

Whiteboard Backend Manual

1. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the User Manual for Whiteboard! Whiteboard is a powerful app designed to cater specifically to the needs of university students seeking a modern replacement for traditional systems like Blackboard. With its intuitive interface and comprehensive features, Whiteboard aims to revolutionize the way students organize and track their homework and coursework. This manual will guide you through the various functionalities of Whiteboard, enabling you to make the most of this innovative app and enhance your academic journey. From assignment management to collaborative tools, Whiteboard offers a seamless and efficient digital platform for students to stay on top of their academic responsibilities. Let's delve into the world of Whiteboard and discover how it can streamline your university experience.

2. GENERAL WARNINGS

Before running Whiteboard, we request that you read this manual in full. The following warnings must be understood before running the program.

- **It is entirely possible to be temporarily, or even permanently, banned from using the Blackboard interface if this program is over-used in its current state.**
- **We, the Whiteboard team, hold no responsibility regarding loss of academic work or academic standing due to the use of this program.**

3. REQUIREMENTS

Before running Whiteboard, you must make sure that all of the requirements have been downloaded. To do this, please make sure that you have a version of python greater than 3.0 downloaded. Once downloaded, please open up a terminal in the directory containing requirements.txt and run `pip install -r requirements.txt`. Once all of the python packages have been downloaded, please make sure that you have JavaScript installed onto your computer.

4. SETUP

For the program to download your information, we need to update the headers used to connect to the Blackboard servers. To do this, follow these instructions.

1. Please go to [Blackboard](#), then navigate using the sidebar menu to the calendar. (Image 1)
2. Once there, please two finger / left click the mouse, and at the bottom of the popup menu please click *inspect*. (Image 2)
3. After the sidebar has popped up, please click *Network* at the top of the popup. (Image 3a)
4. Click on the filter button (Image 3b), then on *Doc* selector (Image 3c)
5. Using your blackboard calendar, please select an assignment that is not a discussion board and open it up. After doing so, two pieces of information should be displayed within the window shown (Image 4). Click on either of these.
6. Select *headers* (Image 5a), then scroll down to *Request Headers* (Image 5b).
7. Copy (cmd / ctrl + c) all of *Cookie* (Image 6)
8. Return to the directory that this file is from and open up */Blackboard/assignment_headers.json* in a text editor.
9. Replace the entry for *cookie* with the cookie that has been copy and pasted.

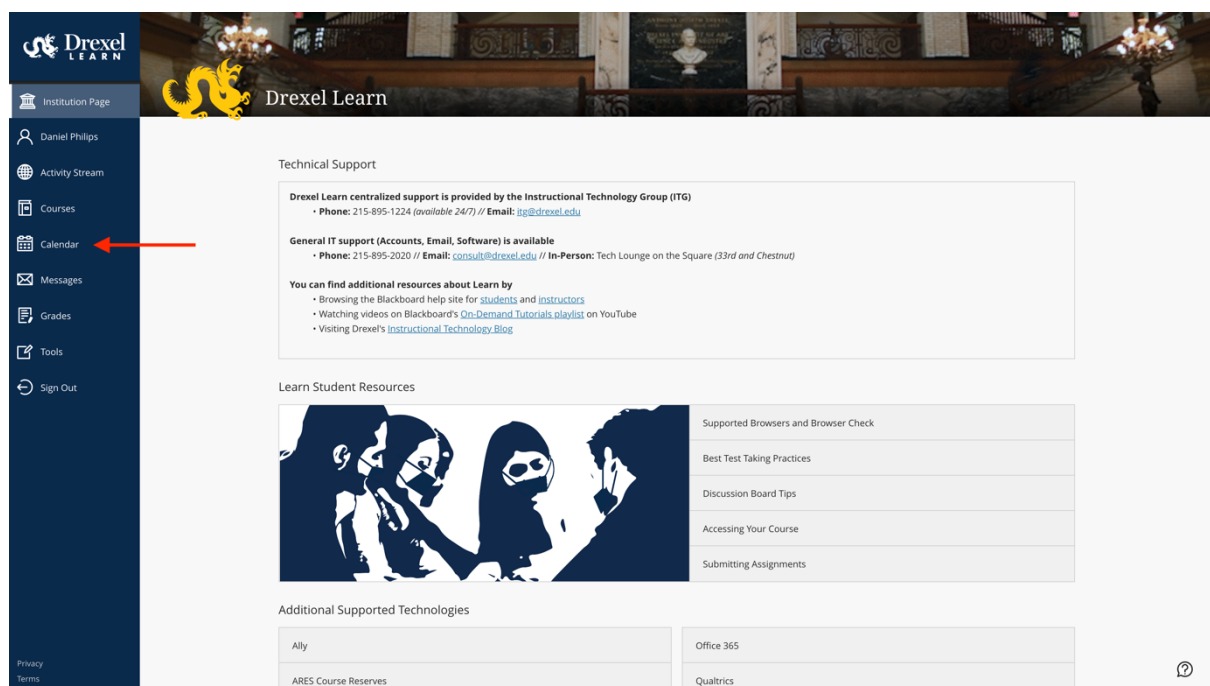


Image 1

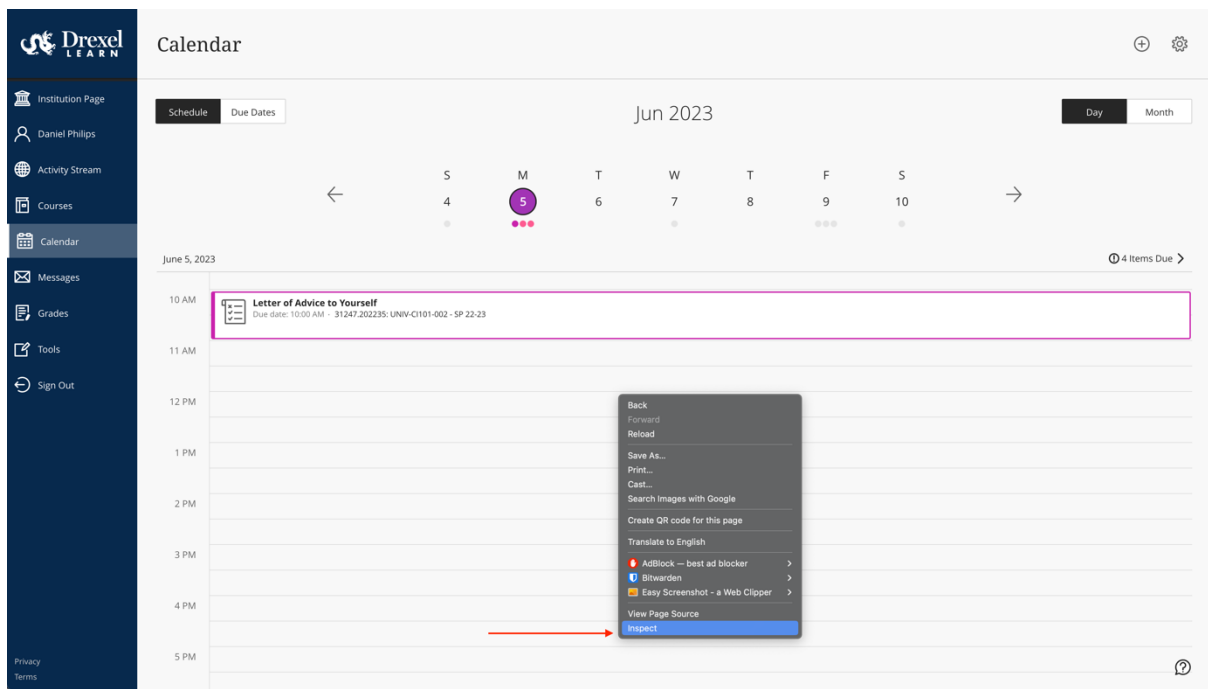


Image 2

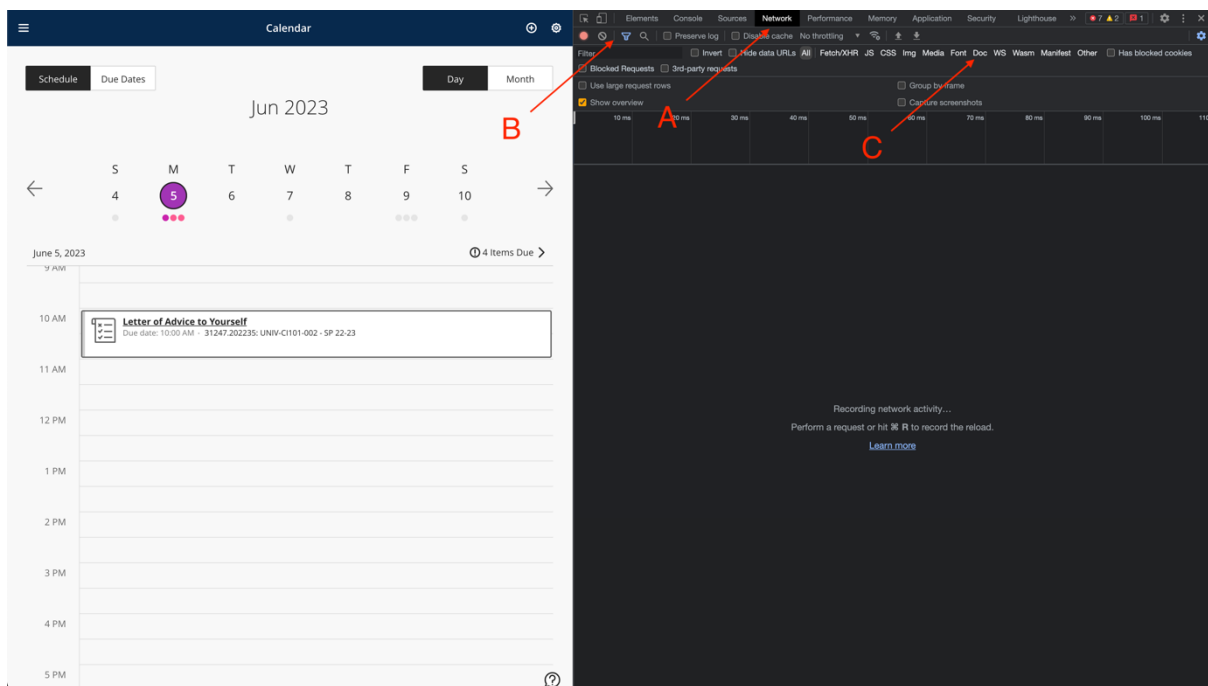


Image 3

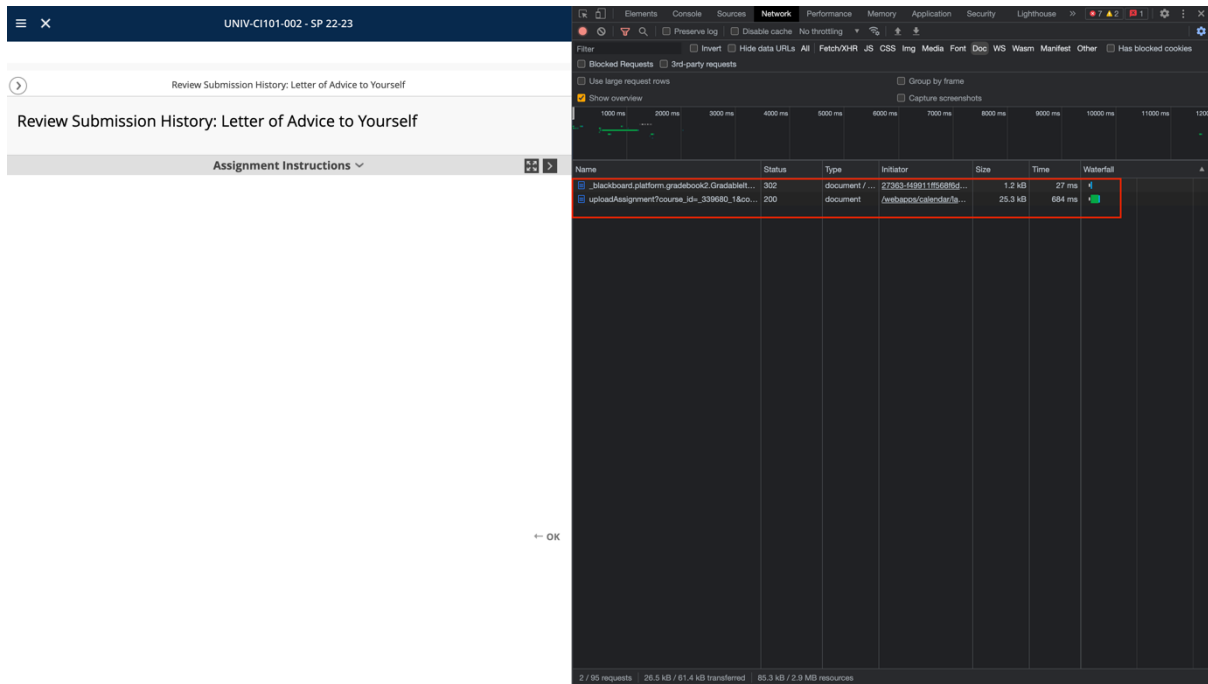


Image 4

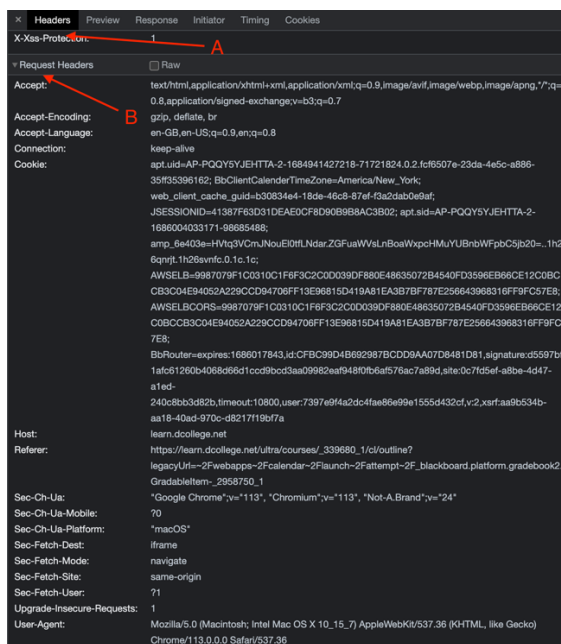


Image 5

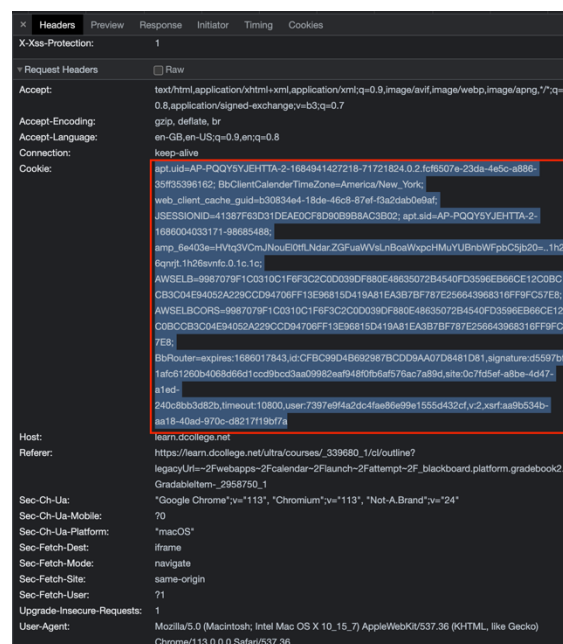


Image 6

5. STARTUP

Once the header has been updated, please open a terminal in the home folder directory of this project. Then within the terminal type either `python backend_flask.py` or `python3 backend_flask.py`. Your output should look similar to Image 7 below. Don't worry if it takes up to 15 seconds to boot up. If it does not look similar or an error is thrown, please contact Daniel Philips

at dap372@drexel.edu. If everything has worked, please navigate to your browser and enter the URL <http://localhost:2000>.

```
daniel@n3-115-41 bbblearn % python3 backend_flask.py
Output_Parser created
Input_Parser created
** created Blackboard_Calendar instance **
Input_Parser created
https://learn.dcollege.net/webapps/calendar/calendarFeed/c2d84bf6673c402cb557f2a84ddabd87/learn.ics
Created input parser for persistent data
* Serving Flask app 'backend_flask'
* Debug mode: off
WARNING: This is a development server. Do not use it in a production deployment. Use a production WSGI server instead.
* Running on all addresses (0.0.0.0)
* Running on http://127.0.0.1:2000
* Running on http://10.250.115.41:2000
Press CTRL+C to quit
```

Image 7

Please refer to the Fronted manual for the next steps.

5. ERROR HANDLING

If you receive an error stating that you have to update your cookies, please refer to step 4 of this manual, and then continue according to the rest of the steps.

Once again, for any errors please contact dap372@drexel.edu