CourseSmart® in Blackboard Learn™ 9.1

FAQs

Overview of CourseSmart

What is CourseSmart?
CourseSmart is the world's largest provider of eTextbooks and digital course materials. The CourseSmart catalog includes over 90% of the core textbooks in use today in North American Higher Education from leading publishers including Bedford, Freeman & Worth Publishing Group, Cengage Learning, John Wiley & Sons, McGraw-Hill Education, Pearson and many others.

CourseSmart's comprehensive selection gives you an efficient way to find and access the course materials you need in one place. Enjoy the benefits of anytime, anywhere access from any web browser and on many popular devices (including the Android, iPad, iPhone and iPod Touch).

Why would I need CourseSmart?
With one-click access to the largest selection of eTextbooks, it's the most efficient way to discover, evaluate, and adopt digital course materials.

CourseSmart offers:

- A catalog of over 90% of the core textbooks in use today, representing leading publishers such as Pearson, Cengage Learning, McGraw-Hill Education, John Wiley & Sons, Bedford, Freeman & Worth Publishing Group (Macmillan), and many others.
- Anytime, anywhere access to course materials at the click of a mouse from any web browser and on many popular devices, including the iPad, iPhone, iPod Touch, and Android.
- Ability to search by discipline and topic to find a listing of the most appropriate materials for your courses.
- Ability to read offline by simply downloading chapters (see instructions below)
How does CourseSmart’s seamless integration within Blackboard Learn 9.1 make my life easier?

Faculty have seamless, one-click access to the largest selection of eTextbooks and digital course materials within their Blackboard Learn courses, making it easier to discover, evaluate, and adopt digital course materials. This allows:

- More streamlined evaluation of course materials with complementary, single sign-on access to the CourseSmart catalog.
- After your initial visit, and email verification confirms a pre-existing CourseSmart account or establishes a new account, your single sign-on through Blackboard Learn provides immediate access without the need for a separate user name and password.
- More efficient and effective communication to students regarding course materials, via the “Assign Textbook” option in Blackboard Learn’s online course pages.
- Clearer homework assignments, by deep linking to the page(s) in the textbook via the mash-up feature.

Evaluating eTextbooks

How do I access the eTextbooks for evaluation?

1. From your Blackboard Learn course, go to the tools page and click on the CourseSmart logo.
(2) On your first visit, you will be asked to enter your email address. If you do not have a pre-existing CourseSmart account, you will be asked to complete this profile.

(3) After you submit your profile, you will see your personal CourseSmart Bookshelf. After your initial visit, you will be taken directly to your bookshelf. The bookshelf includes a top-level search that allows you to browse the entire CourseSmart catalog by discipline to find all the appropriate titles for your course.
(4) On CourseSmart, you can search on keyword, title, author, or ISBN. The search in the illustration below was by title (Intermediate Accounting) and author (Kieso).

(5) You can also do a comparative topic search on your Bookshelf, once you have added titles. Searching all of the eTextbooks on your bookshelf by topic provides a quick, efficient way to start your textbook selection process, and find the textbook that is most appropriate for your course.
Web Development & Design Foundations with XHTML, Fourth Edition
Tony Hoare, Mary Harbottle
1. Page 116
...some common and very efficient. However, if the skill set of your organization is mostly Microsoft technologies, your staff will be more comfortable and more productive with a Web host...

2. Page 257
...

Marketing Management, Thirteenth Edition
Philip Kotler, Kevin Lane Keller
1. Page 63
...a territory, customer or segment; trade channel; order size; marketing control data and staff management. Marketing control data is used to evaluate and improve the spending efficiency and impact of marketing expenditures...

2. Page 52
...market is assigning costs and generating profit: apply loss state-means, and profitability is finding ways to increase the efficiency of the sales force, advertising, sales promotion, and distribution. Integration...

3. Page 159
...Creation's category. Table 3.2 treats the LOMP market into five segments
(6) When you have found a title you would like to see, click on the “Add to My Bookshelf” green button. You will be taken to the “Get Instant Access” form to complete. Once you have clicked the “Add to My Bookshelf” you will find the title waiting for you there.
Assigning eTextbooks

How do I “assign” an eTextbook to my Blackboard Learn course?
When you have decided on the textbook/course materials you want to adopt for the course, click the “CourseSmart eTextbook” link when it appears under the “Assign Textbook” button. Choose the appropriate title(s) from your CourseSmart bookshelf, select required or recommended, enter a description and hit submit.
Creating Assignments from your eTextbook

How do I build linked reading or other homework assignments into my course?
Build Content can be used to create a deep link into CourseSmart’s Online Reader for ungraded activities like the weekly reading assignments or homework problems. Adding a link to CourseSmart’s online reader helps ensure students are on the same page regarding graded and ungraded assignments. Deep links benefit all students --- even those that use traditional printed textbooks, since the page number, figure number, and illustration locations are exactly the same as the printed textbook. CourseSmart’s online reader offers full access to free trial pages (typically the first chapter) and a preview mode for the rest of the book. This helps students prepare for the first week of class, and helps ensure everyone is on the same page for assignments.

To create these deep links, go to Curriculum Resources and click on “CourseSmart Link” under the Build Content tab.

Step 1
Choose from the list of previously assigned eTextbooks or click “Search CourseSmart” to assign new course materials.

Step 2
Update the link title and describe key learning objectives in the description editor.

Step 3
Enter the page where the reading or other ungraded assignment begins. You can browse the eTextbook’s table of contents to find the desired page or section, or if you already know the page number, enter it in the “Or specify page” field.

Optional
Update the options to control when students can see this information and to enable tracking the number of students who click this link.
How do I create graded assignments?
To create graded assignments, use the “CourseSmart Mash-Up” option which adds a link to the assessment’s description. Under Create Assessment, choose assignment, then click on the Mash Up button.

**Step 1**
Choose from the list of previously assigned CourseSmart eTextbooks and Digital Course Materials

**Step 2**
Enter the page where the assignment begins. You can browse the eTextbook’s Table of Contents to find the desired page or section. Or if you already know the page number, enter it in the “Or, specify page” field.

**Step 3**
Optional: To test the link, simply click it. A new browser tab or window will open CourseSmart’s online reader to the desired page in the eTextbook.
The CourseSmart eReader Experience

What do the eTextbooks from CourseSmart look like?
With CourseSmart eTextbooks, you have the same capabilities you have with a print book:

- Highlighting
- Note-taking
- Email
- Printing, for personal use, 10 pages at a time and up to 150% of the length of the textbook.
- Page fidelity with their print counterparts (i.e. Figure 5.1 will be found on p. 128 in the eTextbook and in the print book), so all students are literally on “the same page.”

How do I download chapters to read offline when I don’t have internet access?
You can read selected, cached chapters through your Firefox browser offline. Just follow these steps:

1. From your CourseSmart bookshelf, select the desired eTextbook.
2. Click the button to enable offline access.
3. Select chapters, or sections/parts, to "check out" and make available for offline use.
4. Once the chapters are successfully made available for offline use, you can access your chapters in your internet browser – even while offline.*
5. The offline Reader supports key features like notes, highlights, copy, and searching the current page.
*Users can only store chapters offline on one computer at a time. The offline reader functionality requires Firefox 3.6 or higher.

**Can I access my eTextbooks from my iPad®?**
Yes, but you will be asked to sign in with a password.

Because you have instant access through your Blackboard course, you will not be signing on with your CourseSmart password after the initial verification. So, if you forget your password, follow the steps for “Forgot your Password” on www.coursesmart.com to have your password reset. Once you receive your reset password, use it on the iPad® app.

**What if I have trouble?**
Step-by-step instructions are available for key features at http://support.coursesmart.com/ or by following the help link in CourseSmart’s Bookshelf or Reader. CourseSmart Customer Service specialists are available 24/7/365 via phone, email or online chat at http://support.coursesmart.com/ or 866-588-3197

**Can my students purchase eTextbooks from CourseSmart?**
Yes. Over 90% of the textbooks used in higher ed classrooms in North America are available as eTextbooks at CourseSmart. And students can save up to 60% off the price of print textbooks.