UA’s May 2018 Blackboard Upgrade Highlights

After the conclusion of the Spring 2018 semester, UA’s instance of Blackboard will be upgraded to version 9.1, Q4 2017. This update will give our Blackboard users several new features, to include:

- **Drag and drop files** – You can now quickly and easily drag and drop files from your desktop to the “hot spot” in the Attach Files area to upload them. Students can also drag and drop files to upload when they submit assignments.

![Drag and drop files](image1)

- **Delete multiple gradebook columns**
  The #1 requested feature voted by Blackboard clients, you can now delete multiple gradebook columns at once making managing the gradebook even easier.

![Delete multiple gradebook columns](image2)

- **Chemistry notation support** – Chemistry tools, like an embedded periodic table of elements, are now included in the math editor found in the Content Editor.

![Chemistry notation support](image3)
• **Discussion board “replies to me.”** Keeping up with large discussion board forums is easier with a new count and filter to quickly identify unread replies to your own posts.

![Discussion Board](Image)

• **Additional accessibility enhancements** To improve accessibility, ARIA landmarks have been incorporated in the course menu and the content area to better define the page structure and assist users with screen readers in navigating page elements.

• **Improved grading with rubrics** - You can now save feedback and the content will remain saved when changing the rubric’s view from in-line to full screen.

• **Submission receipts** – Keep track of all student submissions, regardless of whether the attempt or assignment is deleted or the submission history is changed. A submission receipt gives students assurance about their work and can provide evidence for academic disputes.

• **Grade Center improvements** – When multiple-attempt assessments are set to calculate using the first or last attempt, a new filter is available both in the Needs Grading workflow and the Grade Center to show or hide other non-counted attempts.

For more information, contact the Faculty Resource Center at 205.348.3532 or frc@ua.edu or visit our website at [http://frc.ua.edu](http://frc.ua.edu).

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