Groups Tool

What is it?
The Blackboard groups tool enables students to be grouped for management and collaboration. Groups can be given access to tools and resources in Blackboard. By default groups have access to a collaboration space.

What could you do?
The groups tool can support students working in groups and course administration, for example:
- enabling group access to different perspectives on a topic within a scenario or role play activity
- providing a space for group work
- grouping students for discussion to encourage participation
- managing resources by tutorial or class groups
- dividing students into groups for activities like jigsaw groups
- sending groups of students emails

Tips
Test your groups – some technical aspects of using groups can be complicated.
Think about the effect of group size and membership on what you want to achieve. For example, CEIT’s work with “Proactively ensuring success in higher education student teams”. Consider the processes involved in forming groups (e.g. Tuckman’s model).
Self-assign groups can be used as sign up sheets can be used for administration tasks, for example allocation to a assignment topic.
The Blackboard bulk group management tool can import group lists in comma-sperated values (.csv) file format, so you can import lists you have developed elsewhere.