

Faculty Colleagues,

As the spring semester comes to a close, there are several important updates and reminders I would like to share with you about our Learning Management System (LMS).

Anthology Ally for Accessibility (new)

Beginning today, [Anthology Ally](#) will be enabled in all Brightspace courses. Ally is an accessibility checker that provides feedback and guidance to help improve the accessibility of course materials. It also includes a powerful alternative formats feature, allowing students to download content in formats such as audio, electronic braille, and ePub to better support their learning.

Blackboard Ends (reminder)

On June 18, 2026 Blackboard will no longer be accessible and any data in it will be erased. All Spring 2026 Blackboard courses will be imported into Brightspace in early June. Prior imports are courses offered from summer 2023 to fall 2025. You can log into [Brightspace](#) now to see your imports. If you desire any courses prior to summer 2023 or organizations to be imported, please make the request prior to May 31, 2026 [here](#). Since student data does not transfer, you should download any gradebooks or other student items you desire to keep prior to June 18. All grading of items in Blackboard (**for students with N grades, must be done prior to June 18**). Directions for downloading student information from Blackboard is [here](#). Note: [An imported Blackboard course](#) will not be ready to use as is for Brightspace. **If you desire to use material from Blackboard, it is highly recommended that you examine all your imports prior to June 18th so you can have Blackboard and Brightspace open at the same time for comparison and have time to make edits.**

Foundational Use of the LMS Requirement (reminder)

Starting with all May 2026 courses and beyond, all faculty must meet the [foundational use requirements](#) in Brightspace for all their courses. In short, this policy requires that faculty will post their syllabus, use the gradebook, post all digitally available material, and add due dates (using the "Due Date" setting) for assignments, exams, quizzes, readings, and other course requirements in Brightspace. Do you need help? Go [here](#) for all your Brightspace support needs or email support@villanova.edu. The Student Government Association is very excited for the foundational use implementation and Brightspace.

Don't Forget Adjuncts (new)

Communications about Brightspace have been emailed to all faculty scheduled to teach. Adjuncts are often added to courses later, may be new to Villanova, and sometimes don't check their Villanova email until close to the start of a semester. Department chairs/program directors should be proactively reaching out to new faculty and all their adjuncts to be sure they prepare for Brightspace and the foundational use requirements. [Trainings and support](#) are available to all faculty with Villanova credentials.

Third Party Tool Integrations (LTI) (updated)

All active LTIs in Brightspace are listed [here](#) and you can also submit a request to have other tools integrated into Brightspace [here](#). Note that new LTI requests submitted after July 1, 2026, may not be reviewed or implemented in time for Fall 2026. Please submit requests early as they require full University review (security, legal, etc.).

Thank you for your attention to these important LMS updates and for your continued work to support a smooth transition to Brightspace. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or ask for support at any time. Good luck with the end of the spring term.

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