

Blackboard  Professional Development

Empower. Educate. Inspire.

Elevate teaching
for learning success.

Blackboard® Professional Development elevates teaching and learning skills through comprehensive courses focused on technology, pedagogy, and best practices in adult learning to advance educators' and administrators' professional practice.



A flexible experience: Learn as you go with our personalized pathways

Explore our catalog and discover various courses to advance your career, elevate your team, and create enriching ways to develop learning opportunities across your organization. Our program areas offer five areas of specialization with courses you can take as you please, allowing you to choose the area of expertise that best fits your professional journey and the time you are willing to invest in your accreditation. Each course awards a badge and certificate of completion.

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The Learning Experience

Our courses are designed to deliver a digital learning experience that blends rigor with relevance. Every course feels purposeful and grounded in theory and research, while driving authentic application to real-world practice. Our platform offers three learning journeys designed to support progressive development, from foundational knowledge to expert-level mastery, and are adaptable across program areas.

Level 1: Practitioner

Understand the foundations and apply them to create inclusive, effective learning experiences.

This path builds a strong foundation of knowledge and practical skills within the program area. Courses introduce essential theories, frameworks, and tools, while placing a strong emphasis on professional application.

Format:

Three facilitated, fixed schedule, blended learning courses ~15 hours each (includes synchronous and asynchronous components)

Outcomes:

- Understand foundational concepts and terminology
- Apply basic strategies and tools in real-world contexts
- Build confidence in core competencies

Level 2: Specialist

Design and lead strategic solutions tailored to specific learning needs and contexts.

The Specialist learning journey deepens expertise through focused tracks tailored to specific roles, challenges, and contexts.

Format:

Two facilitated, fixed schedule, asynchronous courses ~8 hours each

Outcomes:

- Apply advanced strategies to complex challenges
- Design scalable, context-sensitive solutions
- Lead initiatives within specialized domains

Level 3: Expert

Lead, innovate, and scale inclusive learning solutions across programs and institutions.

This milestone represents the pinnacle of the journey, emphasizing mastery, innovation, and scalable impact. It integrates learning from all previous tiers into a comprehensive project. Participants who achieve this award will demonstrate mastery through applied practice, organizational specialization, and theory-informed reflection.

Format:

One asynchronous, fixed schedule, facilitated experience ~20 hours

Outcomes:

- Lead, innovate, and scale solutions across programs or institutions
- Make informed, research-backed decisions
- Reflect critically on design and implementation using evidence and theory

Digital Accessibility and Inclusion

Explore strategies and tools for creating digitally rich and accessible learning and training environments that support diverse needs. This program area includes the following courses:

Foundations of Accessible Digital Learning

This training offers a comprehensive introduction to digital accessibility for educators and instructional designers, guiding them to design inclusive, barrier-free learning experiences by exploring key accessibility concepts, models of disability, and ethical design frameworks. Participants will learn how to create accessible documents, multimedia, and interactive materials by applying Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles, accessibility evaluation techniques, and practical design strategies.

Delivery: Facilitated | Fixed Schedule | Blended Learning

Empowering Learners with Ally's Alternative Formats

Discover how Anthology® Ally's alternative formats, like audio, HTML, and braille-ready files, can enhance accessibility and learner engagement. This course provides an overview of each format and practical tips for using them effectively. Join us to create a more inclusive learning environment!

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Introducing Ally to Learners

Strengthen your communication with learners using Ally's accessibility features. This course provides practical tips, templates, and strategies to promote inclusive learning and help students engage with Anthology Ally effectively.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Writing Effective Alt Text

Learn to write clear, concise alternative text that makes visual content accessible. This course provides practical guidance and best practices to help you create more inclusive digital materials.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Digital Accessibility and Inclusion

Accessible PDF Design*

This hands-on training equips you with the knowledge and skills needed to create fully accessible PDFs. Learn why PDF accessibility is critical, identify common barriers in both created and scanned documents, and apply structural and visual accessibility principles to improve usability for all learners.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Creating Inclusive Multimedia Experiences*

Multimedia elements like audio and video enrich digital learning experiences—but they can also create barriers for learners with disabilities. This short, self-paced course introduces practical strategies for making multimedia content accessible to all users. Through interactive activities and auto-graded knowledge checks, you'll learn how to apply accessibility principles to audio, video, and captioning workflows using common tools like YouTube and dictation software.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Accessible Slide Design Strategies*

This self-paced training equips participants with practical strategies to create presentation slides that are inclusive, readable, and accessible to all learners. Through hands-on activities, reflection prompts, and real-world examples, participants will learn how to design visually accessible slides, structure content for screen readers, and apply accessibility tools to evaluate and improve their materials. By the end of the course, learners will be able to make intentional design choices that reduce barriers and enhance engagement for diverse audiences.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Digital Accessibility and Inclusion

Getting Started with Ally*

Learn how to use Anthology Ally to make your courses more accessible and inclusive. This microlesson covers Ally's purpose, key instructor and student features, and practical strategies for improving course content. Explore accessibility scores, alternative formats, and the Instructor Feedback panel, and apply what you learn through hands-on practice and reflection.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Structuring Accessible Text Documents*

This training introduces the foundational principles and practical techniques for creating accessible text-based documents. Participants will learn how to identify common barriers, apply inclusive design strategies, and use built-in accessibility tools to improve usability for all readers. Through interactive activities and auto-graded knowledge checks, learners will build confidence in designing documents that support diverse needs and comply with accessibility standards.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment



Leadership and Learning Strategy

Designed for leaders responsible for shaping learning experiences, this pathway covers strategic planning, faculty and employee development, engagement strategies, and leveraging technology to drive organizational learning outcomes. This program area includes the following courses:

Designing Effective Credentialing Programs

Gain the tools and knowledge to design and implement digital badges and microcredentials that recognize skills and boost learner engagement. This course offers a practical foundation for creating effective credentialing strategies. Learn key principles for designing badges, mapping competencies, and creating cohesive frameworks that align with educational and professional goals.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Mapping Competencies for Learning Success

Explore how competencies bridge academic achievements and career readiness. This course equips administrators and educators with tools to develop and implement effective competency frameworks. Participants will learn to design and apply competency maps tailored to their environments, ensuring alignment with program objectives and industry standards. Gain skills to support proficiency-based learning, enhance program outcomes, and create meaningful career development pathways.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Planning for Blackboard Modernization

Plan the transition to Blackboard (Ultra) with confidence! This self-paced course guides you through key steps to create a modern, intuitive, accessible, and impactful learning environment. Embrace this opportunity to inspire faculty, engage learners, and build a foundation for long-term success.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Training Needs Assessment

This course equips you with the skills to identify skill gaps and design targeted training programs that align with organizational goals. You'll gain practical tools and techniques to assess needs and evaluate effectiveness, driving impactful training initiatives that support both employee and organizational growth.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Learning Experience Design and Delivery

Focused on creating engaging and impactful learning experiences, this program area helps educators refine their instructional strategies while integrating modern digital platforms and innovative teaching methods. This program area includes a range of courses, including the following:

Digital Teaching and Learning

Designed for education practitioners and teaching support staff who want to transform their teaching practice with our professional development pathway, our Digital Teaching and Learning curriculum empowers you to create outstanding learning experiences using cutting-edge digital technologies.

AI Literacy for Educators

This course provides the foundations for understanding artificial intelligence in education, supporting instructors in developing the practical skills they need to boost student engagement through AI technologies. It also addresses ethical AI policies in educational settings around course creation, assessment, and instruction under Anthology's trustworthy AI approach of "humans in control." Faculty will come away with useful strategies for delivering a successful e-learning experience while leveraging AI technology responsibly and with more confidence in using Blackboard's AI Design Assistant tool.

Delivery: Facilitated | Fixed Schedule | Blended Learning

Effective Online Assessment

This course is designed to discuss the theories and practices of creating online assessments, including tests and assignments. We will lay the foundation for effective assessments and explore best practices, along with how to use online systems to grade, create clear grading practices, and provide feedback.

Delivery: Facilitated | Fixed Schedule | Blended Learning

Learning Experience Design and Delivery

Digital Teaching and Learning

Course Design for the Digital Learner*

This course explores the evolving needs and expectations of learners in today's digital landscape, focusing on practical strategies to meet them where they are in their learning journey. Learn how to structure the curriculum, plan activities, and develop assessments in digital spaces to effectively engage learners in technology-rich environments.

Delivery: Facilitated | Fixed Schedule | Blended Learning

Building Connection in Online Courses*

Discover how to optimize online communication and collaboration practices to improve effective online learning communities. Learn how to create meaningful discussions, implement teamwork practices, utilize synchronous and asynchronous communication channels, and foster peer-to-peer learning and feedback.

Delivery: Facilitated | Fixed Schedule | Blended Learning



Learning Experience Design and Delivery

Effective Teaching and Training Strategies

Explore practical and evidence-based approaches to teaching and training that apply across industries and platforms. This pathway covers active learning techniques, learner-centered instruction, competency-based training, and effective assessment strategies to enhance engagement and outcomes.

Blackboard Certified Trainer

Enhance your instructional skills and build confidence in delivering technology-related content. Explore effective teaching principles, develop learning communities, and examine trends in online education, while creating detailed presentation plans and gaining hands-on experience in online instruction.

Delivery: Facilitated | Fixed Schedule | Blended

Effective Online Facilitation

Develop the skills needed to effectively facilitate an online or blended classroom, focusing on four key areas: technical, managerial, social, and pedagogical. Explore the essential skillset of an effective online facilitator, strategies for addressing different learning needs, and techniques for fostering effective communication in a primarily text-based environment.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Engaging Presentations

Improve your presentation skills by applying sound design principles and persuasive rhetorical techniques. By mastering these strategies, you can create engaging, effective presentations that captivate your audience, whether in the classroom, at a conference, or in front of a boardroom.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Faculty Advising Conversations that Inspire Growth

Enhance your communication skills by focusing on questioning, challenging, and reflection techniques. Learn how to ask insightful questions, navigate challenging conversations, and encourage student self-awareness, ultimately fostering a more engaging and supportive advising experience that empowers students in their academic journey.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Learning Experience Design and Delivery

Effective Teaching and Training Strategies

Curriculum Design for Online Learning

Learn best practices for online course design through a comprehensive Online Course Planning Document to assist with the planning and design process. As the course emphasizes design principles rather than platform-specific tools, it is applicable to anyone, regardless of the system used for course delivery.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

The Art of Persuasion

Gain the confidence to effectively engage with your audience! In this microlesson, we discuss rhetoric as theory of communication designed to help speakers analyze their authority as a speaker and the message they want to convey. This theory of communication provides methodologies for assessing the views of the audience in order to persuade successfully.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment



Learning Experience Design and Delivery

Teaching with Blackboard

This pathway equips educators with the skills to effectively design, deliver, and manage learning experiences using Blackboard.

Blackboard Teaching Essentials

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to navigating and using the Blackboard (Ultra) interface. You'll learn best practices for building content, creating assessments, and managing discussions within your course.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Improving In-Class Discussion with Blackboard Tools

Learn best practices for course development, assessments, and communication through five focused modules, gaining hands-on experience with essential tools to optimize course delivery and student engagement. This microlesson prepares instructors to enhance in-class discussions by leveraging Blackboard tools in simple yet impactful ways.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Intermediate Blackboard Course Development

Discover practical strategies for optimizing course content, assessments, and collaboration, while incorporating AI-supported tools to foster greater student engagement and enrich the learning experience. Learn how to plan and organize course content, design effective assessments, integrate collaborative learning opportunities, and utilize AI-supported tools to enrich the learning environment.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Blackboard Advanced Design and Development*

This advanced Blackboard course is designed for experienced instructors who are already comfortable with the platform and are ready to deepen their expertise. Through six focused modules, participants will critically explore the pedagogical and technological design of Blackboard, gain hands-on skills in media and HTML page creation, and harness Blackboard's tools for strategic course and student management. The course also examines innovative assessment practices, leverages Blackboard's analytics for data-informed teaching, and integrates current AI literacy into the online teaching context.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

System Administration and Learning Platforms

Designed for system administrators responsible for managing learning platforms, this pathway covers system configuration, integration management, troubleshooting, and best practices for optimizing learning technologies in various environments. This program area includes the following courses:

Ally for System Administrators

Leverage Anthology Ally: understand how to successfully configure Ally, interpret the Institution Report, understand accessibility scores, and implement strategies to improve content accessibility. Administrators will also learn how to track progress through comprehensive reporting and leverage alternative formats to provide more inclusive learning experiences.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Blackboard Administration Essentials

This course is designed to provide a comprehensive review of strategies and tasks related to administering your instance of Blackboard. It covers the Blackboard platform via the Graphical User Interface (GUI) through readings, recordings, assignments, discussions, and assessments. In addition, the course reviews best practices for managing the environment. To enroll in this course, each participant will need System Administrator access to their institution's Blackboard platform.

Delivery: Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Blackboard Modernization for Administrators

Support administrators' transition to Blackboard's modern interface, focusing on optimizing course delivery, enhancing learner engagement, and utilizing advanced tools for performance tracking. By the end, users will be equipped with the skills to create a streamlined, dynamic learning experience and fully leverage the capabilities of the modern course view.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Building Credentialing Programs in Milestone

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to Anthology® Milestone, focusing on its role in supporting institutional credentialing and digital badging initiatives. Participants will learn how to configure and manage credentialing workflows, optimize badging programs, and integrate assessments, equipping them with the tools to implement effective digital credentialing solutions.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

System Administration and Learning Platforms

Introduction to Illuminate LMS Data Reporting

This course introduces the pre-built reporting features in Anthology® Illuminate, an analytics platform for higher education. Users will learn to access and interpret key reports, gaining hands-on experience with tools to support student success, optimize course delivery, and drive data-informed decision-making.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Inventory Learning Opportunities with Course Catalog*

Learn how to present courses, programs, and achievements in a Blackboard environment. The Course Catalog capability allows your institution to list, organize, and enable access to courses and programs. Learn how to create courses, design certificates, set up the payment gateway functionality, and more.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Anthology Adopt for System Leaders*

Discover how to leverage Anthology Adopt (in collaboration with Pendo), which provides user engagement with Blackboard. Throughout this course, administrators can learn how to plan, design, and implement user guides into important campaigns to meet users' needs and increase satisfaction with your Blackboard LMS.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment



Workforce Learning and Development

Designed for business and government professionals responsible for employee training and skills development, this program focuses on instructional design, adult learning principles, online training strategies, and best practices for evaluating and scaling learning programs in diverse workplace environments. This program area includes the following courses:

Blackboard Essentials for Training Professionals

Strengthen your ability to design and deliver effective training in workplace or agency settings. This course offers a thorough introduction to the Blackboard (Ultra) interface, guiding you through its key features and tools. You'll explore best practices for creating engaging content, building assessments, and facilitating discussions to enhance the learning experience.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Blackboard in Action: Observing & Evaluating Performance

This course is designed for professionals in business and government sectors who aim to leverage Blackboard for on-the-job training assessments. Users will learn to create and apply observational checklists and rubrics, manage offline submissions, and utilize Blackboard's practical tools to streamline the observation process. Learn practical strategies to observe employee field work, track performance data, and provide structured feedback within the Blackboard environment.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Intermediate Blackboard Skills for Training Professionals

Develop the expertise to design and deliver impactful training in workplace or agency environments. This course introduces practical strategies for optimizing course content, assessments, and collaboration while incorporating AI-powered tools to deepen engagement and enrich the learning experience. You'll discover how to organize course materials, design effective assessments, foster collaboration, and use AI to enhance teaching and learning.

Delivery: Non-Facilitated | Self-Paced | Asynchronous | Continuous Enrollment

Contact your account representative for more details about our courses or explore our [course catalog](#), and discover how we can support educators and training professionals at anthology.com—or drop us a line at bbprofessionaldevelopment@anthology.com if you have questions.

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