Collaborate Engagement Features

Blackboard Collaborate has several built-in features to allow an instructor to engage with students and promote interaction during a class session.

* **Raise hand** – Allows students to indicate they have a question or can be used to keep students on task by prompting “everyone raise your hand when you’re ready to move to the next topic”, for example.



* **Feedback** (at the My Status and Settings icon) – Allows instructors to check for understanding and allows students to indicate their opinion on a topic being discussed or give feedback on the pace of the lesson. This is useful when the instructor issues a call to action for the class to provide one of the feedback types listed.



* **Polling** – allows instructors to ask the class a “Yes/No” or “Multiple Choice” question and then have a discussion based on the responses.



* **Share blank whiteboard** – provides a space where the instructor and/or students can interact by drawing shapes, adding text, or drawing freehand.
	+ Open the Collaborate Panel
	+ Click Share Content
	+ Share Blank Whiteboard
	+ The drawing tools are at the top of the screen.
* **Share files** and **annotate** by adding text, boxes, or freestyle pencil marks over the content:
	+ Open the Collaborate Panel
	+ Click Share Content
	+ Click Share Files
	+ Drop file (only allows png, jpg, ppt and pdf files)
	+ Select file
	+ Click Share Now
	+ The annotation tools will be present at the top of the screen.
* **Breakout Groups** – allows the instructors to divide the class into smaller groups in order to discuss topics amongst only those in their group.
	+ Open the Collaborate Panel
	+ Click Share Content
	+ Click Breakout Groups