

USER MANUAL ASSESSMENT FOLDER

ASSESSMENT TOOLS
BUILDING BLOCK VERSION: 3.1



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PREFACE

The Assessment Folder is a Blackboard tool built to let instructors present several assessment items as a single exam and to manage it in an easy way. Students taking the exam get a clear overview of their progress during the exam. Instructors can print their exam at once, collect or print individual student submissions and grade all the assignments.

Additionally, using the Assessment Folder protects exam content from unauthorized access: all items can be protected by an IP restriction.

INSTRUCTOR FUNCTIONALITY

As an instructor you can add several assessment items to a folder. Static items to provide instructions, essay assignments and Blackboard tests are currently supported. Essay assignments can be used to let students write their answer in a Word-like editor in which you can set a limit to the number of words and students will have a continuous backup available. Blackboard tests can be used to compose a test of different question types, like multiple choice, matching and ordering, calculated formulas, etc.

The folder provides easier ways to grade your student's essay submissions by displaying them student-by-student, assignment-by-assignment, in a matrix-wise view or to print them. You could also print the complete exam for archiving purposes, for students with special needs or for emergencies.

The following screenshots give a first impression of the way an Assessment Folder looks. Figure 1 shows the instructor manage view in which you design your exam and manage it during the test or afterwards. Figure 2 shows the student view with the personal progress badges on the right.

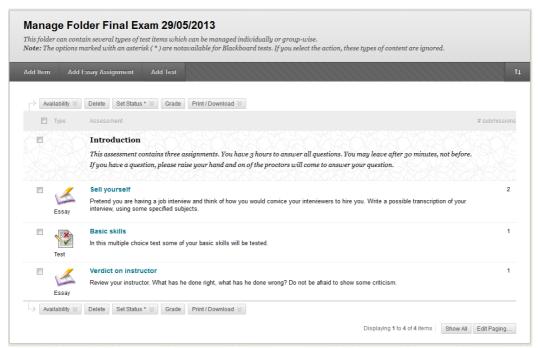


Figure 1: Instructor manage view for an Assessment Folder

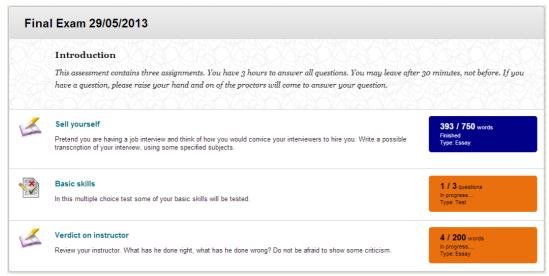


Figure 2: The corresponding student view.

CREATING AN ASSESSMENT FOLDER

- Open the course in which the Assessment Folder should be created
- Open/make a content area
- Under Build Content, navigate to Assessment Folder
- The screen on the next page appears:
- 1. Fill in the title and description of the Assessment Folder
- 2. Choose whether you would like to create a course menu button for the Assessment Folder or to just show the folder on the page where you created it. If you choose to move the folder to the course menu it will not be visible on the current page anymore.
- 3. Choose which computers may access this folder:
 - No restrictions, every computer can have access
 - Only RUG computers can have access
 - Only AJH computers (row A-L) can have access
 - Only test range can have access (not applicable for regular courses)
 - Custom ranges can have access (enter IP-addresses manually)

4. Choose:

- The availability of this item for users
- Whether or not the number of views need to be tracked
- Possible date restrictions.
- 5. Submit your settings

An empty Assessment Folder is created and you can start creating your assessment content. You can always return to the settings screen by selecting an Edit from the dropdown menu next to your folder title (both from the screen in Figure 1 and from the content area in which the folder is placed).

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Figure 3: Assessment Folder creation settings.

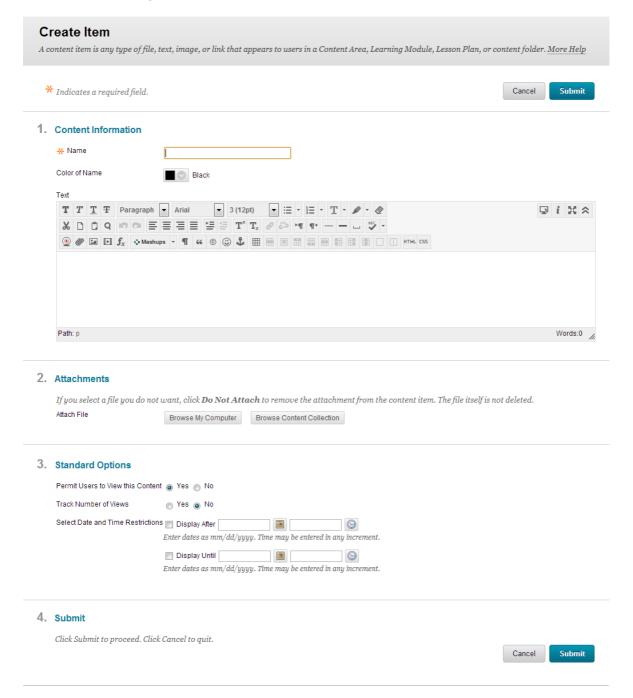
CREATING CONTENT IN THE ASSESSMENT FOLDER

Create static item

An item is a type of file, text or image that appears to users to provide them with instructions or an introduction on a specific subject.

How to create an Item:

- Open the Assessment Folder
- Click Add Item
- The following screen appears
- Create a regular Blackboard item

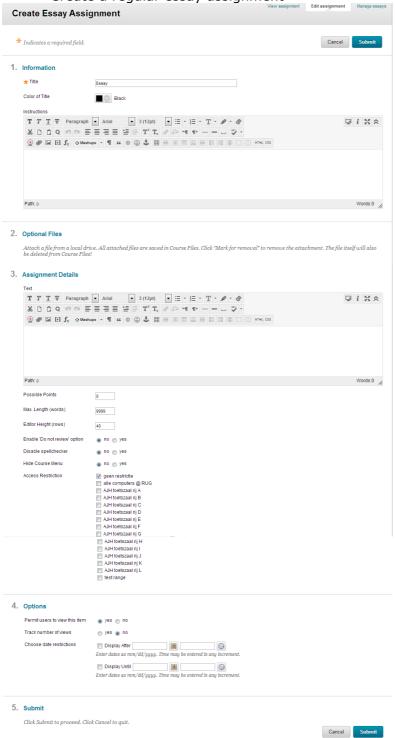


Create Essay Assignment

An essay assignment is an essay which can be completed by students and can be graded by course instructors or graders.

How to create an Essay Assignment:

- Open the Assessment Folder
- Click Add Essay Assignment
- Following screen appears
- Create a regular essay assignment

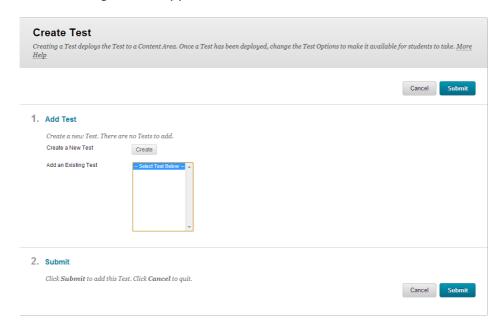


Create a Test

A Test can contain multiple questions of several types, like multiple choice, numeric answer, etc. Note that grading tests and providing feedback takes place through Blackboard's Grade Center.

How to create a Test:

- Open the Assessment Folder
- Click **Add Test**
- The following screen appears

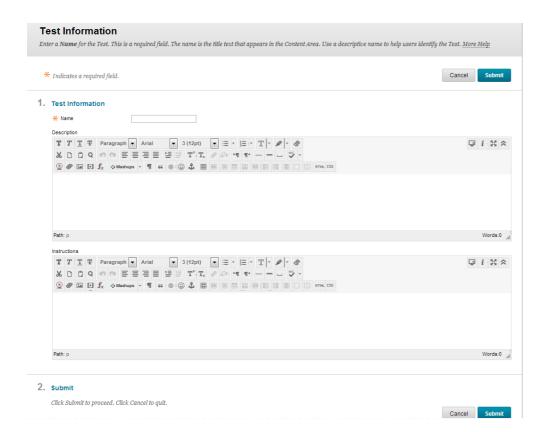


Add existing Test:

- Choose an existing test
- Submit the test

Add new Test

- Navigate to 'create'
- The following screen appears (see next page)
- Create regular Blackboard Test, check for more information the standard Blackboard user manual



Create a Questionmark Test (QMP)

If you have the Questionmark Building Block installed, you can also choose to add a Questionmark Schedule to the folder. Click the **Add Questionmark** and follow the regular steps to add a Questionmark Schedule.

Further integration of Questionmark Schedules is limited, but an instructor can see the number of students that have completed the assessment in the Assessment Folder management screen.

Note: The number of completed submissions is only available for schedules that report their scores back into the Blackboard Grade Center.

Create an Assignment

In cases where students should hand in a document – or multiple – you can choose to add an assignment. Note that most exam situations currently limit the student to using web applications only. In that case, they cannot work with exams and hence cannot use this type of content.

Click the **Add Assignment** button to create an assignment and follow the steps to complete the creation of this content type. Submissions can be downloaded from the grade center (by assignment) or by using **Print / Download > Download Submissions**.

THE STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

When the student navigates to the Assessment Folder he will see the following screen, showing the contents of the folder and his personal progress in the badges on the right:



Figure 4: Initial student view for a folder.

The way students interact with essay assignments or regular Blackboard tests does not change. After saving contents for an item, or submitting it, the student is returned to the Assessment Folder screen which then indicates the updated progress:



Figure 5: Student view after making some progress.

The student can continue to work on the Essay Assignments until he is finished. He can then finalize all assignments individually or use the "Finalize all assignments" button to finalize all items at once. The Assignments can now be graded.

Note that only essay assignments can be finalized this way; Tests have to be finalized separately.

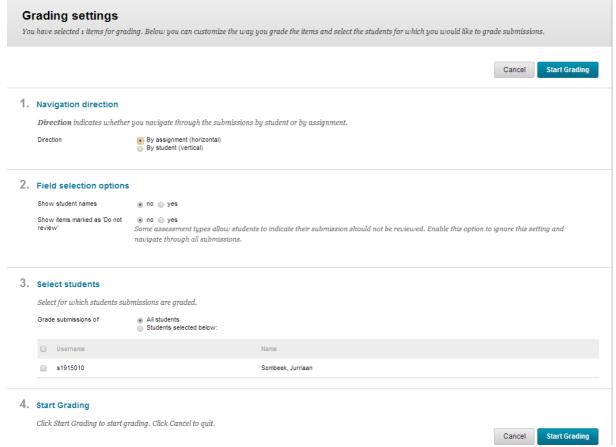


Figure 6: Student view after completing the test and finalizing the essay assignment.

GRADING THE ASSESSMENT FOLDER

How to grade the assessment folder:

- Navigate to the Assessment Folder
- Select the Essay Assignments which need to be graded
- The following screen appears:



- 1. Select the direction of grading. Navigating through submissions is possible by assignment or by student.
- 2. Select the visibility of student names and the visibility of items marked as 'Do not review'.
- 3. Select the students who need to be graded
- 4. The Grade view, as in Figure 7, is opened. On the left a submission is shown, on the right you can provide a grade and feedback. Navigation works as follows:
 - a. Depending on the "Navigate by" choice, the blue Previous and Next button navigate to another student or another assignment.
 - b. In the matrix below these buttons all submissions are listed with their status or grade if available. Click on a cell to open the corresponding attempt.
 - c. Upon switching to another submission, your input in Grade and Feedback is saved; the cell is red during saving and becomes green after the grade was saved.

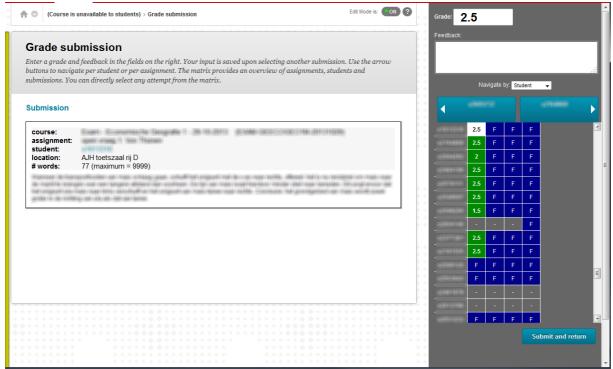


Figure 7: Grade view (personal data is blurred)

PRINTING THE ASSESSMENTFOLDER

From within the Assessment Folder you can print the assessment definition, to create a paper version of the exam, or you can print all the student submissions.

PRINT ASSESSMENT DEFINITION

In case you would like to print the questions as they are defined, you can take the following steps.

- Navigate to the Assessment Folder
- Select the items that should be printed (or select all using the topmost checkbox)
- Click Print/Download > Print question definitions
- Select whether you would like to insert page breaks between each item or not
- Click Print
- You will see a popup from your browser asking which printer to use, select the print options you normally use and click Ok.
- The print operation is starting and you can click "< Back" to return to your folder.

Note: questions in a Test that are randomly selected from a pool are selected during the print operation. As a consequence, performing the print action twice might deliver different results.

PRINT STUDENT SUBMISSIONS

You can choose to print all student submissions. Currently only the submissions for essay assignments can be printed.

- Navigate to the Assessment Folder
- Select the Essay Assignments for which submissions need to be printed
- The following screen appears:

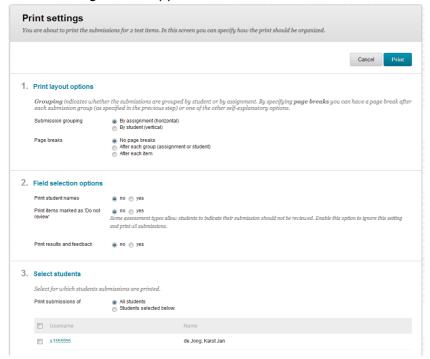


Figure 8: Several print options for printing student submissions.

- 1. Select the layout options for printing. Grouping submissions is possible by assignment or by student. Select whether you want page breaks.
- 2. Select the visibility of student names and the visibility of items marked as 'Do not review'. Also select whether you want to print results (grades) and instructor feedback.
- 3. Select the students for which submissions are printed or select all.
- 4. Click print to start the printing process.
- 5. You will see a popup from your browser asking which printer to use, select the print options you normally use and click Ok.
- 6. The print operation is starting and you can click "< Back" to return to your folder.

DOWNLOADING SUBMISSIONS

Using the Assessment Folder you can download the submissions for multiple exam items at once. Essay submissions are converted to printable HTML files which you can open in Microsoft Word. Submissions for Blackboard Assignments are directly included in the resulting ZIP-file.

To download submissions select the applicable content items and choose **Print / Download > Download submissions**.

OVERVIEW OF AVAILABLE OPTIONS

In the Assessment Folder you can add several different assessment items. Due to technical reasons, some options are not available for some types of content. The table below indicates which tools are available for which item types:

	Bb			Q	
	Item	Essay	Test	QMP Test	Assignment
Set availability / Delete	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Finalize / Reopen	×	~	×	*	×
Grade	×	✓		*	
Download / Print submissions	×	~	√		✓ (download only)
Print questions	→	√	✓	*	✓

[✓] Option is supported.

(empty) Not supported, but might be supported in future versions.

[×] Will not be supported.