WebPA@NCL

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About WebPA

WebPA eases the process of collecting and analyzing marks from students. Each student is awarded a WebPA score based on the feedback of their group members, this score is then used with the score from the group work to create an adjusted mark for each student.
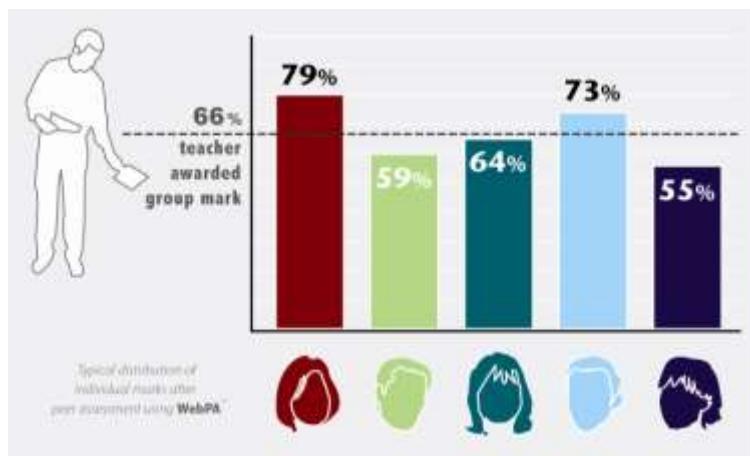
from: www.webpaproject.com

Tutors remain in control: they decide what weighting to give to the WebPA score; author the questions; and determine whether it is "self and peer" or just "peer assessed".

In Semester 2 2012/13 we participated in the JISC ceLTIc II project which has had funding to develop and host a version of WebPA with Learning Tools Interoperability (LTI) support. The LTI version of WebPA removes a number of headaches:

- From a student/tutor perspective it sits within Blackboard – there are no links to jump to, nor new username/passwords to remember and reset.
- WebPA can pull information from Blackboard about group memberships. Blackboard Group sets in effect become WebPA collectives.
- Because we are working from our clean institutional data there is less chance of getting in a muddle by uploading data from spreadsheets.

How WebPA works out scores

WebPA uses student assessments to work out the relative contribution of group members. Each group member is given a WebPA score representing their contribution determined from their peers. The WebPA score is then used with the group score to generate individual marks.

The WebPA website has some good resources including: A worked example of the scoring algorithm and Effective Practice Using WebPA

If you would like to find out more about WebPA's scoring we've put together a few additional resources

1. WebPA weighting (video) (.docx)
2. How WebPA normalises and works out WebPA scores (video) (.docx)
3. Excel Workbook simulation (video explanation) (.xlsx)

Creating and Syncing Groups

Defining Groups

Before it can conduct a peer assessment WebPA needs a list of students and information on which groups they are allocated to.

WebPA pulls the list of enrolled students from Blackboard when ever you use the Sync tool. Sync will also populate WebPA with group enrolments from any *Group Sets* defined in the Blackboard Module.

You can define student groups in a number of ways. The most suitable method will depend on:

- The number of students involved
- Whether you wish to give students access to group features in Blackboard
- Whether you already have an electronic list of students and group membership

Option 1: Define groups in WebPA

This is a fast way of working if you have a small cohort of students. You use sync to populate student details in WebPA then use the group editor in WebPA.

See: Create a link to WebPA then WebPA group Editor

Option 2: Define groups in Blackboard

Here you define a **Group Set** in Blackboard and populate the group membership in Blackboard. WebPA sync populates student details and group membership, this is detailed in the section below.

Define Groups with Blackboard Group Sets

- Sign into your Blackboard course. In the **Control Panel** area open **Users and Groups** and select **Groups.**
- Click **Create** select **Manual Enrol** from the right hand options under **Group Set**

Fill out the fields on the **Create Group Set** form.

1. You'll need to specify a name (eg PosterGroup)
2. Make the groups available (you can hide them if needed after you synchronize the completed groups)
3. Turn on any tools that you would like students to have access to in these Blackboard groups. If these will not be useful, you should uncheck them
4. Turn off Personalisation
5. Specify the number of groups

Blackboard then creates the groups and takes you to **Edit Group Set Enrolments**

If you are working with a small number of students you may wish to manually populate the groups:
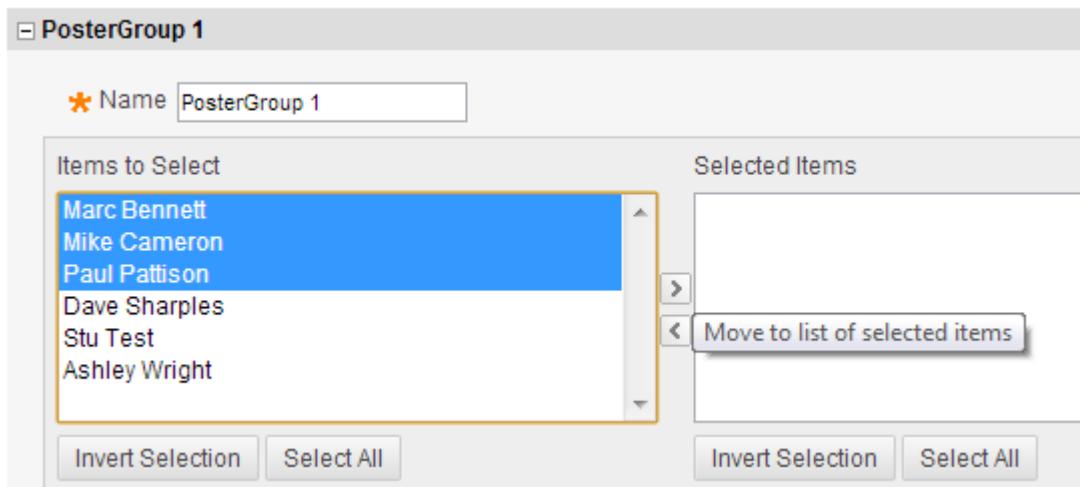
- Click **Submit** when you are finished.

OR

If you have a large cohort of students, and already have a list of group members, it will be more efficient to use the **Batch Allocate Groups** tool to populate groups.

- Click **Submit** to accept the group sets without defining memberships

Blackboard shows the group names and group sets
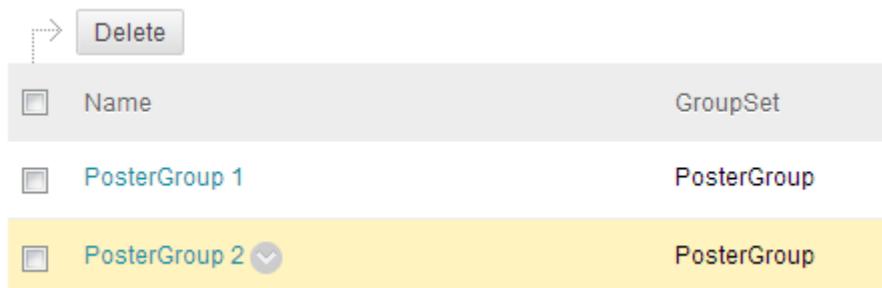
- Prepare a CSV file with the username in the first column and the groupname in the second column.
    - This file does not require a header row
    - You can use NUContacts **Search By Module** to give a starting list of users and ids
    - Make sure the text in the second column matches the groupnames you've defined in Excel.

- Back in Blackboard, on the **Control Panel** click Expand **Course Tools** and click **Batch Allocate Groups**

Allocate by CSV File Upload

An overview of your currently defined groups and their

PosterGroup 1

- Click **Allocate by CSV File Upload** and browse to your prepared CSV
- Click **Submit**

You will see a summary of results (if there are any errors you will need to investigate these)

The CSV file was processed with the following results:
Successes: 6
Failures: 0
The results of processing each line in the uploaded CSV file are summarised below:

Input Username Field	Input Group Field
nmb84	PosterGroup 1
nmc64	PosterGroup 1
npgp1	PosterGroup 1

You now have groups defined and are ready to create a WebPA Assessment.

Upload Errors during Batch Allocate Groups

We've seen a couple of potential sources of errors from the Batch Upload:

An individual student is not added to the specified group:

- Check that the student's id is correct and that they are registered on the course

The Groups are not populated properly

  - Check that the group names on your CSV exactly match the group names in the group set.

Create a Link to WebPA

Once your groups are set up go to the content area of your course where you would like to place the WebPA assessment.

From the **Assessments** Tab Select WebPA
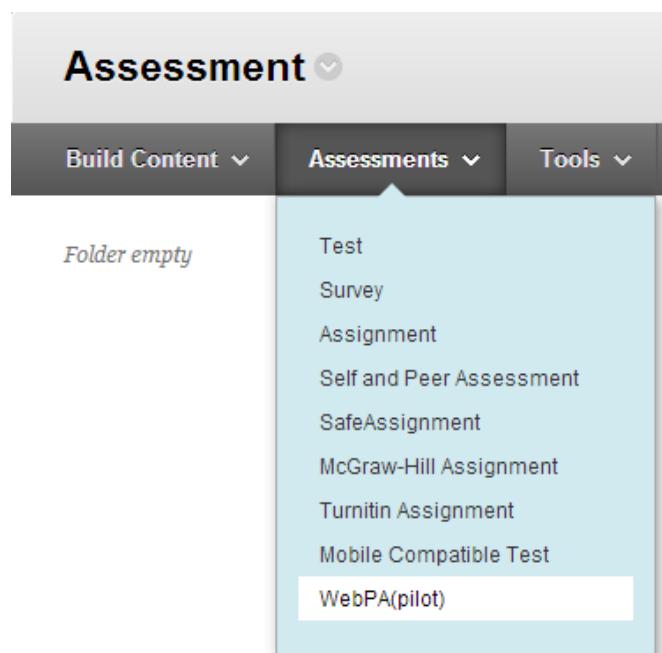
Fill out the on-screen form:

1. Give the assessment a name eg Poster Presentation and type in a description to appear on the course page:

2. Personal Data: leave all these settings as "Required by tool"

3. Custom Parameters: leave this blank

4. Services: here you can define whether you wish this WebPA tool to create a column in the grade centre. Final WebPa scores can be pushed directly to the grade centre if required.

5. Select the date and time when you would like this item to be shown in Blackboard. You could set this to the time the assessment "opens"

6. Groups: Selecting specific groups here will restrict the visibility of the WebPA assessment to just the selected groups. If everyone on the course is doing the assessment you can leave this blank.

Click **Submit**

The WebPA assessment tool will be created on your course page:
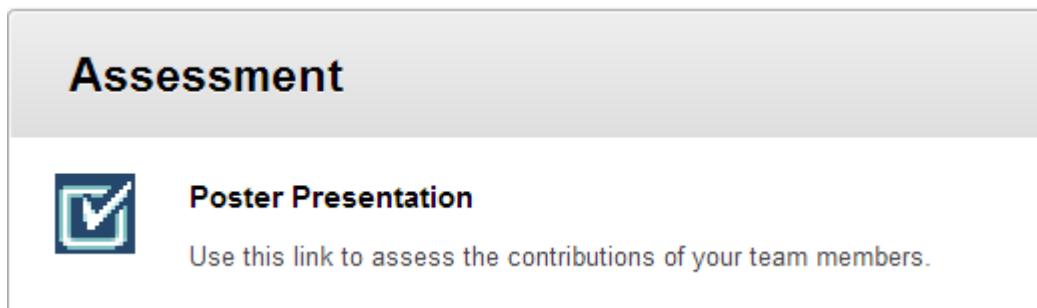
Syncing Groups and Users in WebPA

When you click on your WebPA assessment item you will be taken through to WebPA's interface.

The first time you use WebPA in your course you need to click **sync data**. This uploads users and group memberships to WebPA. (You should also do this if groups or students change before your assesment starts.)

- Put a check mark next to any new collections (Collections are WebPA's terminology for Group Sets)

WebPA OS synchronise data

Users to be added

username	Name
nmb84	Marc Bennett
nmc64	Mike Cameron
nstutest	Stu Test
nds50	Dave Sharples
naw40	Ashley Wright
npgp1	Paul Pattison

Select any new collections to be added

	Name
☑	PosterGroup

Update WebPA OS

- Click **Update WebPA OS**

You should see "Updates Completed"

If you haven't used WebPA before you will now need to create a set of questions that the students will answer for the assessment. You can do this by creating a WebPA form.

WebPA group editor

WebPA has its own group editor which you can use if you have chosen not to define groups via a Blackboard Group Set. (If your groups are already synched from Blackboard skip over this item).

In WebPA use the **Sync Data** option to refresh the list of students on the module.

Tutors
   home
   my forms
   my groups
   my assessments

Click on Create Groups icon, or **create new groups wizard**

Create Groups

Enter a name for the new collection eg. Poster Groups.

Then, state the number of groups the prefix used for the groups and the numbering style. The example below will create 2 groups "Group 1" and "Group 2"

Auto-create groups

Select how many groups you want to create.
Number of groups to create 2

If you are auto-creating groups, decide how the groups will be named, e.g. *Group X* or *Team X*.
Group names begin with Group

Select the style of numbering to use for your new groups.
Numbering Style Numeric (Group 1, Group 2, ..)

Click **Next** then **Finish**.

To allocate students to groups click the link to start the **Group Editor**

Edit the membership of groups using the edit tool

Use the radio buttons to assign students to this group:

Repeat the process for the other groups.

Forms

Create a Form

The documentation on the WebPA site has a good summary of the options for creating forms:

- Create a form
- Add Edit criteria for your form

Your questions can be designed to use Likert or Split-100 scoring. You can preview the form as you create it.

Where are My Forms?

In the context of the LTI version of WebPA **My Forms** will pull up a list of forms created in this *Link* to WebPA. It will not show forms that you have created for other modules. Thankfully the forms you have already created are shown as you work through the **Create Assessment** Wizard.

Tip: To check which forms will be available to you you can click the **Clone Form** button. This shows the forms you have access to from other WebPA links in modules where you are an instructor.

You may also wish to clone an existing form, or import one from a previous version of WebPA.

Cloning Forms

Once you have created a form you can reuse it on multiple modules. If there are activity specific criteria you may wish to create a template form that you clone and customise for individual settings.

From your module open a link to WebPA

From **My Forms** select **Clone Form**
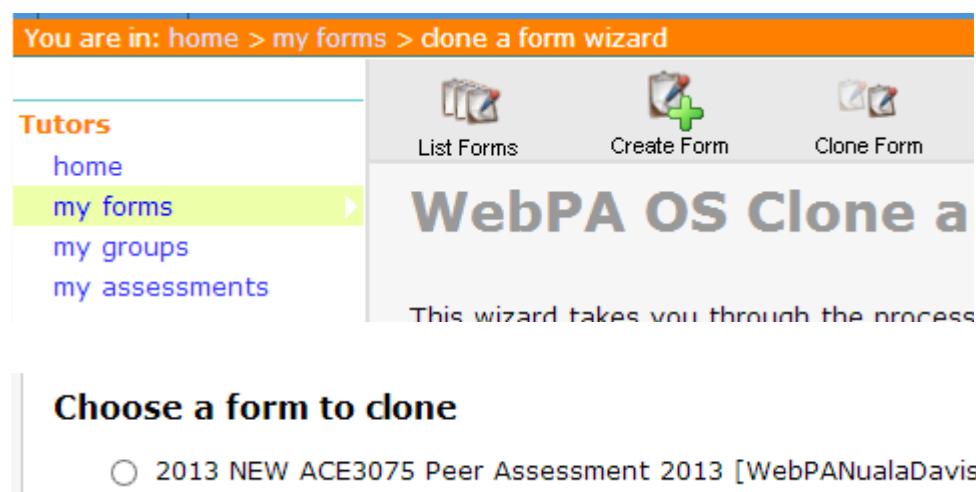
Once the form is cloned you can add or edit criteria.

Importing Forms

The export function of WebPA gives you an archived version of your form saved as an .XML file. This XML file provides a useful backup, and where we have been making system changes, it provides a mechanism to move forms between WebPA instances.

To import a form for use in a module

- Open a WebPA instance from that module.
- From **My forms** select **Import Forms**

From here you can either:

Open the XML file in notepad, and cut and paste it's contents into **Load form by 'cut and paste"**


Or, use **Load form by XML file,** then click **Load**

WebPA will notify you that:

Assessments

Create an Assessment

The Assessment brings together your form, the Group Sets (collections) and enables you to determine whether to assess run the assessment as a "self and peer" assessment or "peer only" assessment. You decide when the assessment opens and closes.

From the Tutor sidebar click **my assessments,** then **Create Assessment**
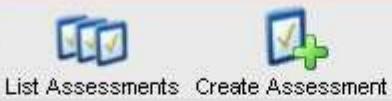
The on-screen prompts will take you through the process. See **my assessment** on the WebPAProject Website for more information.

Gathering Feedback

One of the advanced options you can select after creating a form relates to feedback.

You can opt to provide students with feedback on this assessment

- This **only** gives them an indication of their performance in the team

You can ask students to enter text to justify their scores for each team member.

- This is only visible to the instructor and could be useful when moderating marks. Text comments cannot be accessed by students.

Open Assessments

When the assessment is open for student submissions it will be shown in the **Open** assessments tab.

In this state you cannot:

- Modify students or groups
- change the assessment form

You can however, alter the open/closed dates and feedback and self/peer options.

Checking Progress

The "Who's responded" button gives you a quick way of checking how many students have completed the peer assessment. You can email the groups from WebPA or Blackboard if a little encouragement would help.

Checking Student Submissions to WebPA

How do students know they have completed the assessment?

When the assessment has been completed and saved WebPA shows a clear indication on the

screen.

back to assessments list

Thank you, your marks have now been saved.
You can now check your assessments list and take another assessment, or finish with WebPA and logout.

WebPA will not let students resubmit (unless the Tutor clears the attempt).

One way for students to double check is to return to WebPA at a later date and click **Take Assessment**

Take Assessment

WebPA informs the student that they have already submitted:

You have already submitted your Score(s) for this assessment:

How can Tutors check individual student activity?

Tutors can check individual student activity on each WebPA assessment. This can be helpful in the case of disputes, eg, a student claims they have completed the assessment, but no submission has been recorded.

- Logon as an instructor to Blackboard (as you would normally)
- Use the WebPA link from your Blackboard Module to enter the assessment under dispute.
- Click on **View Data**

Admin
admin home
view data

- Click **Student**

Student
View the student data currently in the system

- Click on the student whose access you wish to examine

You will be show the log records for this student, similar to the list below:

Log Data for Stu Test (nstutest)

datetime	description	object
2013-06-11 11:22:05	Enter module	
2013-06-11 11:22:05	Login	
2013-06-11 11:21:01	Enter module	
2013-06-11 11:21:01	Login	
2013-06-11 11:20:58	Logout	
2013-06-11 11:20:15	Assessment submission successful	FC9160F4-
2013-06-11 11:19:41	Assessment started	FC9160F4-
2013-06-11 11:19:41	Assessment submission failed	FC9160F4-
2013-06-11 11:19:28	Assessment started	FC9160F4-
2013-06-11 11:19:25	Enter module	
2013-06-11 11:19:25	Login	
2013-06-10 17:10:32	Login	

Log records are listed with the most recent record at the top.

- **Login**: shows when the student opened WebPA from Blackboard
- **Assessment started**: shows that they opened the assessment
- **Assessment submission failed**: this will be written if the student has not completely filled out the assessment (eg: missed a score out for one of their peers).
- **Assessment submission successful**: written to the log at the same time that students receive "your marks have been saved" message.

Grading

Grade the Group Work

Before you can generate WebPA gradings you need to grade the individual groups. You can do this when the assessment is opened or closed. Simply click on the Set Group Marks icon:

Fill in the scores for the group work and click **Save Changes**:

Generate a Mark Sheet

When the assessment is closed and group marks have been set you can calculate individual student scores by generating a mark sheet.

From the Marked Assessments tab click **New Mark Shee**t

The mark sheet will ask you to set the WebPA weighting for the assessment and for any penalties for non completion. For more information on the WebPA algorithm see our post "How WebPA works out scores".

Higher WebPA weightings will create a larger variation of the standard group scores. You can generate a number of mark sheets to explore the effects of different weightings.

From the generated mark sheet click on **View Reports** then **Student Grades** to see the moderated scores.

Transfer Grades to Blackboard

You can transfer the individual scores from WebPA back to Blackboard

- On the side menu in WebPA choose **Transfer Grades** (in the Admin list)
- Select the Mark Sheet you wish to use and click **Replace Source**

WebPA OS manage grades

This page allows you to update the source for this module with grades from a OSassessment. Only one grade book column is associated with this module, so are multiple, marked assessments you will need to select one of them for this

☑ **Poster Presentation**
scheduled: Fri, 5th April, 2013 at 9:00 - Fri, 5th April, 2013 at 13:00
student responses: 2 / 6

Mark Sheet
Algorithm: webpa.
PA weighting: 20%
Non-completion penalty: 2%
Grading: Numeric (%)

Replace source

The scores are then visible in the grade centre.

Grade Information Bar	Possible: 100	Basic LTI	Poster Presentation			Last Saved:05 April 2013 16:
Last Name	First Name	Weighted Total	Total	Feedback	Poster Present	
Test	Stu	--	--	--	54.88%	Post

The **Work Offline** feature in the grade centre can be used to download a list of results by student with their campus id and student number details shown in separate columns:

Check and Moderate Outputs

A number of features will help you determine whether any additional moderation of scores is required:

- For each group the average of WebPA scores for the group will be 1. The range of WebPA scores will vary by group with the largest ranges coming from groups containing some poorly performing members.
- The overall distribution of WebPA scores for the cohort
- Free text comments submitted by students