Dear Colleagues:

Out with the old and in with the new?

At the start of a new year, many of us think about change, improvement, transformation, and innovation.

This issue provides examples of changes in Blackboard and Simple Syllabus. Blackboard has a new type of interactive test question called hotspots, and the Simple Syllabus template has improved alignment with the Dean's Council syllabus elements document.

From,
The Office of Instructional Technology, Design, & Assessment (ITDA)

Blackboard
NOW PART OF ANTHOLOGY

Blackboard learn + **anthology**

Turn your paper test into a Blackboard Test!

There are many different types of test questions available on Blackboard such as quiz bowl, hotspot, fill-in-the-blank, matching, and the newest type called hot spots!
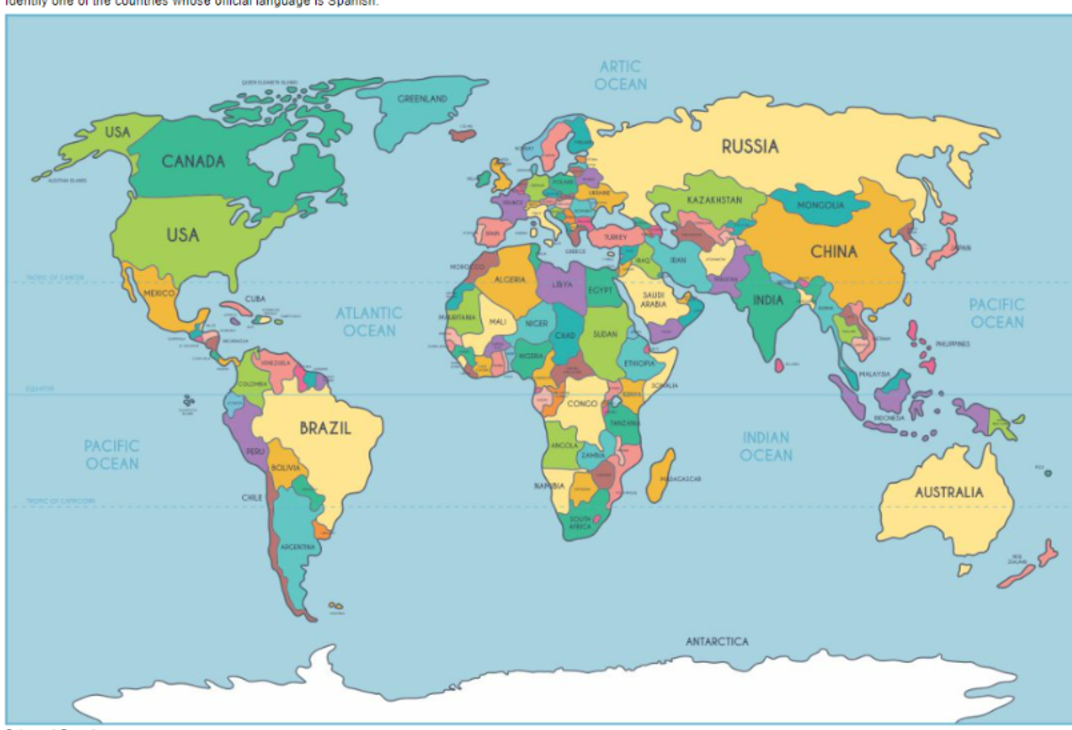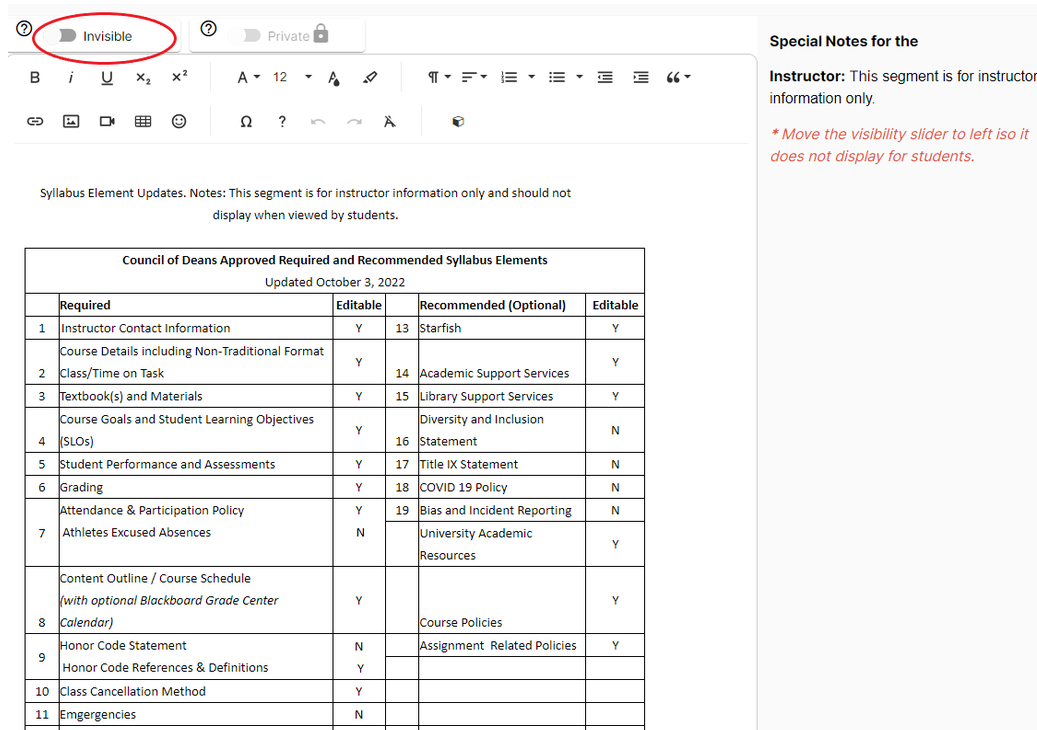
Carol Goss, LRC Director, recently booked a Blackboard test training session to turn her paper exam into a Blackboard exam. She was thrilled about the **hotspots**. Hotspot questions present students with an image that requires them to drop a pin on one or more hotspots created by you. See the example below.

Learn more about hotspot questions [here](#)!

Request a Blackboard test training session via helpdesk@valpo.edu to see how your paper test can be personalized in Blackboard to fit the needs of your students!

SIMPLE SYLLABUS

Simple Syllabus is our centralized, template-driven platform that enables instructors to quickly personalize and publish interactive class syllabi integrated into our Blackboard courses. The Council of Deans syllabus elements document has been incorporated into our Simple Syllabus template, updated for better alignment with the approved required and recommended components. Instructors will use the visibility slider to hide this from students' view.

Simple Syllabus Help Videos:

[Instructor Dashboard Overview](#)
[Using the Publisher](#)

Let us help you to build your Simple Syllabus

Click [Here](#) to send us your syllabus in an MS Word document via email. We'll upload it for you on [Blackboard](#) and it will also be accessed on the [VU Simple Syllabus production website site](#).

Submit a VITAL Helpdesk Ticket Request Here

Visit the NEW VITAL Website, One-Stop-Shop for Faculty Resources

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