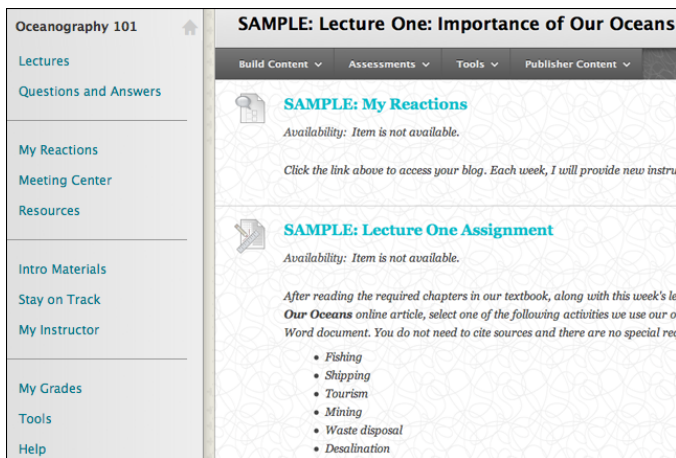# Course Structure: By Lecture

One of the most common ways to deliver course content to students is through lectures. In Blackboard Learn, you can ask students to read your lectures, listen to a recording of your voice, or view slide presentations of the material. You can add dimension to your lectures with videos that you create or links to external multimedia sources.

You can use other tools to encourage students to interact with you and other course members. Your lectures can stimulate students to reflect on their experiences and learning in the **My Reactions** blog and the **Questions and Answers** discussion forums.

This course structure works well for large introductory courses at the university or post-graduate level where lectures are the primary delivery method.

What does the course menu look like?

Using your course menu

The following table describes the content areas and course tools included in the By Lecture course structure.

Content Type	Description
Lectures	**Lectures** is your central instructor-designed content area. To provide your students with an easy-to-navigate and familiar environment, you can create folders for each lecture. Include similar content, such as objectives, readings, instructions, assignments, and your lectures in varying formats to spark interest.
Questions and Answers	You can use the **Questions and Answers** discussion forums for formal assignments, such as posing weekly questions related to lecture topics, and for informal interactions, where students ask and respond to each other's questions. You can create gradable discussion forums and threads to assess students' participation and knowledge. After each lecture, ask reflective questions to invoke conversation around your lectures. What is the critical message of this lecture?

Content Type	Description
	What would you do in this particular situation? How would you approach solving this problem?
My Reactions	**My Reactions** links to your course's individual blogs. Students can make a blog entry after each lecture so they have a space to think through aspects of the material they find interesting or challenging. You can ask students to answer a specific question or allow them to react freely to your presentation. Students can extend classroom conversations by commenting on each other's blog entries. You can help them develop their thoughts by offering encouragement, more background information, and supplementary resources.
Meeting Center	Use the live, text-based chat feature in **Meeting Center** for additional class meetings, question-and-answer sessions, real-time interaction in asynchronous courses, and virtual office hours. As thought-provoking questions arise in the discussion forums, schedule chat sessions so students can continue the conversations live. Follow up the session with discussion questions that require students to comment on the ideas presented in your lecture and the chat session.
Resources	In the **Resources** content area, you can share additional material so interested students can learn more. Help students expand on the information presented in your lectures by directing them to specific web articles and recommended reading. Students can also use these resources to find topics for projects or papers.
Intro Materials	In the **Intro Materials** content area, provide materials that students can access throughout the semester. Include a syllabus or other basics, such as grading policies, a lecture schedule, textbook information, and important dates. If chat sessions are mandatory, be sure to list dates so students can adjust their schedules.
Stay on Track	The customizable **Stay on Track** module page provides students with a single place to go for an overview of current course information such as **Announcements**, **My Calendar**, **To Do**, **What's New**, and **My Tasks**.
My Instructor	**My Instructor** links to the **Contacts** tool. Create profiles for yourself, other instructors, teaching assistants, and guest lecturers participating in your course. Include contact information such as email addresses and phone numbers, and office hours, and location.
My Grades	Students can see the status of gradable items such as assignments, tests, and discussion posts on their **My Grades** pages.
Tools	Give students access to all available course tools on a single page. Add commonly used course tools to the course menu for easy access.
Help	Blackboard Help contains searchable how-to information. Students in need of additional assistance should contact the institution's computing help desk.

Customize the course structure by renaming, removing, hiding, or adding content areas and links to tools.