



Blackboard

Blackboard Open Content (formerly known as xpLor) End Of Life: December 31, 2019

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Version:Learn_9_1_Q2_2017_3200_0_0,Learn_9_1_Q4_2017,Learn_9_1_Q2_2018,Learn_9_1_Q4_2018,Learn_9_1_Q2_2019,Open_Content1,Open_LMS_2_x_3_x,SaaS

Article No.: 000050034

Product: All Products

Type:Support Bulletin

Bulletin/Advisory Information:

Updated Bulletin (Published June 3, 2019):

This serves as a reminder that on December 31, 2019, Blackboard Open Content will no longer be available for all Blackboard clients. Blackboard is continuing to research potential options to support users of this functionality.

It is extremely important that we hear from our LMS community. Your input will aid the Blackboard team in understanding the features and functionality that are required for your instructional programs. Please complete this [survey](#) to rank the capabilities you would like to see in the future.

Please reach to your Account Executive for more information or to arrange a time to speak with one of our product team members.

Updated Bulletin (Published March 15, 2019):

As a reminder, effective June 30, 2019, Blackboard will transition Blackboard Open Content to maintenance support mode. Effective December 31, 2019 Blackboard will end the availability of Blackboard Open Content for all Blackboard clients.

As noted in the previous support bulletin, most of the content creation functionality included in Open Content can be achieved using the native functionality of the LMS. For the content sharing and updating functionality currently not available in the LMS, Blackboard is researching potential options to partner with third party vendors to address the functionality gaps.

We would like your feedback in determining the features that are most important to our users. **Please complete this [survey](#) to rank the functionalities you believe are most important.**

Original Bulletin (Published December 14, 2018):

For Blackboard Learn, Blackboard Open LMS, and Blackboard Classroom Clients:

Effective June 30, 2019, Blackboard will transition Blackboard Open Content to Maintenance Support Mode. Effective December 31, 2019 Blackboard will end-of-life the availability of Blackboard Open Content for all Blackboard clients.

As a part of our commitment to delivering a portfolio of products to help our clients thrive in a complex and changing educational environment, our team has completed a full assessment of what would be required to continue developing and supporting Blackboard Open Content. As part of this exercise, the team performed an extensive data analysis on how the product is being used and concluded that the majority of uses cases are achieved through a much better user experience available today in the LMS. Therefore, we have made the difficult decision to end-of-life Blackboard Open Content. In effort to provide the longest transition period possible for all Open Content users, we've elected to take a phased approach. On June 30, 2019 Blackboard Open Content will fully transition to Maintenance Support Mode which means we will no longer implement new bug fixes or work active cases. Effective December 31, 2019 Blackboard will end-of-life the availability of Open Content.

When will Blackboard Open Content no longer be available?

Effective December 31, 2019, Blackboard Open Content will no longer be available to clients.

When will support for Blackboard Open Content end?

Support for Blackboard Open Content will end in concurrence with the End of Life date, on December 31, 2019.

I have more questions, where can I get answers?

- [Additional Information for Blackboard Learn Clients](#)
- [Additional Information for Blackboard Open LMS OR Blackboard Classroom Clients](#)

Please reach out to your CSA with any specific questions you may have regarding this notification. For K-12 clients, we will host a webinar to discuss this change and to share strategies and best practices for the adoption of new LMS tools to meet your instructional needs. Also, within the next 60 days, we will release further guidance regarding this change and provide a schedule of Office Hours available to our clients.

Blackboard Learn Clients

How will current Blackboard Learn customers be impacted?

Any current Blackboard Learn client instance will no longer have access to Blackboard Open Content on December 31, 2019.

How may current customers use the Content Creation features in Learn?

Content Creation Matrix	
Open Content	Learn
Page: Create HTML content, which can be displayed natively within the browser.	This is equivalent to the Content Item; see https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Instructor/Course_Content/Create_Content/Create_Course_Materials/Create_Content_Items_or_Documents for details

File: Upload files including audio, images, video or text.	This is equivalent to the Files; see https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Instructor/Course_Content/Create_Content/Create_Course_Materials/Add_Files_Images_Audio_and_Video for details
Link: Create links to web resources	This is equivalent to a Link to Websites; see https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Instructor/Course_Content/Create_Content/Create_Course_Materials/Link_to_Websites for details
Quiz: create quizzes with essay, fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice, and true/false questions.	This is equivalent to Tests and Surveys; see https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Instructor/Tests_Pools_Surveys/Create_Tests_and_Surveys for details
Assignment: allow students to either upload submissions	This is equivalent to Assignments; see help.blackboard.com/Learn/Instructor/Assignments/Create_and_Edit_Assignments for details
Discussion: create a forum with a specified topic	This is equivalent to Discussions; see help.blackboard.com/Learn/Instructor/Interact/Discussions for details A discussion associated to a content-item is equivalent to a Conversation in Ultra; see help.blackboard.com/Learn/Instructor/Interact/Ultra_Conversations for details
External Tool: create LTI links to an LTI Tool Provider	This is equivalent to the Teaching Tools with LTI connection; see help.blackboard.com/Learn/Instructor/Course_Content/Create_Content/Add_Content_From_External_Sources#ultra-content-market_OTP-2 for details

How may I export my Content from Blackboard Open Content?

1. Select "Download as Common Cartridge" from the Add button's context menu.



Creating a Collection...

A collection allows you to add multiple resources to your course at one time. Resources can be organized in a hierarchical structure, which is maintained when the collection is added to your course. [Tell me more...](#)



Literature 1

Collapse All

Select All

Select Action ▾

Add ▾

Search



- ▾ The Divine Comedy
 - The Inferno
 - Purgatorio
 - Paradiso
- Jerusalem Delivered

- Add to Course(s)...
- Add to Collection(s)...
- Add to Channel(s)...
- Add Collection to Favorites
- Download as Common Cartridge...

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2. Select "Copies" in the dialog box which appears

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Download Common Cartridge



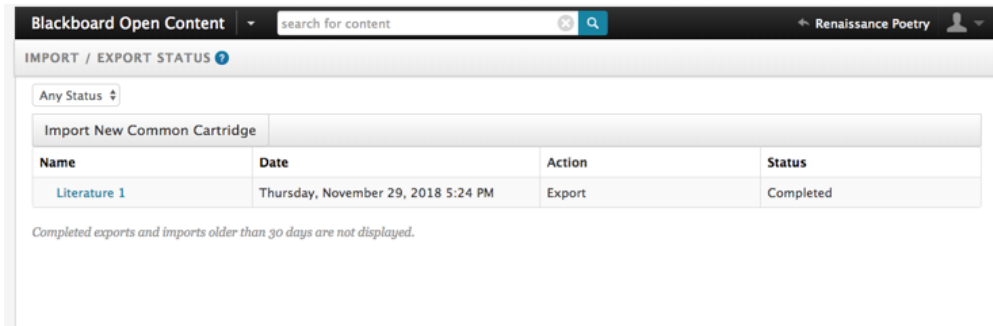
How should resources be included in the Common Cartridge package?

- Links ?
- Copies ?

Start Export

Cancel

3. Check the status of the export from the Import/Export Status page



1. Once the export shows a status of “Completed”, download the cartridge by clicking the name.

1. Import the cartridge into the LMS.

1. For additional information, see https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Instructor/Course_Content/Reuse_Content/Import_Course_Packages

What options are available for Content Search in Learn?

As part of the Learn backlog, we are currently researching available Content Search capabilities.

Blackboard Open LMS OR Blackboard Classroom Clients

How will current Blackboard Open LMS OR Blackboard Classroom customers be impacted?

- Any current Blackboard Classroom OR Blackboard Open LMS client instance will no longer have access to Blackboard Open Content on December 31, 2019
- Any current Blackboard Classroom OR Blackboard Open LMS client contract that includes the Premium version of Open Content with an expiration date beyond the End of Life date will be terminated on December 31, 2019.
- Any current Blackboard Open LMS client contract that includes the Premium version of Open Content which expires prior to the end-of-life date will have the option to terminate the contract at that point OR renew its contract and Blackboard Open Content Premium license through December 31, 2019 at a prorated rate.
- Termination of a customer’s Blackboard Open Content Premium contract does not impact use of other Blackboard products for which they’re contracted.

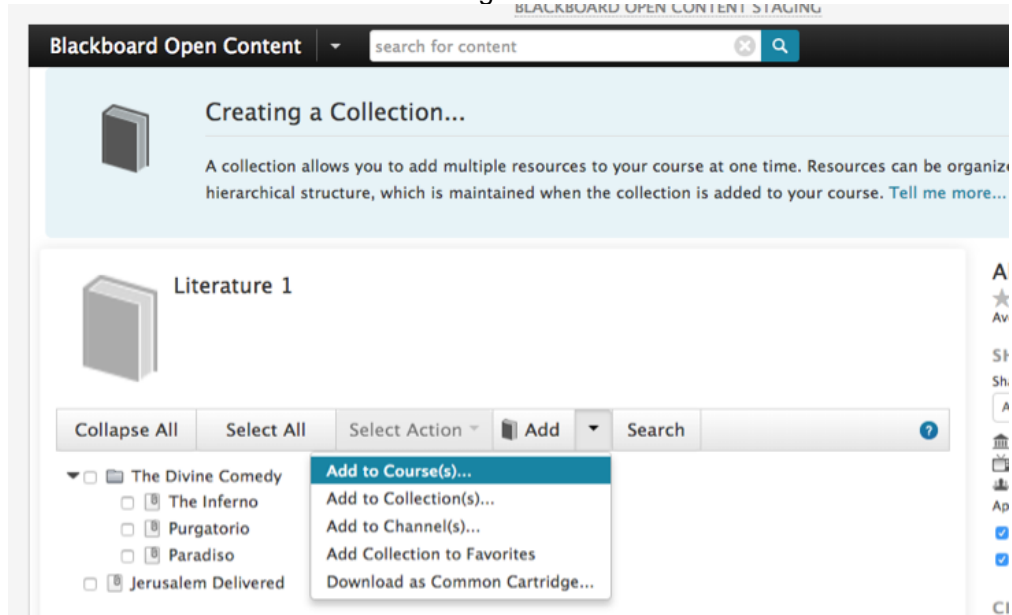
How may current customers use the Content Creation features in Blackboard Classroom OR Blackboard Open LMS?

Content Creation	
Open Content	Open LMS
Page: Create HTML content, which can be displayed natively within the browser.	This is equivalent to the Page Resource type; see docs.moodle.org/35/en/Page_resource for details

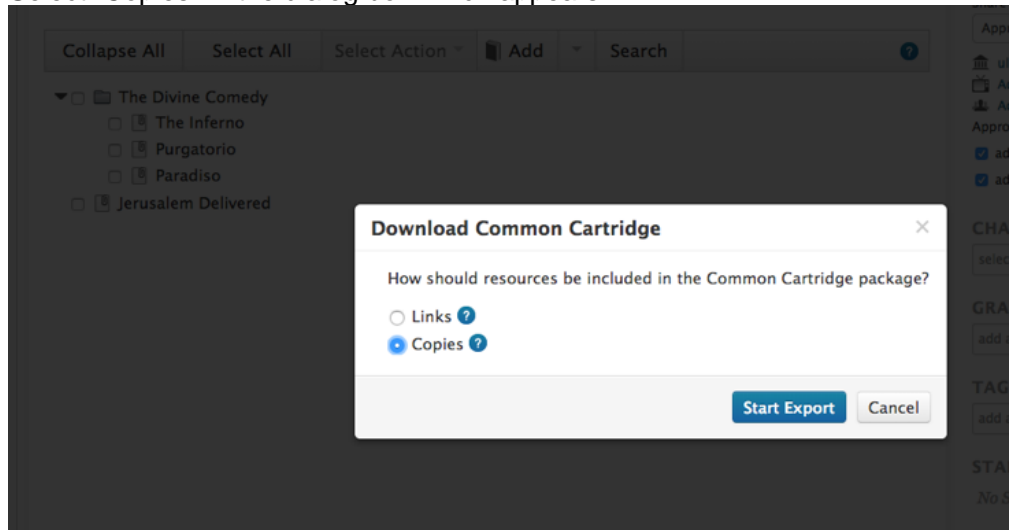
File: Upload files including audio, images, video or text.	This is equivalent to the File Resource type; see docs.moodle.org/35/en/File_resource for details
Link: Create links to web resources	This is equivalent to the URL Resource type; see docs.moodle.org/35/en/URL_resource for details
Quiz: create quizzes with essay, fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice, and true/false questions.	This is equivalent to the Quiz activity; see docs.moodle.org/35/en/Quiz_activity for details
Assignment: allow students to either upload submissions	This is equivalent to the Assignment activity; see docs.moodle.org/35/en/Assignment_activity for details
Discussion: create a forum with a specified topic	This is equivalent to Open Forums; see help.blackboard.com/Blackboard_Open_LMS/Student/Communicate/Participate_in_Discussions/Open_Forums for details
External Tool: create LTI links to an LTI Tool Provider	This is equivalent to the External Tool; see docs.moodle.org/35/en/External_tool for details
Collection: organize content into a folder structure for publishing to courses or sharing	This is not directly supported in Open LMS. Similar use cases may be covered with the Folder Resource or with a Lesson Activity; see docs.moodle.org/35/en/Folder_resource and docs.moodle.org/35/en/Lesson_activity for details

How may I export my Content from Blackboard Open Content?

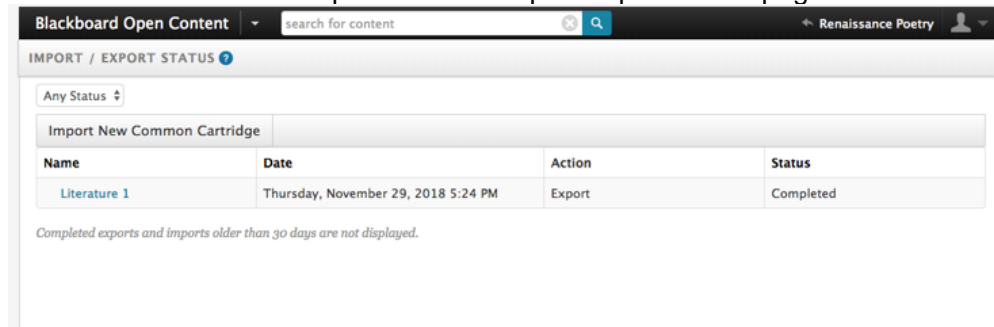
1. Select "Download as Common Cartridge" from the Add button's context menu



2. Select "Copies" in the dialog box which appears



3. Check the status of the export from the Import/Export Status page



4. Once the export shows a status of “Completed”, download the cartridge by clicking the name.

5. Import the cartridge into the LMS.

6. For additional information, see https://docs.moodle.org/35/en/IMS_Common_Cartridge_import_and_export

What options are available for Content Search in Blackboard Classroom OR Blackboard Open LMS?

- Open LMS provides support for global search starting version 3.5, which may partly replace content search features in Open Content. For details, see https://help.blackboard.com/es-es/Blackboard_Open_LMS/Administrator/Release_Notes/Release_Notes_2019_01/Blackboard_Open_LMS_3.5_Release_Notes for additional details.
- The Open LMS team is targeting research on available Content Search capabilities.