Blackboard 9.1 - Mashups

Mashups allow Instructors to add content to a Course that is from an external Web site. This content is used in a variety of ways within a Course: a standalone piece of Course Content, part of a test question, a topic on a Discussion Board, or as part of an assignment. The content displayed in a course will still reside on the external Web site.

Mashups are added as a Content Item in a folder or added through the Text Editor. Adding a Mashup as a Content Item makes it a part of the information that you present to users for them to view. Adding a Mashup using the Text Editor means that you can put Mashups in places where users can interact with the content, such as in Test Questions, Discussion Boards, and Blogs.

Mashups are displayed in the following ways:

- **Embed**: The Mashup displays directly on the page when a student opens the item.
- **Thumbnail View with Player**: A small picture of the Mashup displays on the page with controls to launch it.
- **Text Link with Player**: A link to the Mashup is displayed on the page. Students click the link to launch the Mashup.

Example:
To encourage a discussion about "Hamlet", the Instructor can create a Mashup that includes a video of a scene from a production of the play and a link to a newspaper review of that production.

Default Mashup Types

Blackboard 9.1 incorporates three basic Mashup types:

- **Flickr**: a site for viewing and sharing photographic images.
- **Slideshare**: a site for viewing and sharing PowerPoint presentations, Word documents, or Adobe PDF Portfolios.
• **YouTube**: a site for viewing and sharing online videos.

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**Creating a Mashup Item**

Creating a Mashup as a Content Item makes it a part of the information that you present to users for them to view.

The System Administrator can disable individual Mashups or all Mashups. If a Mashup is not available, contact the System Administrator ([bbadmin@gvsu.edu](mailto:bbadmin@gvsu.edu)) to determine its status.

1. Navigate to the Content area of your Course.

2. Select Flickr Photo, Slideshare Presentation, or YouTube Video from the Build Content drop down list.

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*Note: Diagram showing the Build Content area with options for Mashups.*
3. Search for content.

4. Click “Preview” to examine the items.

5. Click “Select” for the appropriate item.

6. Change the Name of the item. This is a required field.
7. Type a Description of the Mashup.

8. Set the Mashup Options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mashup Options</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Show YouTube URL creates a link to the YouTube web site enabling students to browse videos. Show YouTube date video was added.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>View</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="view_options.png" alt="View Options" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Show YouTube URL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="yes_no_options.png" alt="Yes/No Options" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Show YouTube information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="yes_no_options.png" alt="Yes/No Options" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. Attach additional content items to the Mashup by clicking Browse My Computer or Browse Course Files.

10. Click “Yes” to Permit Users to View this Content.

11. Click “Yes” to Track Number of Views.

12. Use the “Display” After and “Display Until” date and time fields to restrict the availability of the Mashup. Click both the “Display After” and “Display Until” check boxes to enable the date and time settings.

13. Click “Preview” to examine the Mashup.

14. Click “Submit”.

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Back  Preview  Submit
The Mashup will be shown in the folder or Content Area where it was created. If necessary, use the action link for the Mashup item to set Adaptive Release rules, add metadata, or track the number of views.

If the Mashup does not appear or displays an error after initially appearing, it is possible that the URL has changed or the item was deleted from Flickr, Slideshare, or YouTube.

Creating a Mashup Item using the Text Editor

Creating a Mashup using the Text Editor means that you can put Mashups in places where users can interact with the content, such as in Test Questions, Discussion Boards, and Blogs.

1. Navigate to the Course Files area of your Course.
2. Select a Content Item such as Discussion Topic from the Build drop down list.
3. Type a Name for the Content Item.
4. Click “Add Mashup” on the bottom row of Text Editor buttons.

5. Select Flickr Photo, Slideshare Presentation, or YouTube Video.
6. Search for content.
7. Click “Preview” to examine the items.
8. Click “Select” for the appropriate item.

9. Change the Name of the item. This is a required field.

10. Type a Description of the Mashup.

11. Set the Mashup Options.

12. Click “Submit”.

13. Select from the following Options: Lock File, Share Comments, Enable Versioning, and Enable Tracking.

14. Click “Submit”.