Blackboard Learn (9.0)
Assignment and Assessment

Early Warning System

The Early Warning System is a tool used to communicate warnings to Students or Observers that a performance problem is beginning to appear or has become more serious. Warnings can be generated based on graded performance, late or missing course work, or attendance within the online course. The Instructor can choose to communicate a particular warning to just the Student, the Student and a parent or advisor that is assigned as an Observer, or just the Student’s Observer. In addition, the Instructor has control over the message each time a warning is communicated. The Instructor can use the default message or modify it to more accurately communicate the seriousness of the situation.

The Early Warning System Rules

Rules determine when the Early Warning System flags student performance. It is up to the Instructor to communicate the warning to the user through the Notification Log. There are three options for rules:

- **Grade Rule**: Identifies when student performance on an Assignment, Assessment, or manually graded item is equal to or below a certain level. It is also possible to set a Grade Rule that identifies when a user exceeds a performance level. This can be a useful tool for positive feedback.
- **Due Date Rule**: Identifies when a Student does not complete course work when it is due. A Due Date Rule can only be used to track an Assignment or Assessment created through the Blackboard Learning System. Due Date Rules cannot be created for manually graded items.
- **Last Access Rule**: Identifies the last time a Student accessed the course online.

Please keep in mind that rules are not constantly running in the background checking for events. Manually refresh the Early Warning System to run the rules and check for events that will trigger a warning.

From the Control Panel, select Evaluation and then select Early Warning System then select **Add a Rule**.

1. Click the **Add Grade Rule**, **Add Due Date Rule**, or **Add Last Access Rule**

2. Enter a name and availability for the rule and then set the rule criteria and click submit.
Modify and Delete a Rule

1. Click on the drop down arrow next to the Rule name and select the desired option.
Refresh Rules

1. Select one or more rules from the list.

2. Click Refresh from the action bar. The selected rules will be run and any events that trigger the rule will create a warning.

To view a log of the Early Warning Results, go to the Control Panel, select Evaluation and then select Early Warning System.

The number displayed in the Early Warning system column will provide a detailed view of an individual user’s status against all Rules. **Follow these steps to notify users when their performance triggers an alert:**

1. Select Early Warning System from the Control Panel.

2. Place a check mark in the rule you wish to trigger an alert.

3. Select from the drop down arrow Review Rule Status
4. Select the users to notify from the list by placing a checkmark in the appropriate boxes.

5. Edit the Subject and Message and click Submit to send the notification. The notification may include attachments and users not associated with the course. Also, the sender may copy themselves on the message.