Navigating your Blackboard Course for Students

After completing the steps in this lesson, users will be able to perform the following:

- Access the Course News page
- Navigate within their Blackboard course site

Navigating the Course News page

The first page that users usually encounter when logging into Blackboard is the Course News page. This page displays information about new course content, announcements and due dates. The information on this page can be customized by the instructor or students, if the instructor enables this feature.
Navigating the Course Menu

When you log into your course site, you will notice a menu like the one above on the left hand side of the course menu. The links in this menu will direct you to the course lecture materials, supplemental resources, course assessments, and communication tools. Please keep in mind that instructors can copy the course menu to suit their own needs, so the links in your own Blackboard course may be different than those shown in the image above. Below is an overview of the different types of links you are likely to encounter in your Blackboard course:

1. The red rectangle includes helpful links for students to access when beginning the course. Links such as Start Here, Syllabus, and Course Information will provide students with course policies, assignment schedules, and a welcome message from the course instructor.

2. In many courses, lecture materials will be grouped by course modules or units. To access your course lectures, you would want to look for a link labeled "Learning Modules, Course Units, or Course Content," as designated by the dark blue rectangle.

3. The light blue rectangle provides links to where students can take exams or submit assignments in their Blackboard Course. Some common headings include Assessments, Test Center, Assignments, and Quizzes and Exams

4. Links to course communication tools are highlighted in the green rectangle. These links allow students to access course tools such as course messages, discussion boards, blogs, and journals.

5. The orange link shows where students should click to see the grades they have earned on individual assignments in Blackboard. This link is usually labeled My Grades, or Grade Book

6. The purple link shows the Learner Support link. The Learner Support provides students with information on how to solve technical issues, and access other services to be successful in their online course.