Adaptive Release

Adaptive Release allows course instructors to set the availability of certain pieces of content in their Blackboard course to time, membership, grade, and review status of other pieces of content in the course.

It is a great way to customize the learning experience of students and to make sure that students reach a certain level of competency before moving on to more advanced units.

Some real-world examples of adaptive release include:

- Making viewing unit 2 depend on a passing grade in unit 1 material
- Having material appear only for selected groups
- Submitting art portfolio as an attachment
- Multiple draft writing assignments where document is submitted and resubmitted with changes tracked using MS Word's "Track Changes."

Steps for Successful Use of Blackboard Assignments

1. **Envision Your Adaptive Release Path**
   Think about:
   - what you want the learning path to be – can you create a storyboard
   - whether you want to have different paths for different groups
   - whether you want the learning path to be date, group, grade, or review dependent

2. **Layout Your Content in Blackboard**
   Upload the content, assignments, tests, and other tools that you want to be in your particular learning path.

   Try to put the material into Blackboard in the order in which you would like your students to view the content with the first item being number 1.
3. Make your Adaptive Release Path
   Follow these steps:

   1. From “Edit View” where your content is located start from the bottom and work your way up.
   2. Click on the “Manage” button next to each piece of content that you want to set a rule for.
   3. Choose from the possible rules either date, membership, grade, or review status.
   4. Repeat for each item in your learning path.

4. View Student Progress

   You can view the students in your course are progressing on a per content item basis.

   From the manage button, select “Adaptive Release and Review Status: User Progress.” This will show you list of your students and whether or not they have reviewed that piece of content.

   Go into the control panel for your course site and click on the content area where you have previously added content (or add the desired items now). In this example we will use Course Documents content area.

   To the right of an item or folder you will see a Manage button. Click on this to create a new adaptive release rule.

   Tip:
   Other options included in the Manage link include Review Status and Statistics Tracking. For further information on either topic, please see our additional tutorials on same.

Here, you can create either a:
Basic Rule: to create just **one criteria** or rule which students must fulfill before they can see a particular piece of content.

Advanced Rule: to create multiple criteria or rules which students must fulfill before they can see a particular piece of content.

Creating a Basic Rule:

In section 1, set the availability dates for the item if desired.

**OR**

In section 2, you can choose to set a rule for a particular student (using their **NYU Net ID**) or a specific previously created group.

**Tip:**
If you are interested in creating groups in your Blackboard course site, this can be achieved by using the Advanced Group Management tool. For specific steps please see our tutorial on this topic.

**OR**

In section 3, you can choose to apply a **Grade** rule to the content. You can choose from previously created **Grade Center columns** from the drop-down list.

**OR**

In section 4, you can choose to apply a **Review status** for the content.

Finally, in section 5, click **Submit** to save your changes.
In the content area you will now see that the content item has *Adaptive Release Enabled* notification.

Creating an Advanced Rule:

Advanced adaptive release allows you to apply more than one rule to a piece of content. If multiple rules are created, the content will be visible to a student if all criteria within *any* of the rules are met.

You can add a new rule, copy an existing rule and amend the same, or remove a rule.