

## Blackboard 9.1 Upgrade Status Announcement for Faculty (May 2012)



To: All Queens College Faculty  
From: Ken Lord  
Date: May 8, 2012  
Re: CUNY Upgrade to Blackboard 9.1 Status Update

Dear Colleagues:

As we approach the end of the Spring 2012 semester, there are several key Blackboard Upgrade updates we'd like to tell you about.

The end of the semester brings us to several milestones in the timeline of the project. For complete information about the upgrade, please visit [www.cuny.edu/blackboard](http://www.cuny.edu/blackboard)

Please note that during the transition from Bb8 to Bb9 not all courses will be available at all times:

### May 2012

- 5/18: All courses and organizations NOT for Spring 2012 moved to new Blackboard environment.
- 5/18 – 6/14: Spring 2012 courses and organizations continue uninterrupted in original Blackboard 8.0 environment.
- 5/18 – 5/24: Upgrade new environment to Blackboard 9.1. **Courses and organizations in the new environment will be unavailable during the upgrade.**
- 5/24: New Blackboard 9.1 environment comes up. Summer Course development resumes.
- 5/24 – 6/14: **Two active Blackboard environments.** Original Bb 8.0 for all Spring 2012 courses and organizations, New Bb 9.1 for all other courses since Spring 2011 and organizations.
- 5/29: First Summer 2012 courses begin in new Blackboard 9.1 environment. SafeAssign will be temporarily unavailable in Blackboard 9.1.

### June 2012

- 6/15: At end of Spring 2012 for all schools, original Blackboard 8.0 environment becomes unavailable.
- 6/15: SafeAssign available in Blackboard 9.1.
- 6/19: Archiving all Spring 2012 courses out of old environment and restoring them to new Blackboard 9.1 environment begins. This process is expected to take several weeks, during which time the courses will be unavailable.
- 6/27: Fall '12 course shells are created in new Blackboard 9.1 environment.

Faculty are being encouraged to develop their Summer 2012 Blackboard courses as soon as possible, as these courses will be unavailable during the actual upgrade. However, faculty will be able to access courses in the new Blackboard 9.1 environment several days before Summer classes start.

We also would like to draw your attention to the unavailability of SafeAssign at the very start of the Summer semester. Safe Assign will be available through the end of the Spring 2012 term for all schools in Blackboard 8.0. Once this term is completed, Safe Assign will be made available in the new Blackboard 9.1 system.

Please also note that only courses from Spring 2011 and newer are being brought into Blackboard 9.1. Once the Spring 2012 term is complete, the Blackboard 8.0 environment will be upgraded and all the Spring 2012 courses will be brought over to the new Blackboard 9.1 environment. During this time, these Spring 2012 courses will not be available. This period of time will be several weeks, so if you urgently require access to any of those courses, we encourage you to work with your campus Blackboard staff to create locally archived copies beforehand or request CIS to bring the course over as soon as the migration schedule allows. We apologize for the impact this may have on incompletes, and will endeavor to make this time frame as brief as possible.

The new CUNY Blackboard Information website is live at [www.cuny.edu/blackboard](http://www.cuny.edu/blackboard), and contains detailed information on the upgrade, user guides, and registration information for online training sessions. Please feel free to contact me at [bbsupport@qc.cuny.edu](mailto:bbsupport@qc.cuny.edu) with questions, concerns, or your thoughts on the upgrade.