

Blackboard Help

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Collaborate Update - May 2016

Here's everything you need to know about the **May 2016** release of Blackboard Collaborate with the Ultra experience.

Date available

The May release will be deployed according to the following schedule:

- Saturday, May 7 in European and Australian data centers
- Saturday, May 14 in U.S. and Canadian data centers

➞ To learn more, see the [Collaborate Support Bulletin](#) (available in English only).

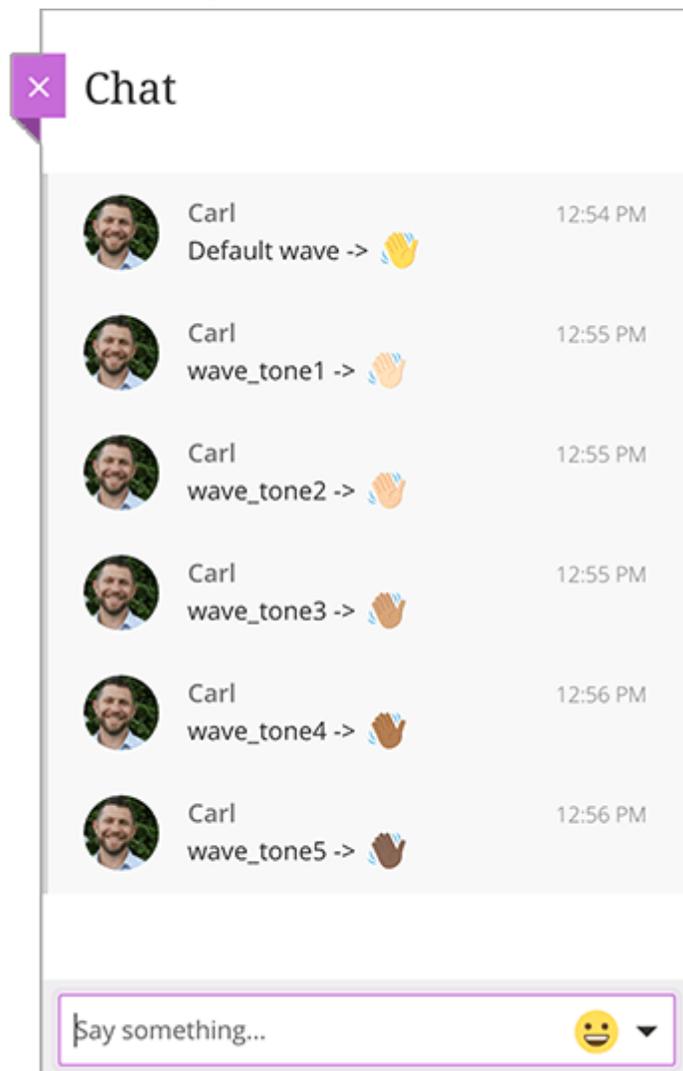
What's new and improved

We're continually evolving to improve the teaching and learning experience. The **May 2016** release focuses on enabling better workflows for Learning Tools Interoperability® (LTI)-based integrations and introducing diversified emojis.

Emoji update

The emoji pack for Collaborate with the Ultra experience now supports diversified emojis and Unicode-8 characters. Use one of five supported skin tones on any human emoji. Add underscore, tone, and the supported tone number (1 through 5) to your emoji when typing. Don't forget the colons on either end of your emoji text.

Example: :wave_tone5:



The screenshot shows a chat window titled "Chat" with a close button (X) in the top left corner. The chat history contains six messages from a user named "Carl", each followed by a wave emoji. The messages are:

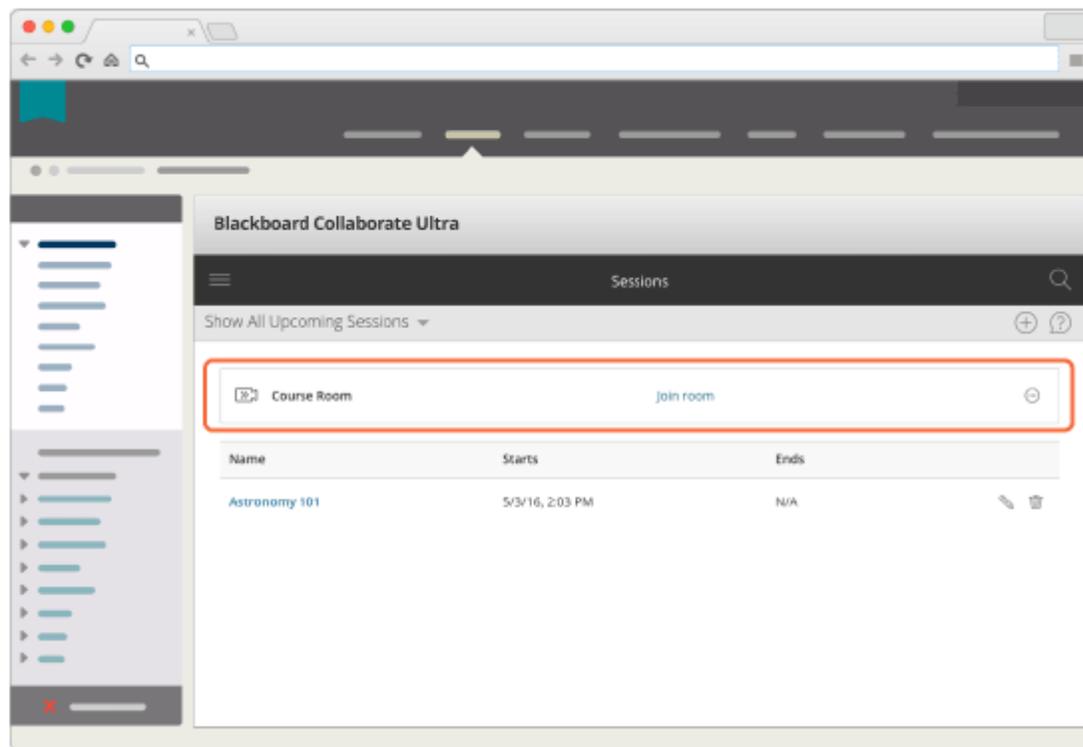
- 12:54 PM: Carl Default wave -> 🙌
- 12:55 PM: Carl wave_tone1 -> 🙌
- 12:55 PM: Carl wave_tone2 -> 🙌
- 12:55 PM: Carl wave_tone3 -> 🙌
- 12:56 PM: Carl wave_tone4 -> 🙌
- 12:56 PM: Carl wave_tone5 -> 🙌

At the bottom of the chat window is a text input field with the placeholder text "Say something...". To the right of the input field is a smiley face emoji icon and a downward-pointing arrow icon.

Dedicated course room for LTI-based integrations

Blackboard Collaborate with the Ultra experience provides a rich set of integration options for your Learning Management Systems (LMS) and Virtual Learning Environments (VLE). The LTI-based integration now offers a dedicated Collaborate Ultra *Course Room*. This makes it easier for moderators to use Collaborate with the Ultra experience in their LMS/VLE courses. It also provides moderators and participants a convenient launch point for classes or impromptu meetings.

 *The dedicated course room is on by default. You can turn it off at the institution and course levels. To learn more, see [Collaborate in an LTI compliant LMS](#).*



Additional enhancements

- An improved create session workflow in the Collaborate with Ultra experience Scheduler and LTI User Interface (UI).
- The bbcollab.com URL displayed in the Chrome™ desktop sharing extension sends users to a Blackboard page that includes a link to blackboard.com.
- The Scheduler UI now includes a *Full Name* email invitation option.

What's fixed

A few notable resolutions are listed below, along with a link to the Resolved Issues page.

- Resolved an issue in recording that would skew the audio from application/screen share. This was resolved as a hot fix as of Wednesday, May 3.
- Resolved an issue where a recording might not be available if it was started while sharing a file or whiteboard
- Resolved an issue converting and sharing slides with transparent backgrounds

➔ [More on resolved issues](#)

Known issues

Rome wasn't built in a day. The page below identifies known defects and workarounds in Collaborate with the Ultra experience.

➔ [List of known issues on Behind the Blackboard](#) (available in English only)



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