LINKING LISTS TO BLACKBOARD

Talis Aspire Reading Lists for academic staff

For modules where one or more online reading list has been set up, you can create links to Talis Aspire from your Blackboard course.

Links can be added:
- On the course menu
- Inside any content area

Add a Link to the Course Menu

Click on the + sign above the menu.
Select Tool Link.
Type ‘Reading Lists’ in the Name field.
From the drop-down choose Reading Lists.
Tick the Available checkbox, so that students will able to see the link.
This will add 'Reading Lists' to the bottom of the course menu.

Click on the link. You will briefly see 'The LTI link has been launched'.

As a member of staff you then have to log on to the online Reading Lists System via University of Reading Single Sign-On.

Enter your credentials and the online Reading List System will open within Blackboard.

The full Blackboard course name will appear in the reading lists search box.

Use the radio buttons to select the correct list for this academic year.

The selected list will display; press Save.

Now, when a student clicks the Reading List link on the menu, they will go direct to this list (without any need to log on)
Menu Areas Copied from Previous Years

If you already have a Reading List item on your course menu, that will almost certainly have been copied from last year’s course.

This will be a simple Content area containing your reading list as an uploaded Word document or PDF. You should hide or delete this area to save any confusion with the new online reading list.

If there is a grey square next to 'Reading List', this denotes that it is a Blackboard Content area which is empty – it will not be visible to students, and you can safely delete it.

Linking from the Course Menu to Multiple Reading Lists

Using the ‘Reading List’ tool, you can only create one Talis link on your Blackboard course menu (if you try to add a second link, it will automatically point to the same list as your first link).

If you have multiple reading lists, and wish to link to these from the course menu, then you can create a ‘Reading Lists’ content area, and add all of the links into that area.

To do this:

Click on the + sign above the menu, then select Content Area.

Type 'Reading Lists' in the Name field.

Tick the Available checkbox, so that students will able to see the content area.

Then follow the procedures below to add links in this area to individual lists.

Adding a List (or Lists) in a Content Area

You can insert a link to an online reading list in any Blackboard content area.

For example, if you have more than one reading lists for the module (e.g. Autumn term, Spring Term, or Seminar readings and Further reading), you could incorporate a link to each of these lists into the structure of your Blackboard course.

To do this, in the content area where you want the link to appear, click on Build Content and choose Reading Lists.
On the screen which appears, enter a Name (this can be edited later, if you can’t remember the exact names of your individual reading lists). You may also want to add a brief description of the list.

Press Submit:
Now click on the link you have just created. You will be taken to the online Reading Lists system – follow exactly the same procedure as shown on pages 2-4 of this guide.

You could create separate links for each of your lists: Autumn Term list, Further reading etc.

The links appear like any other web links in Blackboard; when a student clicks on one of these links, they will be taken direct to the specific list in Aspire.

**Further Help**

Please see additional guides on managing your course menu and creating content items located on the Support for Staff tab in Blackboard.

Further help can be found on the Blackboard Help site at: https://en-us.help.blackboard.com/User_Filter/Instructor/No_Mobile/Higher_Education

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