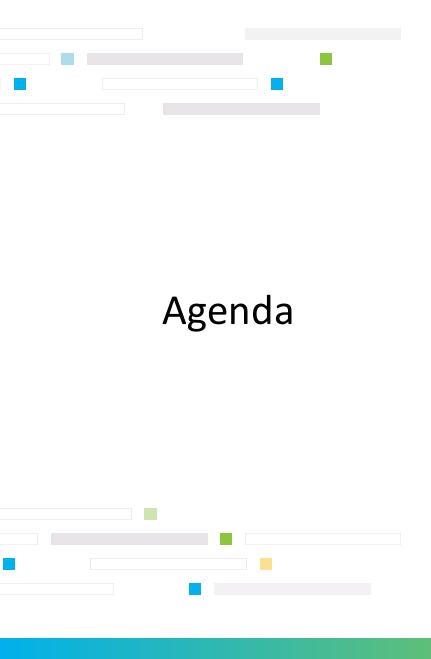


Moving to Ultra: A Phased Approach

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About OHIO

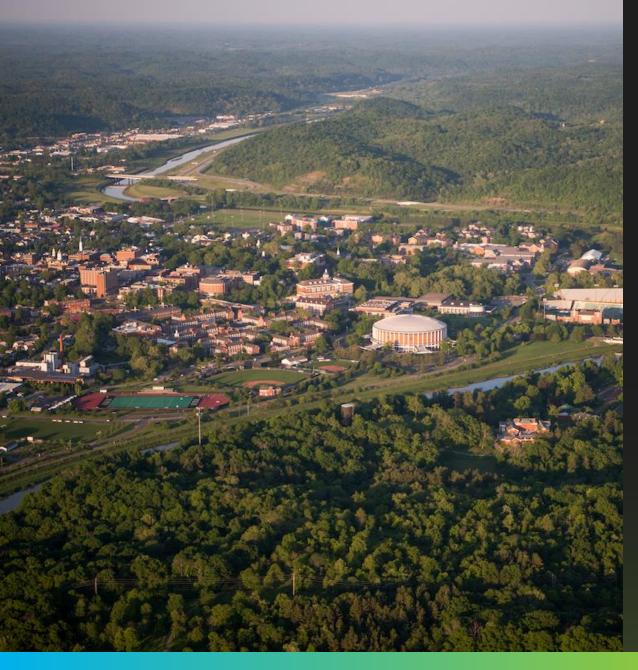
Where did we start?

Where are we now?

What have we learned?

What is next?

Questions?



Ohio University

- We have 11 campuses and centers across the state of Ohio, as well as several online programs
- Currently more than 28,000 full-time students
- More than 250 academic programs
- More than 1,100 full-time faculty

About our Blackboard Environment

- We moved to SaaS in December of 2018
 - All course sections in our Student Information System are automatically created as empty course shells in Blackboard (Original Course View)
 - Pre-COVID approximately 30% of our courses were active in Blackboard
 - Currently approximately 75% of our courses are active in Blackboard
- Average number of unique course sections per semester are:
 - 12,500 for Fall or Spring Semesters
 - 5,000 for Summer Semesters

Where did we start?



The Responses – Pain Points

- Outdated unintuitive design makes it:
 - Hard to use
 - Hard to determine how to fit my teaching style
 - Difficult to assess feature functionality
- Need more training or training materials on:
 - Which tool does what?
 - How does it work?
 - How is it relevant to my teaching style?

Original Plan (Pre-COVID)

- Fall 2020 move to Ultra Base Navigation (UBN) with Original Course View (OCV)
 - 6-month communication/marketing plan
 - Multiple workshops
 - Roadshows
- Summer 2021 UCV Pilot
- Fall 2021 have all courses created as Instructor Choice

And then COVID...

- In the process of getting our plan approved, we were locked down for COVID 19
 - All courses were now required to have some presence in Blackboard
 - All resources that would have been used for the move were rerouted to COVID response
- But more people in the system, means more people that are having the same issues from the survey
 - We still need to make a change
 - We need to be agile and make this change fast
 - We need to do this with limited resources

New Plan: Don't Let The Pursuit of Perfection Keep You From Doing Good

- Fall 2020 move to UBN with OCV
- Spring 2021 UCV Preview Group
 - Small group of instructors who are willing to learn UCV with us and help us build our documentation and practices
- Summer and Fall 2021 continue Preview Group
- Spring 2022 open to all interested, by request
 - Instructor Choice is no longer a viable consideration

Where are we now?

Ultra Course Rollout

	Instructors	Ultra Courses
Fall 2021 UBN	N/A	All Original
Spring 2021	4	6
Summer 2021	10	20
Fall 2021	20	50
Spring 2022	Open to All	Voluntary Adoption
Summer 2022 and beyond	Open to All	200+

Fun Fact: More than 90% of the instructors who taught a single Ultra Course transitioned additional courses to Ultra. Approximately 10% transitioned all their courses to Ultra.

What did we learn?

The Preparation

Planning

- Embrace flexibility
- Small phases let you correct your approach much quicker
- Smaller phases can be a little more overhead on your communications team
- Take chances, if you can, it is hard to innovate if you are afraid to try

Partnerships

- Take advantage of all the resources available to you
- Leverage your existing partnerships to help you in your transition
- Ask for help from your community, learn from those that have already tried

Preview Groups

- Be transparent in communications
- Solicit feedback throughout the process, and be willing to accept it positive or negative
- Learn from their pain points to make positive changes for the next group
- Keep them small, if possible, it is difficult to scale and keep the same line of communications

The Path to Success

Instructor Success

- Set clear expectations, we are learning with you and may not have all the answers yet
- Send their feedback up to the Ultra Development
 Team
- Monthly feature releases mean that there is often quick turn around on their wish list items
- Provide a clear line of communication for support
- Faculty advocates are key, instructors are more likely to try something new if it comes at the recommendation of a peer
- Listen!

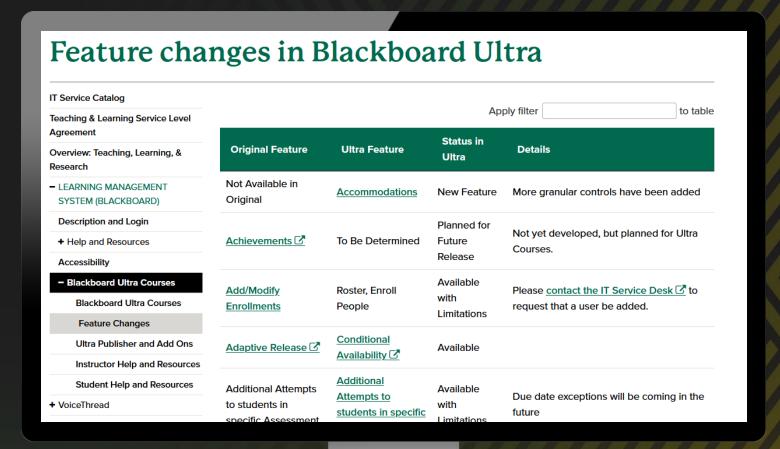
Student Success

- The instructors that took the time to walk their students through the new layout had the most positive feedback amongst students.
- We built student resources, but most did not seek them out. So, it was important for there to be a link to those resources in the course
- Feedback from our student preview group members helped us build our student resources. They told us what they were struggling with and what we needed to help them navigate or understand.

What is Next: We plan to continue with voluntary adoption as we are awaiting a senior leadership decision on full Ultra deployment.

Resources

- Exploring Ultra Community Site
- Base Navigation Planning
 Webinar
- Learn Ultra Advisory Program
- <u>Ultra Course Seminar</u>
- Ohio University Ultra Page
- Regional Bb Users Groups
- Blackboard Techies Slack



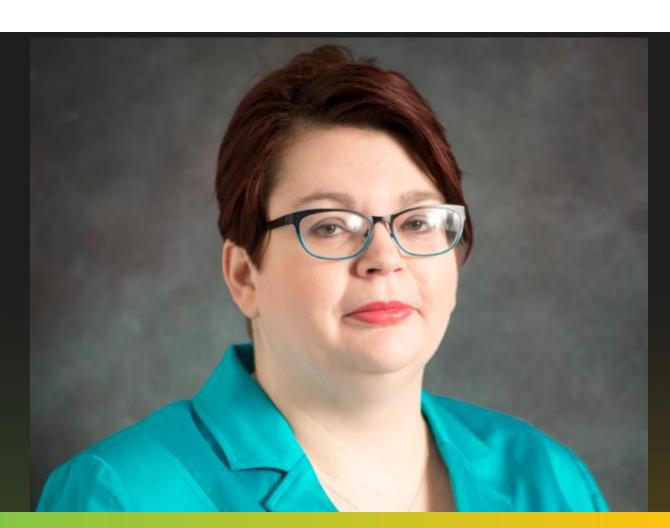
Questions?





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anthology together