

# WebCT Campus Edition 4.1 Comparison to WebCT Vista 4.0

## Top Enhancements with WebCT Vista

### Navigation

- Annotate any link or discussion topic with free text to help students determine how to use link and reduce the need for explanatory documents or messages
- Put links to discussion topics, assignments, quizzes, and web links right in your content table of contents
- All tools link or consolidated under the Course Tools menu on the left – similar to the toolbar concept in other applications

### Communication

- Announcement tool - Create announcements in special tool, which will also appear when student enters the course
- Improved chat tool –
  - Whiteboard with Chat
  - Can have private rooms
  - Can schedule when rooms appear
  - Hand-raising option in chat
  - Create as many rooms as you need
- Gradable Discussions
  - View all posts by a student, compare student’s participation to class average, and assign grade all on one screen
  - Grade can be alpha or numeric

### Built-in Efficiencies

- A Real Student view
  - You can take quizzes, post assignments, see the course as a student without a special logon
- Do not have to click “update student view” for new content
- Upload multiple files at once
- Drag and drop from your computer to course file manager
- Freeze names in gradebook while scrolling columns and highlight individual student row
- Grade quizzes by question
- Automatically post a calendar message when creating assignments and quizzes
- Utilize repository documents for ease of updating across sections

## Comparison

WebCT Campus Edition 4.1	WebCT Vista 4.x Enhancements/Changes
<b>Creating and Managing Content</b>	
<b>Manage Files</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upload one file at a time</li> <li>• Alphabetical by file and folder names</li> <li>• WebDAV functionality must be set up on your computer</li> </ul>	<b>File Manager</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upload multiple files at a time</li> <li>• Sort by file/folder name, type, last modified date, or size</li> <li>• Filter content by file type (i.e. can view only .doc files, etc.)</li> <li>• Built-in WebDAV functionality for easier file management (drag and drop files from your computer to WebCT)</li> </ul>
<b>Content Module</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An area primarily for course content files where you can add headings and create links to individual:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Files</li> <li>○ Quizzes</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Related to the glossary, index and search tools</li> <li>• Can use upper/lower textblocks</li> <li>• Numbering option uses numbers only</li> <li>• Table of contents truncated if shown along</li> </ul>	<b>Learning Module (new name)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An integrated learning environment where you can create direct links to individual:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Files</li> <li>○ Assessments (Quizzes)</li> <li>○ Self-assessments</li> <li>○ Discussion Topics</li> <li>○ Chat/Whiteboard Rooms</li> <li>○ Assignments</li> <li>○ Web links</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Students can create a printable view of a learning module from</li> </ul>

with the content pages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>within the module</li> <li>Table of Contents not truncated when shown along with module pages</li> <li>Can show/hide elements of table of contents</li> <li>Can use the selective release function in action menu for elements of table of contents</li> <li>Can choose a numbering style for table of contents</li> <li>Upper/lower textblocks not available</li> </ul>
<b>Single File</b> - can upload a single file as a link from an organizer page (or homepage)	<b>File</b> – files that are not a part of a Learning Module can be linked from Folder pages
<b>URL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add URLs (web links) to organizer pages</li> </ul>	<b>Web Links</b> ( <i>new name</i> ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whenever a web link is added to your course, it is automatically added to a comprehensive <i>Web Links</i> page, giving instructors and students a central place to easily access and review all web links used within a course</li> <li>Web links can be annotated</li> </ul>
<b>Glossary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Text entries</li> <li>Link words to content manually</li> </ul>	<b>Media Library</b> ( <i>new name and combined</i> ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Database of media files, including text, image, video, and audio files</li> <li>Group entries into collections</li> <li>Link entries to content files <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individually (manually)</li> <li>First instance in each file (automatically)</li> <li>All instances (automatically)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Image Database</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Image files with keywords, description, etc.</li> <li>Group entries into separate databases</li> <li>Can't link entries to content</li> </ul>	
<b>CD Rom</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide links to content on CD-ROM</li> </ul>	<b>Local Content</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide links to content on any local storage device (i.e. CD-ROM, USB drive, etc.)</li> </ul>
<b>Compile Function</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can compile html pages within a content module to create a single web page for printing (tool is separate from the content modules)</li> <li>Can compile discussion messages in a single web page for viewing or printing</li> </ul>	<b>Printable View</b> The compile function has been renamed to the Printable View and resides within the following tools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Syllabus</li> <li>Learning module</li> <li>Discussion topics</li> </ul>
<b>Index Tool</b>	<i>Not available: was cumbersome and difficult to use in CE</i>
<b>Take Notes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students can make study notes by annotating pages of course content</li> </ul>	<b>Notes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Available through toolbar independently from other tools</li> </ul>
<b>Communicating with Students</b>	
<i>Not available</i>	<b>Announcements</b> – use the Announcements tool to create and send course-wide notices to students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can include start/stop dates</li> <li>Can deliver announcements as a pop-up message to students</li> </ul>
<b>Syllabus</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can import a full document or build it with Syllabus tool which creates a static, framed document</li> </ul>	<b>Syllabus</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Import a document or build it with the Syllabus tool</li> <li>Using the tool, a new section called Lesson items allows you to create a corresponding entry in the calendar</li> <li>Can release sections to students or by date</li> <li>Can show/hide sections</li> <li>Can expand/collapse sections</li> <li>Students can create a printable view</li> </ul>
<b>Discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized by topic and thread</li> <li>View by thread or date</li> <li>Expand/collapse individual threads</li> <li>Can move threads to a different topic</li> </ul>	<b>Discussions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized topics by category</li> <li>Add category and topic descriptions (opportunity to provide directions)</li> <li>Gradable (numeric or alphanumeric) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>View all posts by a student, compare student's participation to class average, and assign grade</li> </ul> </li> <li>Option to allow students to edit posts</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand/collapse individual threads plus expand or collapse all threads in topic</li> <li>Sortable (ascending or descending) by subject, author, date</li> <li>Can move or copy threads to a different topic</li> <li>Can release topic based on date, student or assessment grade (using selective release in action menu)</li> <li>Your postings automatically appear with a status of "read"</li> </ul>
<p><b>Chat</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Four modifiable chat rooms plus two general rooms</li> </ul> <p><b>Whiteboard</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can draw, load or paste images</li> </ul>	<p><b>Chat/Whiteboard</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can show whiteboard separately or along with chat tool</li> <li>Can create unlimited rooms with custom titles</li> <li>Can add description of room</li> <li>Can allow alias (customized participant names)</li> <li>Can create a slideshow of images that have been loaded or pasted into whiteboard (for future viewing)</li> <li>Handraise mode enables instructor to "call on" students waiting in queue to speak</li> <li>Can release room based on date, student or assessment grade (using selective release in action menu)</li> <li>Can have private rooms</li> <li>Can limit number of participants in a room</li> </ul>
<p><b>Calendar</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internal links to Content Module pages only</li> <li>Default monthly view</li> </ul>	<p><b>Calendar</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internal links to same learning activities as available in Learning Module (discussion topics, quizzes, assignments, etc)</li> <li>Can set preferred view (month, week, or day) and which day week begins on</li> <li>Can add repeatable (i.e. once every week on Tuesday) and multi-day events</li> <li>Automatically create calendar listings when create an assignment or assessment (quiz)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mail</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All designers share one identity</li> <li>Send messages to students selected from course list</li> <li>When messages are sent to multiple recipients, a duplicate copy is stored in the Outbox for each recipient</li> </ul>	<p><b>Mail</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each instructor/designer has own identity</li> <li>Can send messages to individually selected students or groups or whole class</li> <li>Can send CC and BCC</li> <li>When sending a message to multiple recipients, only one copy of the message is copied to Sent Mail folder</li> <li>Update listing is automatic</li> </ul>
<p><i>Not available</i></p>	<p><b>Who's Online</b> – class members can see others who are logged into course at same time and send chat invitation. Members can determine their visibility and availability to chat with others.</p>
<p><b>Student Tips</b></p>	<p><i>Not available – similar functionality can be accomplished with Announcements tool</i></p>
<p><b>Managing Student Work</b></p>	
<p><b>Assignments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students must turn in a file</li> <li>Assignment released to whole class</li> <li>Numeric grades only</li> <li>Individual assignments only</li> </ul>	<p><b>Assignments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students can turn in a written submission (without attaching a file) and/or a collection of files</li> <li>Assignment can be released to whole class, groups, or individual students</li> <li>Can create individual instructions for groups of students</li> <li>Can automatically create corresponding calendar entry</li> <li>Graded and ungraded assignments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Numeric or alphanumeric grades</li> </ul> </li> <li>Return assignments to students for revision before assigning a grade</li> <li>Instructor or student can publish student work</li> </ul> <p><i>Student homepages</i> incorporated into the assignment tool – an assignment can be defined to allow students to upload a web page and the assignment can be designed as "ungraded" and publishable by students</p>
<p><b>Student Homepages</b></p> <p>Students can create a "homepage" using the tool to add sections but cannot upload their own html pages</p>	

<p><b>Student Presentations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students can be placed in a group</li> <li>• Group can be given a private discussion topic</li> <li>• Group members can upload documents to shared file space</li> <li>• In order for group documents to be viewed must be web pages with the initial page named "index.htm(l)"</li> </ul>	<p><b>Group Manager</b>  <i>Student presentations</i> – groups are formed independently of the concept of submitting collaborative work using the <b>Group Manager</b>. An assignment can be designated for a group and one student can submit (and publish) the collaborative work; all students will receive the grade in the assignment tool and gradebook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group sign-up sheets allow students to sign up for groups or projects</li> <li>• Send mail to all members of a group</li> <li>• Create discussion topics and chat rooms for groups to facilitate communication</li> </ul>
<p><b>Quizzes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Question types: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Multiple choice</li> <li>○ Matching</li> <li>○ Calculated</li> <li>○ Short answer</li> <li>○ Paragraph</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Grading must be triggered by the student or instructor</li> <li>• Quiz settings include question delivery (all at once or one at a time), quiz duration, attempts separation, when score should be released, dates available, results displayed, submission message, proctor password</li> </ul>	<p><b>Assessments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Automatically create corresponding calendar entries</li> <li>• New question types: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Combination</li> <li>○ Fill in the blank</li> <li>○ Jumbled sentence</li> <li>○ True / False</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Grade by question option</li> <li>• Grade anonymously option</li> <li>• Quizzes are automatically graded upon submission</li> <li>• Self test questions can come directly from question database</li> <li>• Instructors can determine if students have taken self-tests</li> <li>• Quiz settings are the same</li> </ul>
<p><b>Self test</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple choice questions only</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Manage Students (under Control Panel/Manage Course)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gradebook column types: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Alphanumeric</li> <li>○ Numeric</li> <li>○ Calculated (formulas)</li> <li>○ Letter grade (based on numeric column data)</li> <li>○ Text</li> <li>○ Selection list</li> <li>○ Quiz (created and updated automatically)</li> <li>○ Assignment (created and updated automatically)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Enter grades by student or by column</li> </ul>	<p><b>Gradebook</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Column types are the same</li> <li>• Ability to freeze last name and first name columns for ease of viewing</li> <li>• Ability to highlight an individual student row for ease of viewing</li> <li>• Can click on an individual grade to change or enter or enter whole column (scores for all students)</li> <li>• Can enter an audit history for grade changes</li> </ul>
<p><b>Course Management</b></p>	
<p><b>Homepage/Organizer Pages</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Link icons and titles only</li> </ul>	<p><b>Course Content (Home)/Folders</b> (<i>new name</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Link annotations and choice of layouts</li> </ul>
<p><b>Access</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only one name associated with course as instructor; multiple faculty must be added as TA for message autonomy</li> <li>• Minimal student view of course components</li> <li>• Must have separate NetID account to experience course elements as a student</li> </ul>	<p><b>Access</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can have multiple faculty all with message and name autonomy</li> <li>• Student view tab is actual student view; can test assessments, assignments, gradebook and content as a student without having a separate account</li> <li>• Separate instructor and designer access allows shared responsibilities as needed without providing designers access to student data unnecessarily</li> </ul>
<p><b>Update Student View Function</b></p>	<p><i>No longer necessary</i></p>
<p><b>Student View</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sample student view that doesn't mirror the true student experience exactly</li> <li>• Requires 2<sup>nd</sup> login</li> </ul>	<p><b>Student View</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• True student view (you can even submit assignments, take assessments, get a grade, etc.)</li> <li>• No need for 2<sup>nd</sup> login</li> </ul>
<p><i>Not available</i></p>	<p><b>People Links</b> - access student performance statistics or e-mail a student by clicking on a student's name wherever it appears</p>

<p><b>Tracking</b> – (through Control Panel/Manage Course)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student tracking: first access, last access, # of hits, # of discussions read/posted, content pages visited (date and time)</li> <li>• Page tracking: # hits and time/hit for all content module pages</li> </ul>	<p><b>Report &amp; Tracking</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section tracking reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Summary of activity (# and length of student WebCT sessions, most/least active day and hour)</li> <li>○ Tool usage (# of times each tool accessed, average time spent)</li> <li>○ Course item usage (# of times pages are viewed, average time, percentage compared to total usage)</li> <li>○ Entry page or tool</li> <li>○ Exit page or tool</li> <li>○ File usage (overview of files viewed most frequently)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Roll-up reporting (multiple sections)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Navigation</b> – links to tools and content all added to organizer and/or course menu</p>	<p><b>Navigation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to all tools appear (if used) in the left under <b>Course Tools</b> or <b>My Tools</b></li> <li>• Links to folders, learning modules, specific discussion topics, specific assignments or specific chat rooms can be added to the home page or folders</li> </ul>
<p><i>Not available</i></p>	<p><b>Repository</b> – share critical or common departmental documents (i.e. plagiarism policy)</p>
<p><i>Not available</i></p>	<p><b>Selective Release Map</b> – see in one list all elements of course that are being controlled by the selective release function</p>
<p><b>Resume Course</b></p>	<p><i>Not available, in CE this feature was not consistently functional</i></p>