Quick list of new features

1. New visual appearance.
2. Many miscellaneous bug fixes.
3. Much easier course site creation (new control panel, drag and drop, etc.).
4. Course homepage (alternative course entry point usable instead of Announcements page)
5. Blogs (individual, class-wide, and group).
7. Improved group features (multiple group creation, student-created groups, group sets, group assignments, self-created discussion boards).
8. Assignments: allow multiple attempts.
9. “My Places" allows student photos that appear in blog posts and could be used for facebook.
10. Removed features: electric blackboard (use Journals), student homepages (use Blogs), digital dropbox (use Assignments), power user enrollment (use newly enhanced Users & Groups/Users).

What's New

Inline Assignment Grading
Inline Assignment Grading enhances the grading experience for faculty and teachers in Blackboard Learn. Instead of requiring instructors to download student-submitted files to view or edit those submissions, instructors can now see those files "inline," i.e. in the web browser. Annotation tools also enable instructors to provide feedback -- comments, highlights, and even drawing -- directly on the inline view of the document. Watch a quick video to learn more now or signup to attend a webinar.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3X9Rerz0VX0&elq=b75490f75bad4d1697bb0d615f845d3b&elqCampaignId=5344
Blackboard 8 has the “Display View/Edit View” in the upper right hand corner and the tool bar just below.

Blackboard 9 has pretty much the same structure; it just looks a little different. And they call it “Edit Mode” with and “Off” and “On” toggle.
The Control Panel is still with us, but with easier access.

In Blackboard 8 the Control Panel is located on its own page. In Blackboard 9 the Control Panel is located below the course menu. All the control panel functions are always present below the course menu.
The drop-down arrows are everywhere. Use them to manage all your content. Whenever you see a drop down arrow, roll over and/or click on it to see what functions it contains.

Below are some examples of the hidden menus under the drop down arrows.
Blackboard 9 Resources

Tarleton website - lots of links to videos
http://online.tarleton.edu/fac_dev/applications/Blackboard9/Blackboard9.htm

A couple of good overviews:
http://www.princeton.edu/bb/upgrade-to-bb9/new-features/
https://wikis.utexas.edu/display/bbsupport/Bb+New+Features#BbNewFeatures-top

University of Oregon (contains "gotchas")
http://library.uoregon.edu/scis/blackboard/help/bb9-instructor.html

Comprehensive information on the Grade Center:
http://www.princeton.edu/bb/faq/grade-center/

New Inline Assignment tool grading video
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3X9Rez0VX0&elq=b75490f75bad4d1697bb0d615f845d3b&elqCampaignId=5344

http://www2.palomar.edu/pages/atrc/2013/03/18/blackboard-inline-assignment-grading/ (Detailed eight minute video that also shows the student perspective.)
Social media:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1CMATBAkJ4E&elq=b75490f75bad4d1697bb0d615f845d3b&elqCampaignId=5344

Blackboard TV
http://www.youtube.com/user/BlackboardTV?feature=watch

Videos created by Blackboard:
http://ondemand.blackboard.com/r9/understand.htm
Appendix A: New features in Blackboard 9

Quick list of new features

11. New visual appearance.
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13. Much easier course site creation (new control panel, drag and drop, etc.).
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15. Blogs (individual, class-wide, and group).
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18. Assignments: allow multiple attempts.
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Assignment Tool

Previously, Academic Suite users would simply submit their assignment and then wait for their feedback and grade from their instructor. Now students can submit their assignments multiple times or receive an additional attempt to submit before receiving their final grade. Likewise, instructors can provide a grade and feedback for each attempt of a single assignment, rather than simply grading the individual submission for an assignment.

Group Assignments also provide a new workflow. Only one student within the group has to submit the assignment for the whole group and similarly the instructor has to submit only one grade for the group, which is given automatically to all of the members in the group. The instructor does have the option to override individual grades.

Blogs and Journals

Blogs and Journals provide students and instructors with a social learning tool for expressing their thoughts and reflecting on their learning, either privately (with the instructor) or publicly (with others in the course). These tools empower all course users to create and share ideas, while instructors maintain the ability to edit or remove any inappropriate material.

Difference between Bogs and Journals
A Journal is an on-going reflection or record of events by an individual or set of individuals. A Blog is a commentary by an individual or set of individuals that is for public consumption and comment.

Groups

Instructors can create any number of groups at once and provide default settings and description for each group. Students can then be automatically enrolled in those groups, manually enrolled at a later date, or asked to sign-up up for a group themselves. These groups then can be managed collectively or individually.

Group members can create their own Discussion Board forums that allow them to conduct ongoing conversations. Group members are able to Blog thoughts and ideas for the rest of the course to comment on or add Journal entries for private reflection within the group. Group members can create Tasks to track the progress of their deliverables. These tasks can be conducted and completed by any of the members in the group.

Students can create their own groups in the absence of instructor participation to take advantage of the robust group communication and collaboration tools provided. Students can provide a description of the group and limit the number of students able to enroll in the group. Instructors always have the option of modifying or restricting access to student-created groups.

Course Customization

Menus in Release 9 will support dividers and subheadings. Existing course menus will not be changed on upgrade and all color and styles choices will be maintained.

The course control panel is now available to instructors and other privileged course users on any course page, as a menu below the navigation area, rather than as a standalone page.

My Places

My Places provides the user with quick and easy navigation to a variety of places within Blackboard Learn. It is always one click away in the top frame, and contains a customizable set of links to frequently accessed information as well as tools to personalize a user’s own experience.

Users can define which links are displayed in My Places. These may include: Courses, Organizations, Bookmarks, and Outcomes Places. The types of links available depend on the institution’s Blackboard licenses.
**Notifications**

Blackboard Learn provides timely and actionable Notifications of student's course information, including when new content becomes available and Due Dates of assignments and tests. Notifications are displayed in modules within Bb Learn.

There are three Notifications modules available to users:

- **To Do List** shows future due dates as well as any due dates they may have missed.
- **What's New** shows all course content as it becomes available and any unread posts to Discussion Boards, Blogs and Journals.
- **Needs Attention** shows Student submissions that are ready for grading. This is an excellent place for Instructors to get a sense of what needs to be done today.

**Edit Notifications Settings** allows students to personalize which Notifications they receive and how they receive them.

**Grade Center**

The Grade Center structures itself automatically to the available browser space but the user can define a minimum number of rows to display regardless of browser size or screen resolution.

**Rubrics**

A rubrics template is provided to create gradable rubrics and attach them to assignments.