



Blackboard - Learning Tools Interoperability & Open Education Resources

Blackboard Building Blocks have long been a staple in the Blackboard Learn platform. Building blocks are connectors from Blackboard to partner & textbook publisher content sites, some of which provide grade transfer interoperability.

Some Blackboard Building Blocks are just content links.

Elsevier (Evolve), Office Mix, YouTube are good examples.

Others are building blocks with partner content and grade transferring interoperability:

Cengage (Mindlinks), McGraw Hill (Higher Education Connect), Pearson (MyLab & Mastering Tools), Wiley, with more to come.

Use of Building Blocks from within Blackboard:

- Please navigate to the Rio Grande Blackboard page and login using your RioNET username and password, not the user's full e-mail address.
 - If you are having difficulty with Blackboard account logins, test your password on the Office 365 login page using your RioNET e-mail address and password.
 - An online Password Portal is available for self-service password changes from the MyRio page off the Rio Grande campus web site.
 - RioNET & Blackboard accounts are not activated upon admission, but are activated just prior to the first term of Rio Grande attendance.
- Blackboard will display the courses in which you are enrolled and instructors should have course instructions in the syllabi or course content areas.
- ALWAYS enter a textbook publisher site from within Blackboard!
- Access Codes for publisher content sites are sold with textbooks, or as a separate item.

General Troubleshooting Steps for Building Block Sites:

If you have an issue with a building block site, try these steps first:

- Closing the building block window and log back again from within Blackboard
- Quit and restart the browser
- Try restarting the computer
- Try a different web browser (Firefox, Chrome, Edge, Safari...)
- Try a different computer
- Try a different network connection/location

If all of these fail, notify your instructor that you are having some difficulties, then contact technical support using the link provided or by calling the hotline # they list. Each Blackboard Content Partner may provide dedicated digital course support hotlines specifically for your classes and a phone number. Rio



Grande does not provide direct troubleshooting and technical support beyond the basic Blackboard login and browser assistance.

Open Education Resources:

Course instructors may opt for textbooks and course resource materials that are not in a traditional published and bound format from a major publishing company. Open-source, public domain, and open education resources are being adopted for some courses by instructors when those materials are available and suitable as a lower cost substitution. Students should follow instructions from within the syllabi and course content materials for the proper web links, then direct computer and mobile device browsers to legal download sites. Electronic publishing formats like PDF, E-PUB and MOBI are typical. It is the student's responsibility to learn their device operations and functionality. Less expensive printed versions may be available from the Rio Grande Bookstore or other sources.

For More Information: See Davis Library's LibGuide on [Textbook Options and Open Access](#)

RioNET Information Sheets – Troubleshooting & Assistance Guides

Using technology does not always come easy. What is easy for some, may offer challenges or technical issues for another person. Please reference our Guides for more assistance: <https://www.rio.edu/mail>.

Campus Computing & Networking – support@rio.edu – 800-282-7201