Webinars
Remote live teaching and seminars

Whilst there are numerous tools you can use to host a live webinar, Blackboard provides an inbuilt webinar function called ‘Collaborate’. You can share your screen, presentation slides/documents and webcam feed in a secure online environment. Students can interact via the chat forum or come onto video/mic. Collaborate also offers virtual polling and other interactive tools.

Screenshots of Blackboard Collaborate webinar room. Presenters can share video via their webcam.

Top tips?

- Use a webinar where live student interaction is needed.
- Smaller groups foster greater interaction from students – consider dividing ‘live’ teaching into smaller groups and supplement ‘live’ with asynchronous activity.
- Host a practice session first, to orientate yourself and students in the tool. The student TEL Support site offers a range of student facing resources and joining instructions. *scroll to end of page
- Record your session for students who could not attend, Collaborate provides a recording function and allows MP4 downloads.

We strongly recommend using a headset when conducting a webinar for best audio quality. In addition, find a quiet room and ensure private data in not in view (physically or virtually – such as email notifications when screen sharing).

Getting started

Use our Blackboard Collaborate Support Guides to find out how to plan, set-up and run a session.

Aim to make them interactive and collaborative, using active learning techniques to engage students. Use the following guides to help you:

Basic principles
Presentation techniques