VCU’s Technology Services Learning Systems and Center for Teaching Excellence offer a variety of tools, workshops, and support for faculty users of Blackboard.

For more information on Blackboard features such as blogs, journals, discussion boards, and customizable course menus, or if you have any questions, please take advantage of the following resources.

**Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE)**
http://www.vcu.edu/cte

Teaching with technology in a meaningful way requires not only access to and training on using the technology, but requires practice and understanding about how it can be used to best support teaching and learning. The CTE works closely with faculty to explore how good instructional practice can be enhanced by the meaningful use of technology tools. (See “CTE Workshops” for Blackboard training dates and times.)

**Blackboard Training**
go.vcu.edu/bbtraining

**VCU Technology Services**
go.vcu.edu/technology

Technology Services is responsible for the Blackboard system infrastructure and day-to-day support for faculty, staff, and students.

**Blackboard Faculty Blog**
(Faculty Tips and more)
wp.vcu.edu/blackboardfaculty

**VCU helpIT Center**
Submit a Ticket – go.vcu.edu/helpIT
Phone – 804-828-2227

**JumpStart**
go.vcu.edu/bbjumpstart

JumpStart is service for first-time faculty users of Blackboard. Email basic information to blackboard@vcu.edu and the Learning Systems staff in Technology Services will create your course shell on Blackboard and provide you with information to continue using the system.

**Blackboard Regularly Scheduled Maintenance**
go.vcu.edu/bbmaintenance

Blackboard maintenance (when needed) is scheduled for the second Friday (4pm to midnight) and fourth Friday (8pm to midnight) of the month. The dates scheduled to be used are posted to the VCU events calendar (http://go.vcu.edu/bbmaintenance) and reminders are posted to the Blackboard Faculty blog.
The Create a Course default layout has several different types of buttons that are initially created. Clicking the "Create Content Area" within a course menu will display the different types of buttons that can be created. The Course Documents button on this menu example was created as a "Content Area." Selecting Course Documents on the Course Menu will open the main content area page with the following options:

The Control Panel - An Overview

For additional information and the full faculty Blackboard Guide, visit: go.vcu.edu/bbfaq