Blackboard 9.1 Upgrade (July 2014)

Blackboard (blackboard.unh.edu) is UNH’s Learning Management System. On Sunday, July 27th, UNH IT will upgrade Blackboard to their most current version. The system will be unavailable beginning at 4AM and will likely be down until mid to late afternoon.

While complete upgrade details are available at http://it.unh.edu/bbupgrade, there are several new features and improvements in this upgrade we’d like to make sure you know about:

• Assessments: Significant figures
• Grade Center: Anonymous grading
• Grade Center: Delegated grading
• Portfolio: Improvements
• SafeAssign: Integrated into Assignments
• SafeAssign: Originality report changes
• Student Preview: Improvements
• Collaborate: Collaborate Launcher enhancements for Windows users

Assessments: Significant figures
In an assessment when using the calculated formula question, the instructor can select the number of decimals or significant figures for the correct answers generated by the system.

Grade Center: Anonymous grading
Instructors can hide student names from submitted assignments for anonymous grading. Students are notified to the anonymous grading setting on the Upload Assignment page.

Grade Center: Delegated grading
Instructors can assign specific users who have grading privileges in the course particular sets of student assignments submissions. These “delegated graders” only see the student attempts chosen by the instructor. After “delegated graders” provide grades and feedback, the instructor reviews the grading to determine final grade or reconcile it.

Portfolio: Improvement
Portfolios can now be accessed from the Global Navigation and have a new authoring canvas. Portfolios can also be submitted for course assignments. The portfolio will appear in the Grade Center.
Safe Assign: Integrated in Assignments
SafeAssign is now integrated into Assignments tool. Instructors now select an option to check submissions using SafeAssign when creating an assignment.

Safe Assign: Originality Report
The Safe Assign originality report has been updated to display multiple attachments. The email option has been removed although the instructor can print to a pdf. Unique colors are used to identify multiple sources. All citation source highlighting is on by default, although instructors have the option to turn it off or on. Now, by default, all sources are included in the report and instructors have the option to deselect sources to exclude from the report. The report no longer includes the word count for mixed---script.

Student Preview: Improvements
The Student Preview now includes the option when exiting the “Student Preview” to delete the preview user and all data. When using this option the “student preview” user will no longer appear in the grade center, or any reports that include or use student activity thus preventing skewing the final data.

Collaborate: Collaborate Launcher
The Collaborate Launcher is a now available for Windows users. This utility provides a convenient and reliable way to launch your Blackboard Collaborate web conferencing sessions and recordings.