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**Blackboard will be unavailable due to upgrades starting Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 12:01 AM CST through Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 11:59 PM CST. Once Blackboard is restored, support will again be available at 1-888-377-7447 or [blackboardsupport@cuw.edu](mailto:blackboardsupport@cuw.edu).**



## Online Office Hours? Yes, Please!

**Blackboard Collaborate** is a real-time web-conferencing tool available in all of your courses on Blackboard. Use it for online office hours, and more:

- Online teaching sessions: No need to cancel class due to a "snow day".
- Invite a guest speaker: Your guest can join a web-conference session, even without a Blackboard login.
- Private meetings: If a student or colleague is unable to meet on campus, meet virtually using Blackboard Collaborate.
- Group Projects: Give students the ability to meet virtually with their groups, outside of class.

### Attend a session:

**Getting Started:** Learn how to navigate and set up Blackboard Collaborate, a web-conferencing tool you can use to meet virtually and synchronously with students.

(Webinar only): Monday January 9, 6:30-7:30. [Registration link](#).

**NEW SESSION! Groups:** Learn how to create breakout groups within a web-conference session and how you can allow students to meet with just their own work group using Blackboard Collaborate.

(Webinar only): Tuesday January 17, 6:30-7:30. [Registration link](#).

### Collaborate Self-Help Resources:

Watch this video if you can't attend a Getting Started session or want to review: [Link to video](#).

Many more Collaborate resources on the CELT Blog: [Link to blog](#)

## Blackboard Learn Sessions (option to attend face-to-face or webinar)

- \* **Basics:** Friday January 13, 10:30-11:30 in R006. [Registration link](#).
- \* **More Tools:** Tuesday January 17, 10:30-11:30 in R006. [Registration link](#).
- \* **Assessments & Rubrics:** Wednesday January 18, 10:30-11:30 in R006. [Registration link](#).
- \* **Group Tools:** Friday January 20, 10:30-11:30 in R006. [Registration link](#).

Blackboard Learn self-help resources to help you get your course ready for Spring: [Link to resources](#)

## Free Podcast: Maryellen Weimer on How to Keep Your Teaching Fresh

Faculty do a lot of teaching, and they often teach many of the same courses again and again.

It's only natural that even the most committed faculty member, at some point, will hit the wall—feeling as if his or her teaching methods are getting tired or that once reliable procedures are falling short.

What techniques keep your teaching fresh?

In this recorded interview, Maryellen Weimer, PhD, offers some effective teaching strategies you can try that will inject new energy into your courses and refresh your teaching.

[Link to podcast](#)

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"Steadfast Service" based on 1 Corinthians 15:57-58:

*"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." (ESV)*