kaltura

Introduction to the Kaltura Room in Blackboard

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👥 This article is designated for all users.

About

The Kaltura Room add-on is a powerful meeting space within the video portal and LMS applications that brings teams together for real-time collaboration and learning. Whether for team workshops, training sessions, or organizational gatherings, the Kaltura Room helps users:

- Create impactful gatherings that keep participants actively involved through rich engagement tools like polls, quizzes, chat and reactions.
- Boost knowledge-sharing with collaborative tools like breakout rooms, and whiteboards.
- Deliver on-brand experiences with customizable branding options.
- Ensure media-rich sessions run seamlessly with storyboard planning and native video playback.

Mobile

Kaltura Rooms are accessible on mobile devices through the browser - no app required. Most core features are available, including chat, raising hands, joining the stage, and participating in breakout rooms. However, some moderation and advanced presenter tools (like storyboard editing, layout changes, and screen sharing) are view-only on mobile.

Integrations
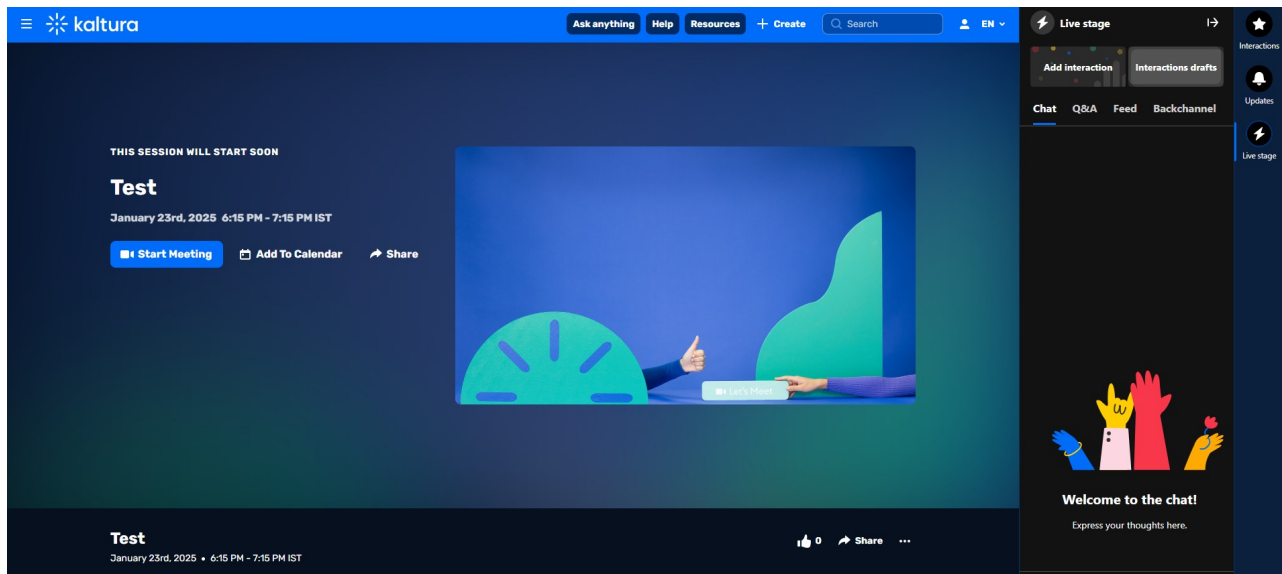
Kaltura Rooms integrate with:

- Microsoft Teams
- Learning Management Systems (LMS)
- Single Sign-On (SSO) and more.

✅ The Kaltura Room is designed for internal communication and is not intended for external events. For external events, we recommend using Kaltura Events.

> ℹ️
> If you're interested in enabling the Kaltura Room with C&C feature, please contact your Kaltura representative for more details.

> ⚠️
> Sessions created before Oct 1st, 2023 will still use the legacy room. New sessions (both for new AND existing events) will automatically be created in the new Kaltura Room.

Room modes

The room is designed for real-time communication sessions with **two modes**, each optimized for different group sizes:

- **Interactive mode** – Supports up to 100 participants, with a maximum of 25 on stage and the remaining 75 as viewers.
- **Webinar mode** – Accommodates up to 300 participants, with a maximum of 10 on stage and the remaining 290 as viewers.

Key features of the New Room

Enhanced video and collaboration tools

The Kaltura Room retains and improves upon features from previous versions, offering:

- Screen sharing

- Playlist creation and management
- Media manager and access to video portal media
- Recording
- Quick polls
- Chat
- Stage management
  - Fit to frame
  - Highlight user/content
  - Up to 25 users on stage
- Participants management
- Users' permissions
- Breakout rooms
- Raise hands
- Locking the room
- Miro whiteboard
- Broadcasting
- Branding
- Storyboard
- Stage access
- Speaker notes
- Interludes
- Backstage during interlude
- Scene manager

Chat and Collaboration (C&C)

The Chat and Collaborate (C&C) menu is located on the right sidebar in desktop and on the bottom of the screen in mobile. C&C integrates real-time chat, quizzes, and collaboration tools to enhance engagement and interactivity. Moderators can enable or disable it for specific sessions via the media Edit page, tailoring the experience to each event. From group chats to interactive polls, C&C turns passive viewing into active participation.

- **Group chat:** Real-time communication during live sessions.
- **Quizzes and polls:** Drive engagement with interactive elements.
- **Session updates:** Share live announcements in the Interaction tab, visible only within the active session.
- **Participant management:** View and manage attendees with ease.
- **Customizable themes:** Align the design with your brand's colors and fonts.

- **Reports and analytics:** Access session insights, including chat transcripts, user activity, and participation rates.
- **Backchannel**: A private space for moderators to coordinate during sessions.