

Introduction to Blackboard

What is Blackboard?

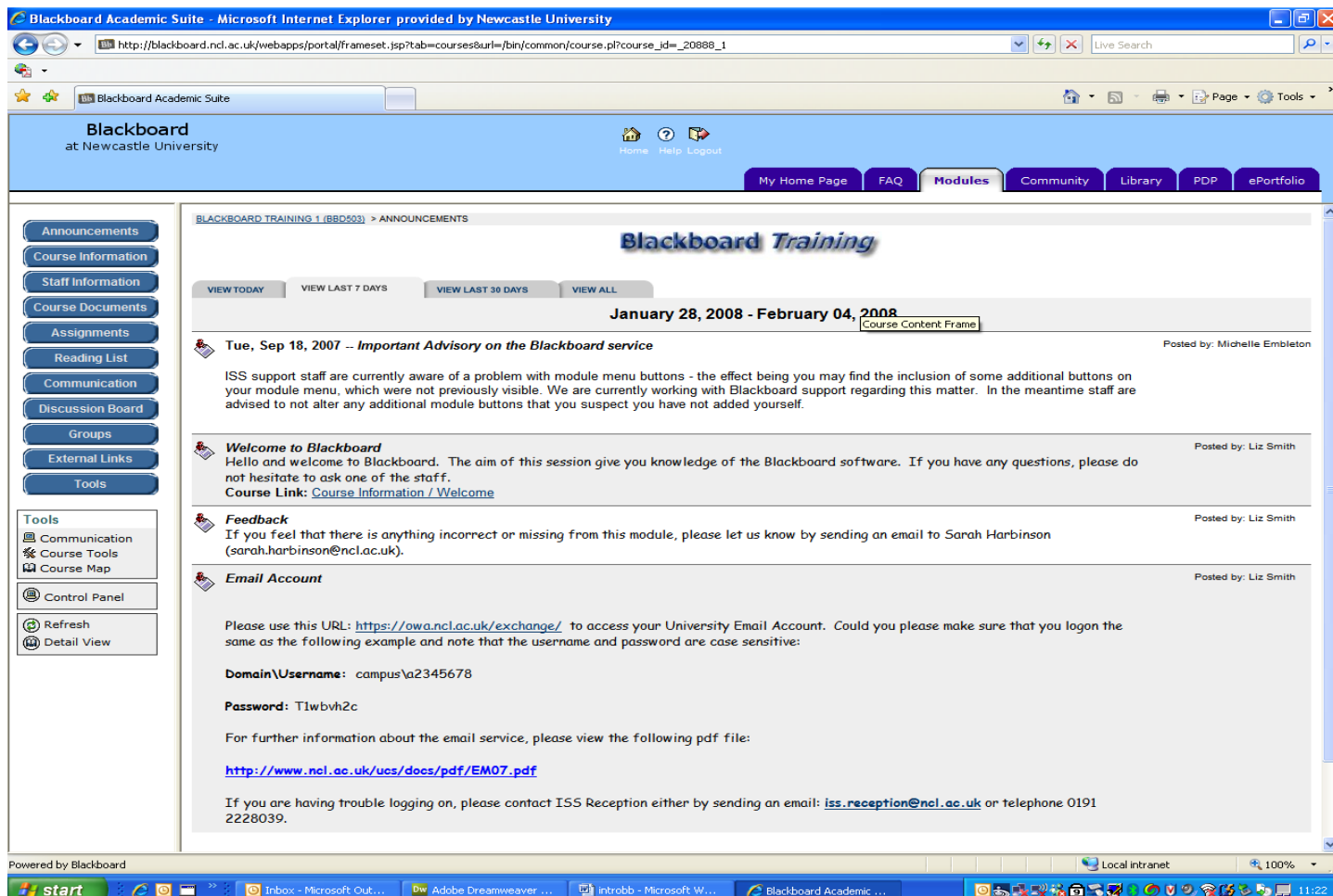
A Managed Learning Environment (MLE) or Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) is a system that works across a network as a "virtual classroom". Blackboard is an MLE.

Blackboard is server software that allows tutors and their students to share learning materials on the Web, communicate and collaborate, and evaluate and measure student progress.

Once registered on the programme, you will be using Blackboard to access the materials you need as well as to communicate with other students.

Once you have been registered with the University, you will be given a username and password to access the modules you are enrolled for.

The "Courses" Page



The Courses area of Blackboard contains the following components

Announcements	This area is used to display announcements, updates, and reminders. This area appears in the main course window each time you enter the course.
Course Information	This area is used to display general information about the course. Typically, this contains an approved course description, learning outcomes and a welcome message from the module leader.
Staff Information	This area contains specific information about staff who are involved in the course.
Course Documents	This content-specific area is used to hold the majority of information that will be delivered online such as learning materials, background material, and related activities.
Assignments	This area holds course assignments, which are marked.
Reading List	This area is used to store your reading list for the module. This will include links to electronic references
Communication	This area holds all of the communication tools. Discussion, chat, and email are located here, along with student and group pages.
Discussion Board	Allocated discussion board where students can create discussions among fellow students
Groups	This page gives information on fellow students on each programme
External Links	This area lists helpful URLs you can use to take virtual "field trips" or view related course material.
Tools	This area holds the tools needed to submit information to the instructor, view a course calendar, check your grades, manage your homepage, and edit your profile.