# Accessibility in Canvas

# The University of New Haven is committed to creating learning environments which are accessible to all students. In order to provide accessibility to content in Canvas, the University is providing faculty with a tool call Bb Ally. This tool is embedded within Canvas and can detect whether a course is accessible.

How does this tool work?  
Bb Ally analyzes the files in your course:

* Checks course materials against WCAG2.1 standards [(Ally Accessibility Checklist)](https://help.blackboard.com/Ally/Ally_for_LMS/Administrator/Institution_Report/Accessibility_Checklist)
* Provides students with accessible alternative formats [(Alternative Formats)](https://help.blackboard.com/Ally/Ally_for_LMS/Student/Alternative_Formats)
* Delivers guidance to improve the accessibility of files [(Improve Content Accessibility)](https://help.blackboard.com/Ally/Ally_for_LMS/Instructor/Improve_Accessibility)
* Provides a way to view the accessibility of your files [(View File Accessibility)](https://help.blackboard.com/Ally/Ally_for_LMS/Instructor/View_File_Accessibility)

How will you know if the tool is working?Once a file is uploaded to your course, you will see an icon (a *gauge*) next to the file. This gauge icon indicates the degree to which the file meets ADA guidelines. When you click on the icon, you will receive information about any accessibility issues and how to fix them to be increase accessibility.   
Students will not see the gauge icons on your files.

## Using Ally

### Instructor Resources

* [QuickStart](https://help.blackboard.com/Ally/Ally_for_LMS/Instructor/Quick_Start)
* [Instructor Resources](https://help.blackboard.com/sites/default/files/documents/2020-09/Canvas_2020.pdf)
  + [Improve Content Accessibility:](https://help.blackboard.com/Ally/Ally_for_LMS/Instructor/Improve_Accessibility) learn how to fix common issues
  + [Alternative Formats](https://help.blackboard.com/Ally/Ally_for_LMS/Instructor/Alternative_Formats): learn how Ally’s alternative formats for files help everyone, and how your students can download them.
  + [Accessibility Checklist](https://help.blackboard.com/Ally/Ally_for_LMS/Instructor/Improve_File_Accessibility/Accessibility_Checklist): see a list of accessibility issues for which Bb Ally checks.

Scanned PDFs are not accessible for OCR readers. If you have access to the original PDF document, you will be able to increase its accessibility. If not, the following tutorial provides an alternate method for making PDFs more accessible.

[*Beating that ScanMan from 0 to 100% in no time!*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M2HJE7Y2Px0)