

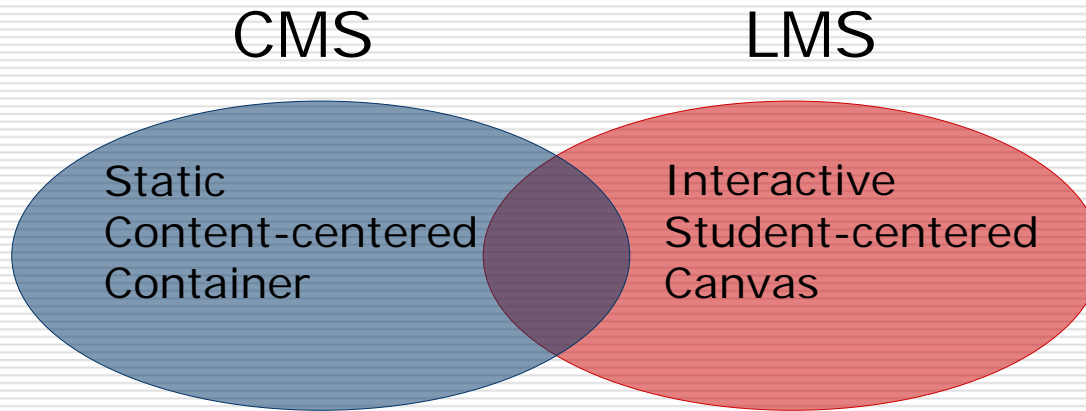
# Blackboard Learn™: The Move from "Course" Management to "Learning" Management

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Teresa Acosta, Ph.D.  
Instructional Designer,  
Faculty Development and Instructional Support  
University of Houston  
Texas Distance Learning Association,  
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# Course Management (CMS) vs. Learning Management (LMS)

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# Blackboard NG (next generation)

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- Blackboard's Next generation includes:
    - Blackboard Learn 9—learning management system (**focus of this presentation**)
    - Community Systems—outside of course; community outreach
    - Content Systems—file repository
    - Outcomes—assessment at all levels, institution, program, course, individual
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# Challenges of Higher Education

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- Learn 9 is coming out at a critical time for higher education
    - Squeezed budgets and tuition increases
    - Rise of non-traditional student
    - Content is getting cheaper
    - Technology is getting cheaper
    - Rise of alternatives to traditional higher education (OCW, for profits)
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# What SHOULD make the difference?

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- Feeling of community
  - Scholarship
  - Quality of the instruction
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# The Purposes of Learning Technology

Joshua Kim argues that learning technology should:

“...Make big classes feel like seminars

...Provide mechanisms to evaluate and improve learning

...Make the curriculum and the method of teaching relevant to student lives

...Move students from consumers to creators of knowledge...”

Inside Higher Education, *Technology and Learning* blog, retrieved 1/5/2010

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# Facets of the Tutorial System

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- Small class size
  - Instructor guides, comments, questions
  - Students prepare
  - Students present
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So is Learn 9 there yet?



# Blackboard Learn 9 offers

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J. Kim	Learn 9
Seminar feel	More collaboration tools
Better evaluation and learning tools	Learn 9 is a start
Relevant curriculum and instruction	Still the instructor role!
Consumers to creators	A few more tools

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# Wish List Themes

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- Student performance;
  - Student presentation tools;
  - Publishing outside of the course/  
institutional data mining;
  - Just-in-time technology tutorials;
  - Grading/marking features;
  - Brainstorming/group-think tools;
  - General student resources
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# Wish List Caveats

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- I am NOT a programmer
  - Technologies may not be possible NOW
  - Review of the Learn 9 playground/notes only
  - Review from a Blackboard Vista perspective
  - Idea is available in 3<sup>rd</sup> party software
  - Open to debate and expansion/contraction
  - Focus is on the learner
  - "Content" more than technology
  - More thought for some ideas than others
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# Student Performance Features

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- Available to Instructors
    - Early warning/alert system
    - Dashboard (tracking)
    - Basic statistics for grade column
    - Some ability to manipulate grade center columns
    - Limited grade book (center) reporting enhancements
    - Adaptive release
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# Student Performance Features

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## □ Wish

- Robust reporting features by student, class, group, etc
  - “Participation” column (attendance, postings, peer reviews, submissions)
  - Goals are dropped (available in Outcomes—separate license)
  - Grading forms (Outcomes—separate license)
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# Example of a Report

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- By course
    - Go to grade center
    - Query  $<70\%$  for homework quiz 3
    - Results → number of students, by name
  
  - Then by student, Student John Doe
    - Number of Attempts
    - Average grade on attempts
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# What could this report tell the instructor?

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- ❑ How many people did not pass the homework
  - ❑ How many attempts are failing students taking on a quiz
  - ❑ What can be done different? Item analysis?
  - ❑ Re-teaching before midterm; fine-tune tutorial or review sheet
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# Example of participation data

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- Tracking information that could be moved to grade center reporting:
    - Attendance (log in; clicker info)
    - No. of postings (discussions, blogs, etc)
    - No. of peer reviews
    - No. of submissions (assignments; assessments)
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# Student Performance (Personal Tracking Tool)

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- Available to students
    - Notifications that items are due
    - Early warnings
    - Both subject to instructor set-up
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# Student Performance (Personal Tracking Tool)

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## Wish

- Track own participation (e.g., number of posts, peer reviews, assessments taken, submissions, etc)
  - Am I hitting the various marks?
  - How am I doing compared to the class?
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# Student Presentation Tools

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## Available

- Media file in HTML tool in Learn
- Slideshare
- Virtual classroom (chat/whiteboard); web page sharing

## Wish

- Robust chat/whiteboard tool—limited math/science symbols, no foreign language characters, no chart/graphing tools
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# Publishing Outside of the Course

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- May be available through the Community Engagement in NG Portal(?)
    - Showcase student work
    - Refereed journals
    - Faculty writing
    - Virtual institutional conference
    - Search-engine features for institutional (academic) data-mining
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# Just-in-time Technology Tutorials

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## □ Available

- Blackburn and Saville pushed Bb to create tutorials for Learn 9.1
  - On-Demand Learning Center
  - Upload institution-created tutorials (Learning Center in the Portal?)
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# Grading/Marking Features

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## Wish

- Annotation/commenting within the document
  - Audio commentary on student work
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# Brainstorming/Group-think Tools

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## Available

- Students can create their own groups
- Wikis
- Group file storage
- A few chat room enhancements (virtual classroom)

## Wish

- Mind-mapping tools
  - Text dissecting; sentence diagramming
  - Note-taking tools
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# General Student Resources

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- Available
    - Thesaurus
    - Scholar (bookmarking Building Block)
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# General Student Resources

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## □ Wish

- APA, MLA, style manuals, grammar tools, etc
  - Research “cards”
  - Note-taking, annotating
  - Calculators
  - Dictionary, course glossary, etc
  - Maps
  - Graphing, charting, etc. tools
  - Clip art
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# Audience Additions to the List

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- Faculty would like to see exactly what students see (without adding a student account).
  - Would like to print individual student profiles.
  - Want the ability to have new windows open within the frame.
  - Announcements--Text messaging capabilities.
  - Email progress reports with comments.
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Please add to the Wish List

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Email me: [tyacosta@uh.edu](mailto:tyacosta@uh.edu)

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# Some Arguments Against the List

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- ❑ Not much incentive for Blackboard to add extra or existing technologies
  - ❑ Powerlinks/Building blocks or other applications could take care of it
  - ❑ More work for institution IT staff
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# Questions? Comments?

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Thank you!

This presentation will be added to the TXDLA  
website.

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