

FAQs: Blackboard Course Spaces for Class Combinations (Staff)

For full guidance for administrators on Class Combinations for Blackboard, see the guide [Campus Solutions Operational Support Training Guide](#).

Guidance to Course Leaders on activation of courses for Blackboard is [available here](#).

Note: Throughout this article, the terms 'class' and 'Blackboard course' are used as follows:

Class = a class created in Campus Solutions for a particular instance of a Campus Solutions course

Blackboard course = a course space created in Blackboard for use by the corresponding class or combination of classes in Campus Solutions

Q1 Class combinations have main and linked classes. Which needs to be activated in Blackboard?

- a) *If activation happens AFTER combining sections:* Activate the Blackboard course that is identified as the **main class** in Campus Solutions. If you are unsure about which is the 'main' class in Campus Solutions (or the corresponding 'main' Blackboard course), please contact your programme administrator.
- b) *If activation happens BEFORE combining sections:* In this case, only the **main** Blackboard course should be activated. If a *linked* Blackboard course is activated *before* the combination is set up in Campus Solutions, then both the main and linked Blackboard courses will appear to students in their Blackboard course list. Refer to Q5 below for how to deal with this particular issue. To avoid this problem, it is best to either
 - **combine classes first** in Campus Solutions and subsequently activate the main Blackboard course in the My Courses portlet, or
 - activate only the **main** Blackboard course and then effect the combination of classes in Campus Solutions.

Q2 Can I change my 'main' class?

In order to minimise any risk over combinations, it is important for you to make a decision about which class will be the 'main' class in Campus Solutions and keep to it. Please avoid changing your mind after you have set them up in Campus Solutions. Advice on which class should be the main class is included in the guide [Campus Solutions & Bb9 Integration](#).

Q3 What happens to the content in Blackboard spaces when they are combined in Campus Solutions?

When classes are combined in Campus Solutions, there is no effect on the content of the Blackboard spaces for either the main or the linked classes. Combination affects the Blackboard space in two ways:

1. Enrolments are added from the linked class(es) to the main Blackboard course.
2. The title of the main Blackboard course is changed to include the course subject/catalogue numbers of all of the classes being linked.

Q4 What happens to the student enrolments for Blackboard courses when classes are combined in Campus Solutions after activation?

Enrolments are added from the linked class(es) in Campus Solutions to the main Blackboard course. If only the main course has been activated in Blackboard, then students will only see this course listed in Blackboard. However, if both the main and linked Blackboard courses have been activated before the corresponding classes have been combined in Campus Solutions, then students will see both the main and linked Blackboard courses included in their Blackboard course list. In this case, the linked Blackboard course(s) need(s) to be hidden from students by eLearning. See Q5 for details on how to deal with this issue.

Q5 What should be done if students can see both the main and linked Blackboard courses of a combination in Blackboard?

If a linked Blackboard course has been activated before its corresponding class was combined with the main class in Campus Solutions, students will see both the Blackboard space for the main class **and** the Blackboard space for the linked class in their Blackboard course list.

In this case, it is necessary to disable the linked Blackboard course in order to remove student access (i.e. so that students only have access to the main Blackboard course space.) Contact your Faculty eLearning team who will be able to do this for you. This will cause the linked Blackboard course to be hidden from students (but not deleted from Blackboard).

Q6 What happens to Blackboard course content when classes have been uncombined and then recombined?

In Blackboard, it is only the enrolments that are combined, i.e. enrolments from 'linked' classes are added to the 'main' class. Therefore, there is no effect on the content – it will still exist in Blackboard regardless of the combination. Any content that has been added to a linked class but not added to a main class will need to be retrieved from the linked class and copied to the main class. This can be done by eLearning teams.

More information about eLearning - Contact us:

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