' confirmation numbers from the Grade Center under **Reports > Submission Receipts**:

Grade Center : Full Grade Center

Create Column Create Calculated Column Manage Reports

Create Report View Grade History Submission Receipts

Submission Receipts

User Name Not blank Go Options User Information

CONFIRMATION NUMBER	STUDENT	SUBMITTER	COURSEWORK	DATE	SUBMISSION	SIZE
9e710457-8d9f-4bdd-b553-7aa3703813e9	Alyssa Dubois	Alyssa Dubois	Week 1 Study Guide Questions	Sep 14, 2016 7:19 PM	study_guide_adubois.doc	29.5kb
41ab7c64-aa91-4879-8711-ba4a8ae8fc2	Juan Hernandez	Juan Hernandez	Week 1 Study Guide Questions	Sep 14, 2016 6:21 PM	Written submission	0.8kb

- View information for each assignment, such as who submitted and when.
- View whether a file was submitted or text was entered.

Records for submission receipts will be kept even if an attempt, assignment, or student is later deleted from the course.

Learn more at <https://goo.gl/ZZXuir>

FIXES FOR PREVIOUS ISSUES

Some of you have been patiently awaiting the following "fixes" to issues that came up with previous Blackboard upgrades:

Extra Decimal Places in Grade Center

Previously, grades that are set to display as percentages have appeared with five decimal places, rather than the standard two places. The fix being applied with this upgrade will now display only two places beyond a decimal point for percentage values.

Word-Wrap Issue in Essay Responses

When grading essay questions via the "Grade All" button from the *Needs Grading* page, words were not wrapped correctly between lines, and many words were often broken apart incorrectly. The fix being applied with this upgrade will now properly keep words together on one line.

ATOMIC LEARNING UPDATE

As of the end of the Spring 2017 semester, the Teaching and Learning Center will not be renewing our contract with **Atomic Learning**, an online training resource (via your Blackboard accounts).

For those of you who may have included these videos within your Blackboard courses, we will be glad to work with you to find other reliable video sources for the same purpose. For those of you who had previously used MediaCore to host your videos and then had transferred them over to Atomic Learning's **My Campus Training** program, we have all of your videos backed up and will contact you about moving them to another service. For anyone who may have used Atomic Learning videos for your own training purposes, we will be glad to work with you to provide training on those tasks or to help you find other reliable training videos.

