



Adaptive Release of Content in Blackboard

What is adaptive release?

Adaptive release allows instructors to make course content visible to students based on rules that they create; in other words, you can control what content is made available to which students and under what conditions they are allowed to see it. Rules can be created for individuals or groups, based on criteria related to date, time, assessment scores or attempts, and the **review status** of other items in the course. Once a rule is set, the item is **ONLY** visible to students who fulfill the criteria.

How could adaptive release be used in class?

The adaptive release feature enables you to customize course content based on students' progress in a course. For example, you can...

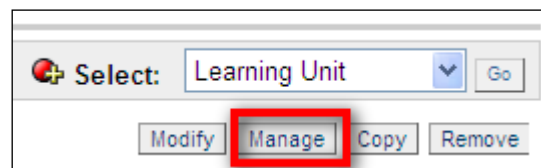
- make a quiz available to a specific student or group of students (e.g., if the student needs more time on a test, is taking a make-up test, or needs a modified version of a test because of accessibility reasons)
- allow students to take a quiz only after they have reviewed certain required readings
- allow students to view certain materials only after they have completed a pre-assessment
- offer additional review materials to students who have obtained a low score on a test or offer enrichment materials to those who obtained a high score
- share different supplementary materials with groups of students working on different projects
- make content visible to students in a particular section of a class which is set within a Blackboard "master" class.

How does adaptive release work?

You can create simple conditions for adaptive release of content using a single rule, or more complex conditions using multiple rules. To use adaptive release with a single rule, follow the steps below:

1. Go to the content area containing the item to which you want to add an **Adaptive Release** rule and click on **Edit View** on the top right hand corner of the screen.

2. Click on the **Manage** button next to the item for which you want to specify release criteria.



3. Select **Adaptive Release** from the list of choices.
4. Fill out the criteria as required by specifying **date**, group **membership**, **Grade Center** item or **review status** and click on the **Submit** button at the end of the page. Each criterion that you set is added as an “AND” component to content availability – all criteria must be met before the content becomes available.

What is Review Status?

The **Review Status** tool allows you to track whether students have reviewed a specific content item. When the **Review Status** feature is turned on, students can click on a **Mark Reviewed** button to indicate that they completed reviewing the content item. Note that there is no assurance that students have indeed read the material. See page 2 of our document [Tracking Student Performance](#) for more information and instructions on how to set it up.

For an example of adaptive release in use, see page 3 of this document.

What is **Advanced Adaptive Release**?

Advanced Adaptive Release allows you to create multiple rules for a content item. If a student fulfills one or more rules in the collection, the content item will be made available. Each rule may consist of one or more criteria; a student must satisfy all criteria to satisfy the rule. For example, if a piece of content had three rules attached to it, then a student must satisfy ALL the criteria in Rule 1, **OR** all criteria in Rule 2, **OR** all criteria in Rule 3, to be able to see the item.

To use **advanced adaptive release**, follow the steps below:

1. Go to the content area containing the item to which you want to add an **Advanced Adaptive Release** rule and click on **Edit View** on the top right hand corner of the screen.
2. Click on the **Manage** button next to the item for which you want to specify release criteria.
3. Select **Adaptive Release: Advanced** from the list of choices.
4. Click on the **Add Rule** button.
5. Give a name to your **Rule** and click on **Submit**.
6. Build your **Rule** by specifying **date**, group **membership**, **Grade Center** item or **review status** and click on the **Submit** button after you specify the appropriate criteria.

Note: You can delete a criterion by clicking on the checkbox to its left and clicking on the **Remove** button. You can change a criterion by clicking on the **Modify** button to the right of the criterion **Description**.

7. Click on **OK** when you have finished creating the rule.
8. Continue adding rules as necessary.

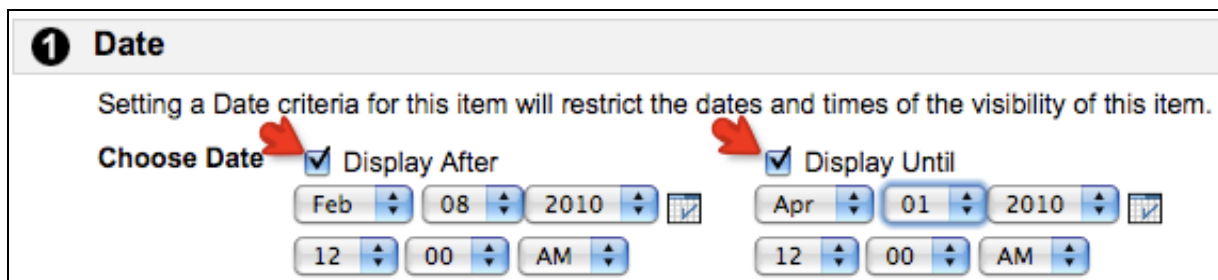
Example Use of Adaptive Release

For this example, let us assume that you have a unit on King Arthur in a course and want to make a web site link that you call “Lecture Supplement” available to students who meet certain prerequisites. Specifically, you want to make the link available only between February 8 and April 1 **AND** only to those students who have received at least 10 points on the quiz “Arthurian Myth.” You would follow these steps to create this **adaptive release** rule:

1. Go to **Course Materials** and click on **Edit View** on the top right hand corner of the screen.
2. Find the item “Lecture Supplement” and click on the **Manage** button to its right.



3. Select **Adaptive Release** and click on **OK**.
4. Under item 1, check the boxes for **Display After** and **Display Until** and select the dates February 8 and April 1.



5. Scroll down to item 3, **Grade**.
6. Choose “Arthurian Myth” from the pull-down menu next to **Select a Grade Center column**.
7. Select **Score Greater than or equal to 10**.

3 Grade

This content item is visible to all users until a Grade criteria is created. Possible points on a Grade Center column are listed in brackets beside the name. The score entered must be numeric.

Select a Grade Center column

Select Condition

User has at least one attempt for this item. An attempt is recorded in the Grade Center when the user submits a Test, Survey, or Assignment, or when a grade is entered or modified.

Score

Score Between and

- Click on **Submit** at the bottom of the page and then on **OK**.

If you now go to **Adaptive Release Advanced**, you will see the criteria that you just set up, as it is shown in the image below. Now the web site link called “Lecture Supplement” is only viewable by all the students who have received at least 10 points on the quiz “Arthurian Myth” between February 8 and April 1.

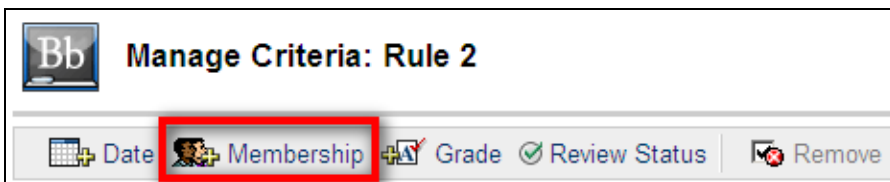
Rule Name	Criteria		
<input type="checkbox"/> Rule 1	Date: Display After Feb 8, 2010 12:00 AM, Display Until Apr 1, 2010 12:00 AM AND Grade: Arthurian Myth (Greater than or equal to 10.0)	<input type="button" value="Modify"/>	<input type="button" value="Manage"/>

Next, let us assume that you also decide to make the link available to students in the class who are working on a special project. You have already put these students into a group named “King Arthur’s Crew.” (See our document [Managing Groups](#) for instructions on how to create groups.) You will now need to create another rule and combine it with the first rule. To do this, take the following steps using **Adaptive Release Advanced**:

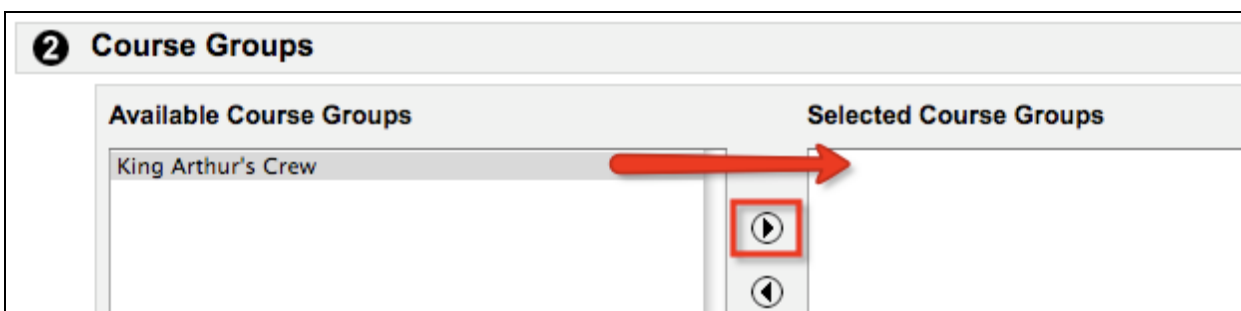
- Click on the icon to add a rule below the **Adaptive Release Advanced** title.



- You can give the new rule a name or just leave it as “Rule 2” and click on **Submit**. A new screen appears allowing you to **Manage Criteria** for Rule 2.
- Click on **Membership**.



- Select “King Arthur’s Crew” under section 2 **Course Groups** and click on the arrow pointing to the right so that the group name is moved to the right column.



- Click on **Submit**.
- Click on **OK** to see the screen below showing the two rules combined.

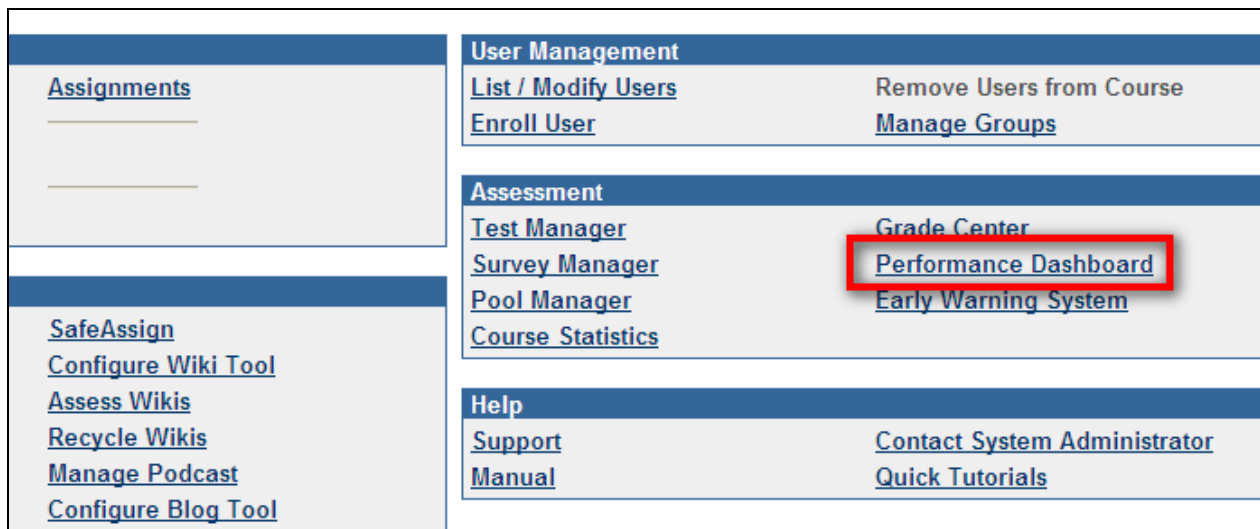
	Rule Name	Criteria		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rule 1	Date: Display After Feb 8, 2010 12:00 AM, Display Until Apr 1, 2010 12:00 AM AND Grade: Arthurian Myth (Greater than or equal to 10.0)	Modify	Manage
<input type="checkbox"/>	OR Rule 2	Membership: 1 Groups	Modify	Manage

Now the web site link “Lecture Supplement” will be made available only to students who meet all the criteria of either of the rules you have created. In other words, students who have received at least 10 points on the quiz if it is between February 8 and April 1 (Rule 1) **OR** students who belong to the group “King Arthur’s Crew” (Rule 2) will have access to the web site link.

How do instructors know what content is visible to each of their students?

To view which items of the course are visible to each individual student, follow the steps below:

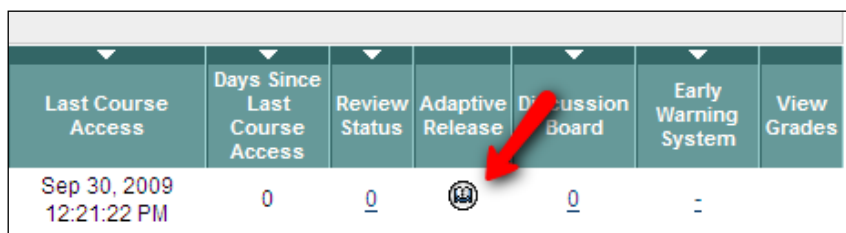
1. Go to the **Control Panel** and click on **Performance Dashboard**.




The screenshot shows the Blackboard Control Panel with various navigation links. The **Performance Dashboard** link is highlighted with a red box. The panel is organized into several sections:

- Assignments**: (empty)
- User Management**:
 - List / Modify Users
 - Enroll User
 - Remove Users from Course
 - Manage Groups
- Assessment**:
 - Test Manager
 - Survey Manager
 - Pool Manager
 - Course Statistics
 - Grade Center
 - Performance Dashboard** (highlighted)
 - Early Warning System
- Help**:
 - Support
 - Manual
 - Contact System Administrator
 - Quick Tutorials
- SafeAssign**:
 - Configure Wiki Tool
 - Assess Wikis
 - Recycle Wikis
 - Manage Podcast
 - Configure Blog Tool

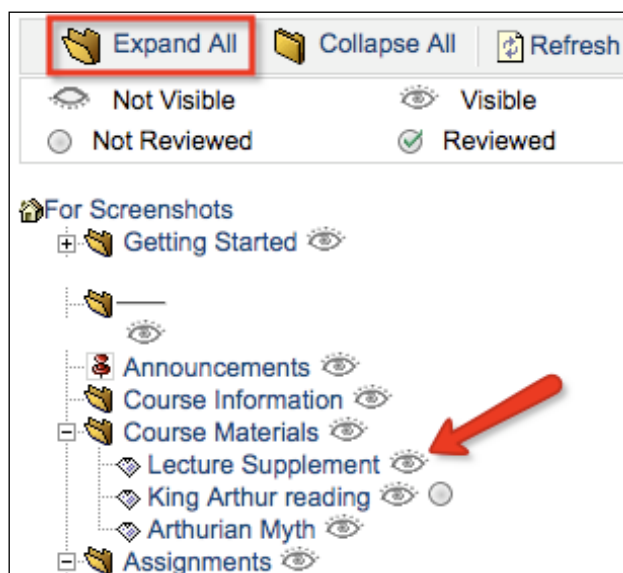
2. Click on the **Adaptive Release** icon for a particular student.



The screenshot shows a table with columns for student information and course access. The **Adaptive Release** column contains a small icon representing the Adaptive Release feature. A red arrow points to this icon.

Last Course Access	Days Since Last Course Access	Review Status	Adaptive Release	Discussion Board	Early Warning System	View Grades
Sep 30, 2009 12:21:22 PM	0	0		0	-	

3. In the window that popped open, you can now see a map of your course with the items that are visible and invisible to this student. Clicking on the **Expand All** button at the top will open all the folders and allow you to see all the items in the folders.



The screenshot shows the Adaptive Release window with a tree view of course content. The **Expand All** button is highlighted with a red box. A red arrow points to the eye icon next to the **Lecture Supplement** item.

Expand All Collapse All Refresh

Not Visible Visible

Not Reviewed Reviewed

For Screenshots

- Getting Started
- Announcements
- Course Information
- Course Materials
- Lecture Supplement
- King Arthur reading
- Arthurian Myth
- Assignments

If you have further questions or need assistance, please email bb@hunter.cuny.edu or contact the [Technology Resource Center](#) (C104 Hunter North) at 212-650-3358.