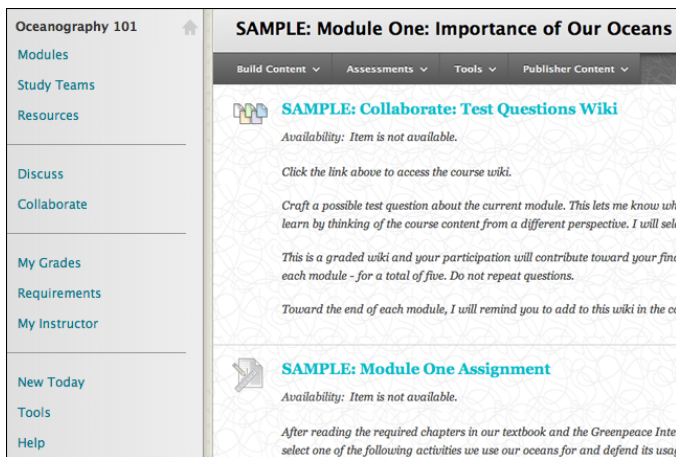


Course Structure: By Module

A module is an independent unit or lesson. Modules are usually self-contained and students can access them in any order, making them suitable for self-paced courses. For example, an astronomy course might present each planet's information and assignments as a distinct module so that students can select which planet to explore first.

Use the **Collaborate** wiki and **Discuss** forums to help students work together on course content and connect with each other. To further encourage cooperation, use the **Study Teams** area to assign students to smaller group discussions, research assignments, and projects.

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 Module course structure.

Content Type	Description
Modules	Modules is your central instructor-designed content area. Use folders to organize content you want to share with students, such as handouts, lectures, readings, assignments, and tests. If your course's modules are larger topics, create a folder for each module, and then folders inside that to break content up by unit or week. Providing students with a similar layout in each folder helps them find information easily.
Study Teams	Create private, collaborative workspaces in Study Teams for smaller sections of students to build knowledge together. You can change the composition and size of groups throughout the course, and vary the tools available to the group depending on each module or project's goals or content.
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

Content Type	Description
	the modules by directing them to specific web articles and recommended reading. Students can also use these resources to find topics for projects or papers.
Discuss	You can use the Discuss forums for formal assignments, such as posing weekly questions related to the 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 module, ask reflective questions to invoke conversation. What is the critical message of this topic? What would you do in this particular situation? How would you approach solving this problem?
Collaborate	Collaborate links to the wikis tool, where students create pages of information about each module, such as reading summaries, relevant links, glossaries of terminology, and questions for further research. The wiki tracks changes and additions so you can observe each student's contribution as well as the final product.
My Grades	Students can see the status of gradable items such as assignments, tests, and discussion posts on their My Grades pages.
Requirements	In the Requirements content area, provide materials that students can access throughout the semester. Include a syllabus or other basics, such as grading policies, textbook information, and important dates.
My Instructor	Create profiles for yourself, other instructors, teaching assistants, and guest lecturers participating in your course in My Instructor . Include contact information such as email addresses, phone numbers, office hours, and location.
New Today	The customizable New Today 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 .
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.