

The Adaptive Release feature allows instructors to set rules that specify when certain content is made available to students or groups of students. Once rules are set, students or groups of students must meet the criteria for further items to be available to them. Adaptive Release is a good way to insure students are following a prescribed learning path, when appropriate.

What is Adaptive Release?

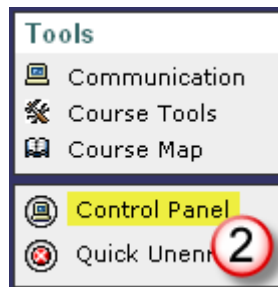
The Adaptive Release is an option in Blackboard where access to an item (such as a quiz) is made to be contingent on the completion of another (such as review of the course notes for a given week). Instructors can link two or more items through Adaptive Release to create a set learning path for students. To use Adaptive Release, assignments or other items must first be created as normal, and then Adaptive Release rules are created and applied. Rules can select who can access an item (individuals or groups) or release of an item can be based on benchmarks or other criteria (such as date, time, scores or attempts). This tutorial covers how to set-up an adaptively released item as well as how to check the review status of some items.

Prep for Adaptive Release

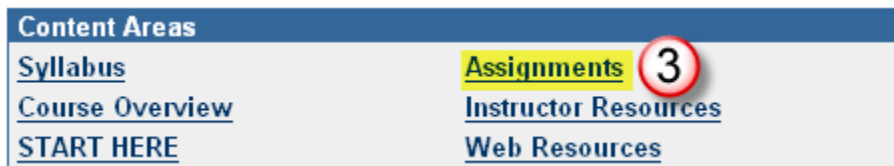
1. Before using Adaptive Release to link two or more items in your course, those items must first be created/loaded into Blackboard. Follow the appropriate directions to create the Assignments, Assessments, Discussion Boards, or whatever item it is that you wish to apply Adaptive Release rules to. Tutorials on how to create many kinds of items in Blackboard can be found at: <http://www.wilmu.edu/instructionaltech/tutorials.aspx>

Create Adaptive Release Rules (Basic Rules)

2. Enter the course, then Click **Control Panel**.

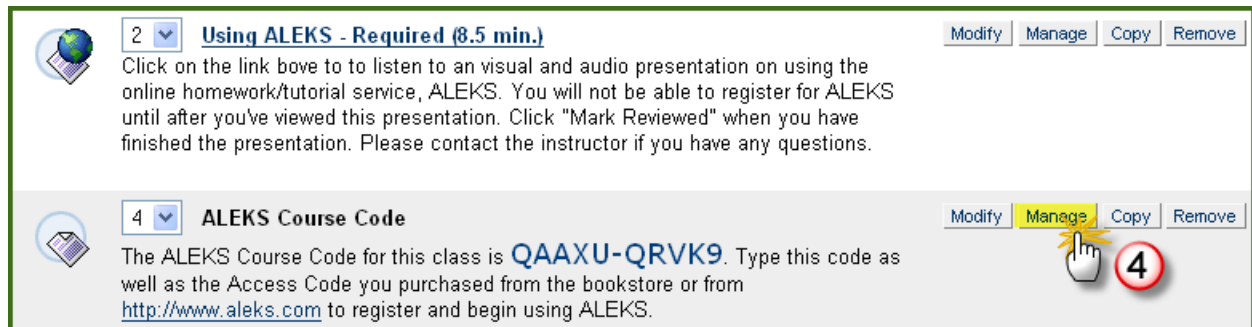


3. Click on the **Content Area** link where the item you wish to Adaptively Release is located. In this example, we will use an item in the Assignments area of the course.



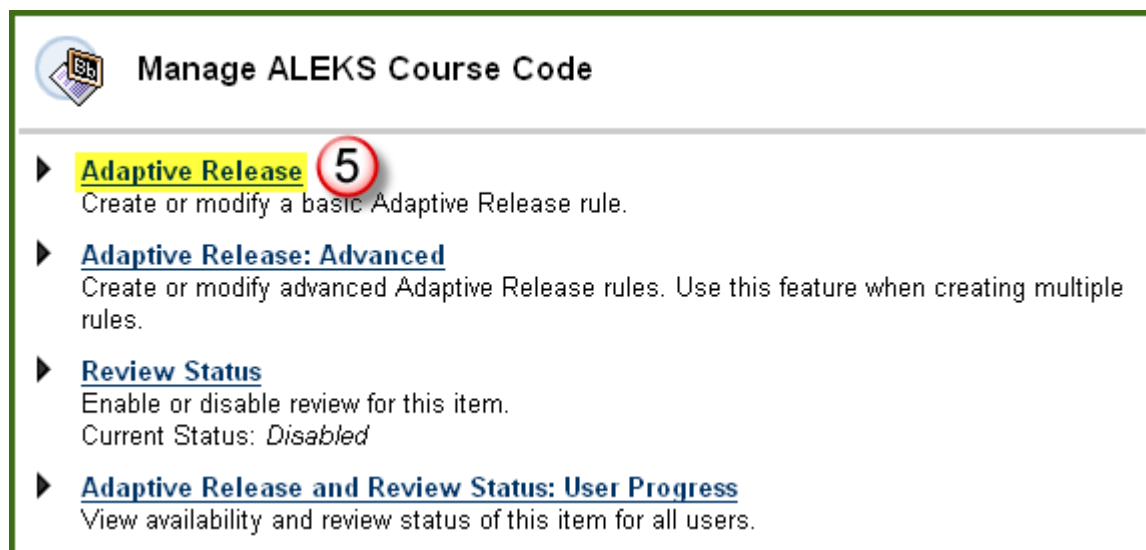
4. Once the Content Area you chose is open, find the item you wish to be Adaptively Released (the item that is contingent on some other item) and click **Manage**. In the example below,

the item “ALEKS Course Code” will be contingent on students viewing the “Using ALEKS” presentation, so Manage will be selected for the “ALEKS Course Code” item.



The screenshot shows two course items. The first item is "Using ALEKS - Required (8.5 min.)" with a dropdown menu set to "2". The second item is "ALEKS Course Code" with a dropdown menu set to "4". The "Manage" button for the second item is highlighted in yellow, and a red circle with the number "4" is next to it. A hand cursor is pointing at the "Manage" button.

5. Select **Adaptive Release** from the list of choices.

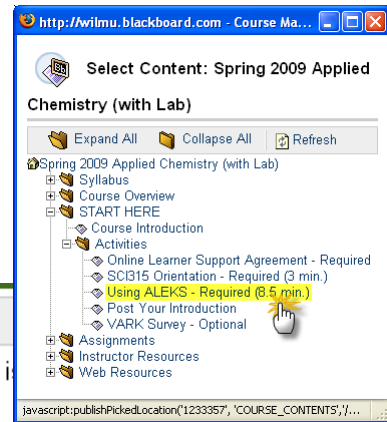


The screenshot shows the "Manage ALEKS Course Code" page. The "Adaptive Release" option is highlighted in yellow, and a red circle with the number "5" is next to it. The other options are "Adaptive Release: Advanced", "Review Status", and "Adaptive Release and Review Status: User Progress".

6. Create or modify a basic Adaptive Release rule by filling in specific fields on the page that appears.
 - Use **Date** if you want an item to be released to students only after a certain day and time. Date-restricted items do not need to be contingent on other items in Blackboard.
 - Use **Membership** if you want an item to be available only to certain students or groups in your course. Users must be specified in a username list or group, separated by commas
 - Use **Grade** if you'd like to release an item only if a student has attempted an item (that you then grade) or if they've scored above or below a certain point value on an item.
 - Use **Review Status** if you want to release an item only after a student has selected “Mark Reviewed” for an item.

Finally, click the **Submit** button at the bottom of the page.

For the example used in this tutorial, a **Review Status** rule was created by clicking **Browse** in the Review Status field, navigating to the item in the pop-up **Course Map** that appeared (see image, right), and then **Submit** was clicked (see image, below).



4 Review Status

This content item is visible to all users until a Review Status criteria is met. You can enable Review for that item.

Select an item

5 Submit

Click **Submit** to finish. Click **Cancel** to quit.

- You should now see notice that your items require some form of Adaptive Release in your Content Area list. For the example used in this tutorial, we now see **Enabled: Review** for the item students must Mark Reviewed and **Enabled: Adaptive Release** for the item that will be Adaptively Released.

2 **Using ALEKS - Required**

Enabled: Review

Click on the link above to listen to the presentation on using the online homework/tutorial service, ALEKS. You will not be able to register for ALEKS until after you've viewed this presentation. Click "Mark Reviewed" when you have finished the presentation. Please contact the instructor if you have any questions.

Students will Mark Reviewed for this item

4 **ALEKS Course Code**

Enabled: Adaptive Release

The ALEKS Course Code for this class is [redacted] code as well as the Access Code you purchased from the bookstore or from <http://www.aleks.com> to register and begin using ALEKS.

This item is now Adaptively Released

Create Adaptive Release Rules (Advanced Rules)

If more complex rules are required than those listed under the Adaptive Release option under Manage (steps 4-6), follow the steps below to create an Advanced Adaptive Release rule. Advanced rules can make an item contingent on multiple items or events.

8. To create an Advanced Adaptive Release rule, follow steps 1-3 above, then click on **Adaptive Release: Advance** under the list of **Manage** options.

Manage ALEKS Course Code

- ▶ **Adaptive Release**
Create or modify a basic Adaptive Release rule.
- ▶ **Adaptive Release: Advanced** **8**
Create or modify advanced Adaptive Release rules. Use this feature when creating multiple rules.
- ▶ **Review Status**
Enable or disable review for this item.
Current Status: *Disabled*

9. Click on the **Add Rule** button.

Adaptive Release: Advanced

9

Rule Copy Remove

10. Provide a **Rule Name** and click **Submit**.

11. Build Advanced Rules by selecting any combination of **Date**, **Membership**, **Grade**, or **Review Status** (see step 6 for a description of each). Click on the Submit button after you specify the criteria. If you want to delete a criteria, click a check mark in the box and you can delete a criterion by then clicking on the Remove button. To change any criterion, click on the

Add Rule **10**

1 Rule Name
Provide a name for this rule

* **Rule Name**

2 Submit
Click **Submit** to finish. Click **Cancel** to quit.

* Required Field

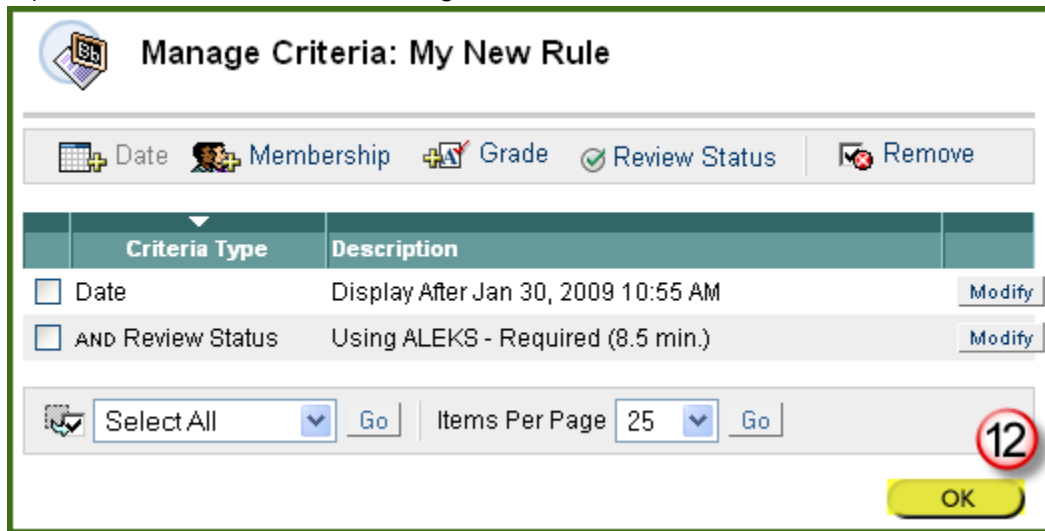
Modify button to the right of the description of the criteria.

Manage Criteria: My New Rule **11**

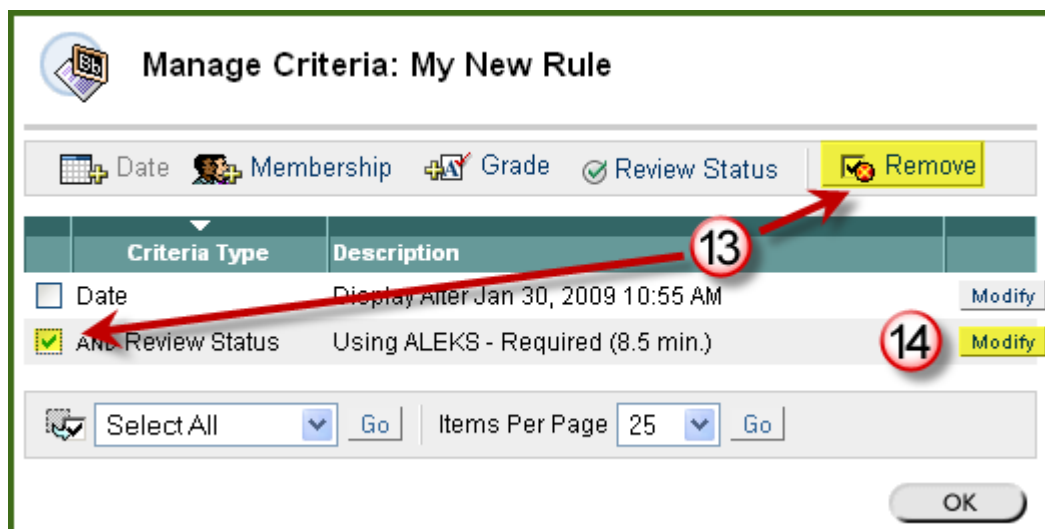
Date Membership Grade Review Status Remove

Create release criteria for this item using the rule types above. Adding criteria to this rule will narrow the ability of users to view this content item. If the item is unavailable, all rules will be ignored. If there are date rules on the item, those dates will narrow any date criteria rules set on this page.

12. As Rule Criteria are added, they will appear in the Manage Criteria view (see example below). Click OK when finished adding Criteria.



13. To delete a Rule Criterion, place a check in the box next to the Criterion and then click the Remove button.
14. To modify a Rule Criterion, click on the Modify button to the right of the description of the criteria.




Checking User Progress on Adaptively Released Items

Blackboard allows instructors to multiple ways to view the Adaptive Release progress for individuals if a Review criterion is set (for both Basic and Advanced rules).

Checking User Progress via the Performance Dashboard

To check on the Review Status of an item from the Performance Dashboard, enter the Control Panel and click on Performance Dashboard. A listing of your students and some activity

statistics will appear. Click on the number under the Review Status column, and a page will appear listing what items are or are not viewable to that individual.



Performance Dashboard

Assessment


[Test Manager](#) [Grade Center](#)


[Survey Manager](#) [Performance Dashboard](#)

[Pool Manager](#) [Early Warning System](#)

[Course Statistics](#)


Use the links provided to view user progress details for each performance measurement.

 Print

Last Name	First Name	Username	Role	Last Course Access	Days Since Last Course Access	Review Status	Adaptive Release	Discussion Board	Early Warning System	View Grades
Wesolowski	Meredith	mcwesolowski	Student	Jan 20, 2009 2:27:13 PM	0	1		3	-	


Checking User Progress via User Progress

One of the options under the Manage button for an item (see steps 2-4) is **Adaptive Release and Review Status: User Progress**. Click this option to view a listing your students and their review status for the item you clicked Manage for. An open eye means the student is able to view the item (and therefore completed the Mark Reviewed step). A closed eye means the student has not yet reviewed the item that requires review.





Manage Using ALEKS - Required (8.5 min.)

- ▶ **Adaptive Release**
Create or modify a basic Adaptive Release rule.
- ▶ **Adaptive Release: Advanced**
Create or modify advanced Adaptive Release rules. Use this feature when creating multiple rules.
- ▶ **Review Status**
Enable or disable review for this item.
Current Status: *Enabled*
- ▶ **Adaptive Release and Review Status: User Progress**
View availability and review status of this item for all users.



User Progress

Last Name	First Name	Username	Course Role	Visibility	Reviewed	Date Reviewed
Wesolowski	Meredith	mcwesolowski	Student			Dec 27, 2008 11:27:37 PM

For more information . . .

Additional support for Blackboard-related tools can be found at <http://esupport.wilmu.edu>, at <http://www.wilmu.edu/instructionaltech/tutorials.aspx> and in the user Manual linked from the *Control Panel* in Blackboard.