

# Blackboard Tips:

## Set Announcements as Course Entry Point

Within Blackboard (<http://blackboard.uscupstate.edu>), instructors can customize the first page that you and your students see. This allows you to ensure that students' attention is drawn to the task or information most relevant at that moment in the course.

### Purpose and Applications

You can set Announcements as the Course Entry Point to:

- Provide updates or information that would not otherwise fit into another section of the course.
- Alert students to information, activities, deadlines, or content posted elsewhere in the course.

### How to Set Announcements as the Course Entry Point

- Navigate to **Teaching Style** under the Blackboard **Customization** in the **Control Panel**.

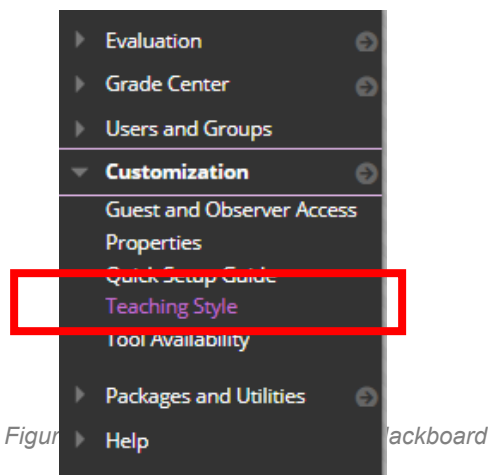


Figure 1 Control Panel Customization Menu

- Scroll down to **Select Course Entry Point** in the middle of the **Teaching Style** page. Be sure Edit Mode is ON in the upper-right corner.

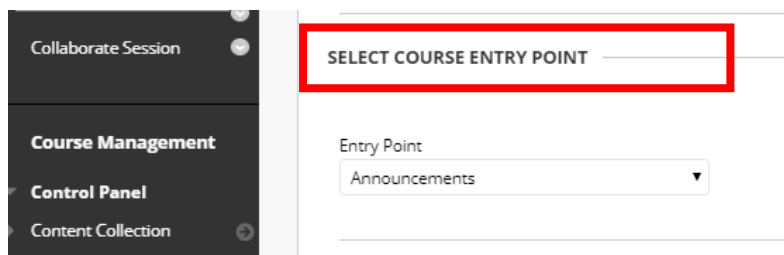
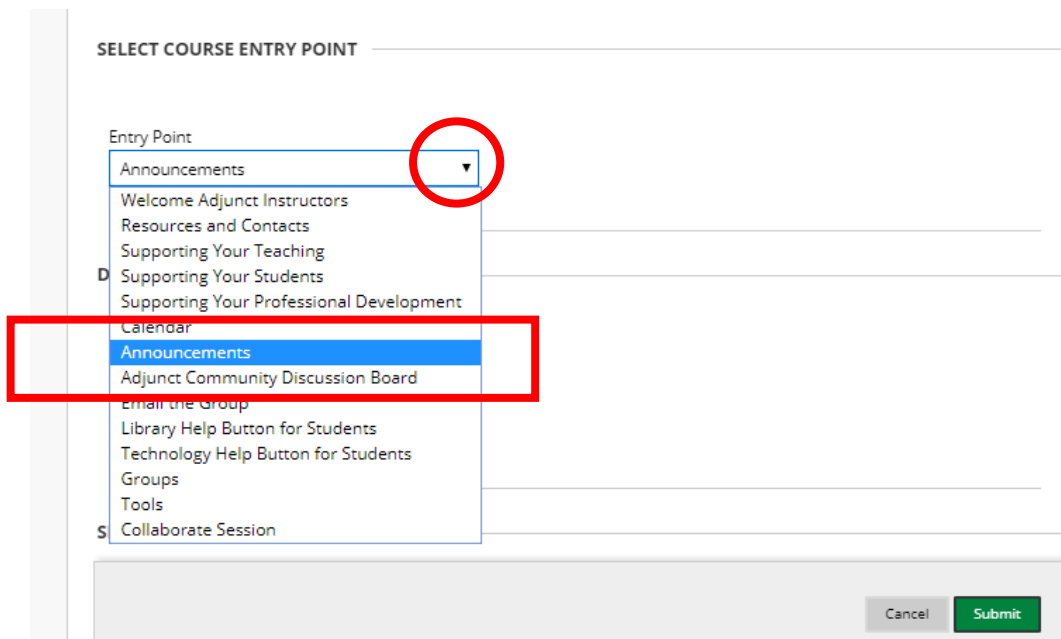


Figure 3 Select Entry Point Option

For help implementing any Blackboard best practices in your classes, contact [academicinnovation@uscupstate.edu](mailto:academicinnovation@uscupstate.edu).

- Use the drop-down menu to select the Blackboard page you would like students to see first when they enter the course. In this case, select **Announcements**.



- Click **Submit**.

### Quick Tips for Use

- Add a Course Menu Item to make a direct link to Announcements in your course (See Blackboard Tip: Create an Announcements Course Menu Item).
- Change your course entry point on major exam days to link directly to the exam or set the course entry point as your course syllabus or weekly assignments to help students find important course information at a glance.

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