

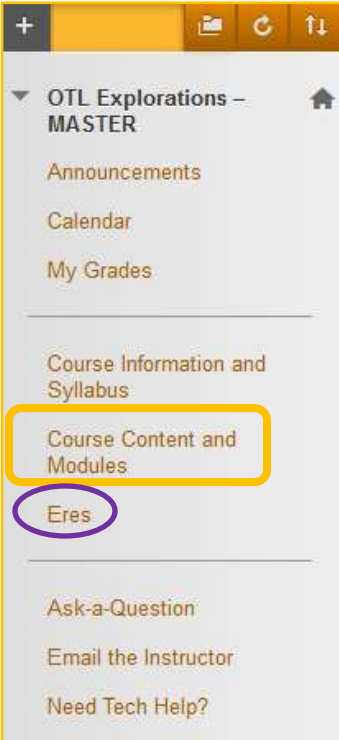
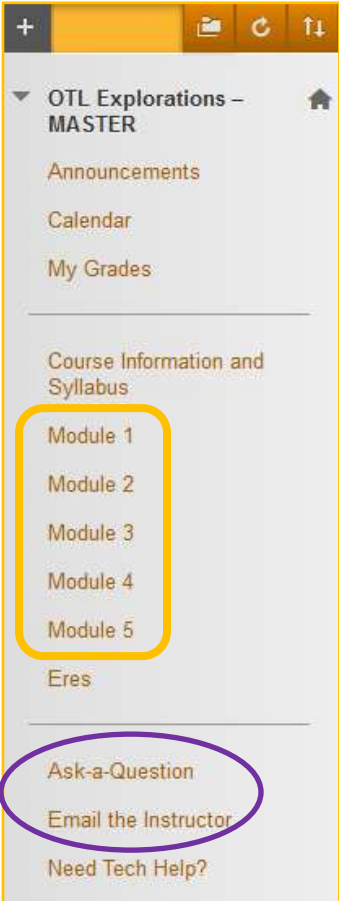

Creating the Course Menu

The **course menu** is your students' gateway to the content and learning activities you have prepared for them. If you haven't provided a link on the course menu, then students cannot see it. For example, if you want students to see the grades and feedback you have provided on their work, you will need to create a link to the My Grades tool in Blackboard.

The course menu is the main navigation and communication hub for your course. You will need to consider things like those that follow (and more), then create the appropriate links on the course menu to fit your intentions:

- Which methods will you use to convey important dates and reminders to your students – announcements, calendar, module page (a set of notification boxes)?
- How do you want the grades area to appear to your students - in order of due dates, by type of activity?
- How will students ask course related questions and how will they ask their more private personal questions?
- Will you provide readings and other copyrighted materials through a link to eRes?
- Will you create a class playlist for course videos or embed them throughout the content areas?
- How do you plan to provide information about technology support for the technologies you have chosen – link to campus Help Services Desk, link to vendor support site, a content area with links and tutorials?
- Do you want to have a central location for content and learning activities, or do you plan to create sections on the course menu for each learning sequence or for specific kinds of activities? (See the sample course menus below.)

Samples by:

Central Location	Sequences/Modules	Type of Activity
 <p>OTL Explorations – MASTER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">AnnouncementsCalendarMy Grades <hr/> <p>Course Information and Syllabus</p> <p>Course Content and Modules</p> <p>Eres</p> <hr/> <p>Ask-a-Question</p> <p>Email the Instructor</p> <p>Need Tech Help?</p>	 <p>OTL Explorations – MASTER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">AnnouncementsCalendarMy Grades <hr/> <p>Course Information and Syllabus</p> <p>Module 1</p> <p>Module 2</p> <p>Module 3</p> <p>Module 4</p> <p>Module 5</p> <p>Eres</p> <hr/> <p>Ask-a-Question</p> <p>Email the Instructor</p> <p>Need Tech Help?</p>	 <p>OTL Explorations – MASTER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">AnnouncementsCalendarMy Grades <hr/> <p>Course Information and Syllabus</p> <p>Course Project</p> <p>Assignments</p> <p>Discussions</p> <p>Tests</p> <p>Videos</p> <p>Eres</p> <hr/> <p>Ask-a-Question</p> <p>Email the Instructor</p> <p>Need Tech Help?</p>