

The logo for the United States Naval Academy Teaching and Learning Center. It features a blue horizontal bar with a gold diagonal stripe on the left side. The text "United States Naval Academy" is in a smaller, gold serif font, and "Teaching and Learning Center" is in a larger, black serif font below it.

United States Naval Academy
Teaching and Learning Center

IDSC

Instructional Development Support Center

**Using Technology to Improve Feedback
on Student Writing Projects**

**Nimitz 107
(410) 2932508**

Objectives

As an instructor, you often need to review student writing projects and provide feedback to them. Instead of manually collecting or printing out those writing projects and adding your feedback, you can easily use Blackboard and Microsoft Word to collect, grade, and provide feedback to student writing projects electronically. Through this hands-on workshop, you will find out how these technology tools can make the process more efficient and less laborious. After this workshop, you should be able to:

- Collect and grade student writing projects using Blackboard
- Use Microsoft Word to provide electronic feedback
 - Use reviewing tools to add comments and track changes
 - Participate in a review that has multiple reviewers
 - Use color coding to indicate specific problems
 - Use a tablet pen to add ink annotations to a document
 - Choose different display and printing options
 - Create different versions of a document
 - Understand file naming conventions

Table of Contents

Collect and Grade Student Writing Projects Using Blackboard.....	4
Add an Assignment Drop Box	4
Grade an Assignment.....	4
Use M.S. Word to Provide Electronic Feedback	6
Reviewing Toolbar.....	6
Highlight Text.....	7
Add/Edit/Delete Comments	7
Track Changes	9
Accept/Reject Changes	9
Add Ink Annotations.....	11
Different Display Options.....	13
Different Printing Options	15
Create Different Versions of a Document	16
File Naming Conventions	18

Collect and Grade Student Writing Projects Using Blackboard

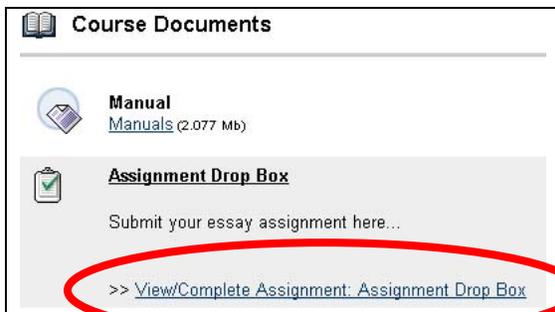
Add an Assignment Drop Box

Assignment drop boxes allow instructors to collect student writing projects and manage the grades and feedback for each student separately. Instructors may create an assignment drop box that lists the name, point value and description of the assignment; files may also be attached. After an assignment drop box is added to a Content Area, students may access and submit their files to the assignment drop box. Instructors can then view the students' submissions through the gradebook, enter grades and comments for individual student's submissions, and attach feedback files if necessary.

To add an assignment drop box:

1. Log onto Blackboard and enter your course.
2. Click on the "Control Panel" (bottom left).
3. Select a Content Area, e.g., "Course Documents."
4. Select "Add Assignment" from the pull-down menu on the Action Bar (upper right corner) and click on "Go."
5. Complete the "Add Assignment" page and click "Submit."

When the students enter the course, they should select "Course Documents" from the course menu, and then click the "View/Complete Assignment: Assignment Name" link to submit their files. The submissions will be imported into the gradebook.



Grade an Assignment

Instructors can go to the gradebook to view and grade student submissions:

1. In the "Control Panel," select "Gradebook" under the "Assessment" subheading.
2. To view and grade a student's submission, click on the "Exclamation Mark" corresponding to the student's name on the gradebook spreadsheet.
3. Click on the "View" button on the "Modify Grade" page.

Modify Grade

User Name TRAINEE-01 TRAINER-01 (trainee01)
Item Name Assignment Drop Box (Assignment)
Item Date Monday, September 11, 2006
Average Score 0
Points Possible 100
Weight 0
Override

Enter or modify a grade for the assignment. Click **View** to access files sent by the user, to enter feedback or instructor notes, or to send a file to the user.

Attempt Creation Date	Last Submitted/Modified Date	Attempt Status	Calculated Grade	
Monday, September 11, 2006 9:51:26 PM	Monday, September 11, 2006 9:51:26 PM	Needs Grading	<input type="text"/>	View <input type="button" value="Clear Attempt"/>

User's Comments Dear Professor: My essay is attached. Thank you!
 Feedback to User
 Instructor Notes

- On the “Grade Assignment” page, you can click the “Clear Attempt” button to clear the student’s submission and allow him/her to resubmit, view the comments and files submitted by the student, enter/change the grade in the “Grade Field,” add your own comments and/or attach feedback files (you can use M.S. Word to add electronic feedback, see instruction below), and enter notes and/or attach files for yourself for this assignment.

Note: the “Instructor Notes” are only viewed by the instructor.

Grade Assignment: Assignment Drop Box

1 Assignment Information

Name Essay
Instructions Submit your essay assignment here...
Clear Attempt Click this button to clear this attempt.

2 User's Work

User's Comments Dear Professor:
 My essay is attached. Thank you!

User's Files [Essay_Trainee01.doc](#)

3 Feedback to User

Grade out of 100.0

Comments

Attach local file

or Copy file from Content Collection

Currently Attached Files:

4 Instructor Notes

Notes

Attach local file

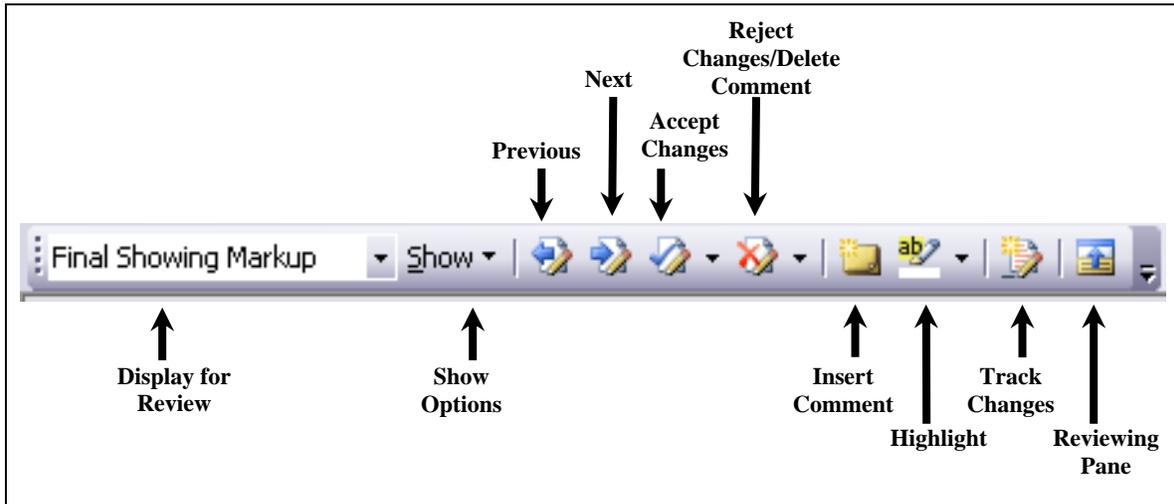
or Copy file from Content Collection

Currently Attached Files:

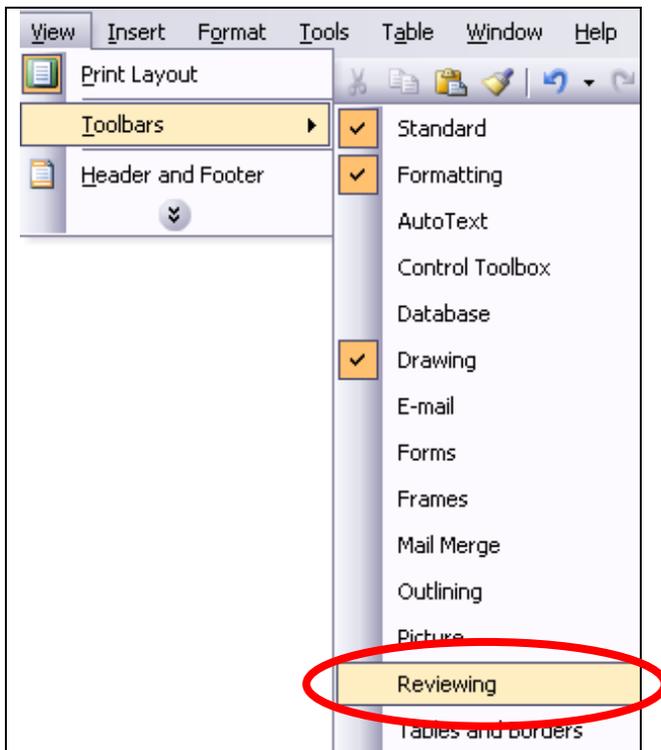
Use M.S. Word to Provide Electronic Feedback

Reviewing Toolbar

The reviewing toolbar includes the tools you need to add comments as well as track changes you make in the document.



To display the reviewing toolbar, from the “View” pull-down menu, select “Toolbars” and then click “Reviewing.”

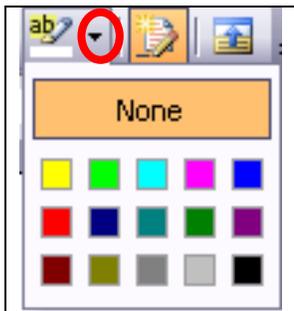


Highlight Text

You can highlight text with different colors (color-coding) to indicate specific problems of the document. However, you need to communicate with the students the color codes you use to review their projects and the associated meanings of them. For example, you can use red to indicate ill-structured sentences.

To highlight text with colors:

1. Highlight the text that you want to color code.
2. Click on the small drop-down arrow next to the “Highlight” icon on the reviewing toolbar and select the color you want to use.



Add/Edit/Delete Comments

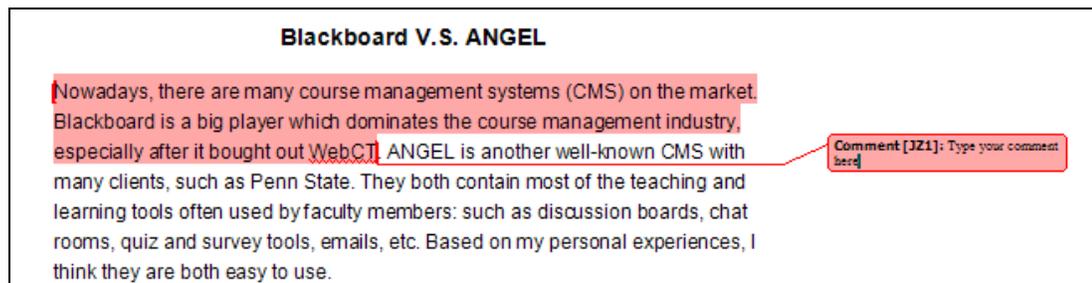
Add Comments

To add a comment to the document:

1. Highlight the text or item you want to comment on.
2. Click on the “Insert Comment” icon on the reviewing toolbar (Alternatively, you can select “Comment” from the “Insert” pull-down menu).



3. Type your comment in the comment balloon



Edit Comments

To edit a comment:

1. Click inside the balloon for the comment you want to modify.
2. Edit the text as needed.

Note: If the comments aren't displayed, click “Markup” from the “View” pull-down menu.

Delete Comments

To delete a single comment:

1. Select the comment you want to delete, you can use the “Previous” and “Next” buttons on the Reviewing toolbar to navigate to a specific comment.

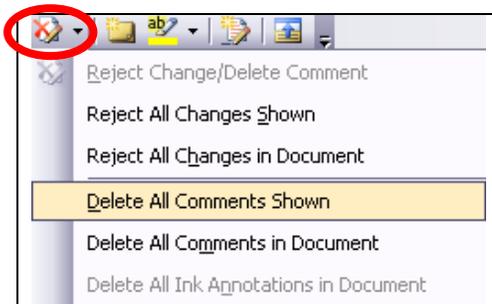


2. Click on the “Reject Change/Delete Comment” icon on the reviewing toolbar (Alternatively, you can click on the small dropdown arrow next to the “Reject Change/Delete Comment” icon and select “Reject Change/Delete Comment,” or, you can right click the comment and select “Delete Comment”).

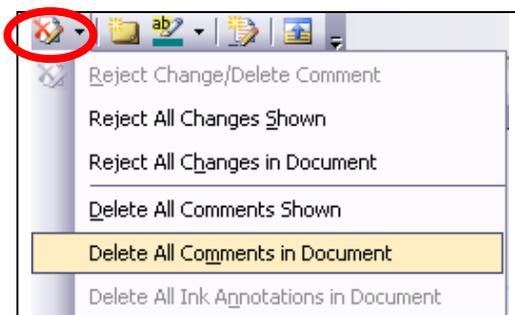


To delete comments from specific reviewers:

1. On the reviewing toolbar, click “Show >> Reviewers,” and then click “All Reviewers” to deselect all the reviewers first.
2. Click “Show >> Reviewers” again, and then select the check boxes next to the names of the reviewers whose comments you want to delete. All the comments shown in the document are now made from those specific reviewers.
3. On the reviewing toolbar, click on the “Reject Change/Delete Comment” icon or click on the small drop-down arrow next to the icon, and then select “Delete All Comments Shown” (Note: This option is grayed out when all reviewers are selected). This procedure will delete all comments from the reviewers you have selected.



To delete all comments: on the Reviewing toolbar, click on the “Reject Change/Delete Comment” icon or click on the small drop-down arrows next to the icon, and then select “Delete All Comments in Document.” This procedure will delete all the comments in the document no matter whether or not they are shown.



Alternatively, you can view, edit, and delete comments in the “Reviewing Pane” at the bottom of the screen. Click on the “Reviewing Pane” icon  on the Reviewing toolbar to display or hide the “Reviewing Pane.”

Note: the “Reviewing Pane” only displays comments that are shown in the document.

Track Changes

When you add comments or highlight text in a document, these markups will automatically show up. However, when you insert, delete, or format text or graphics, these changes will not show up in the document unless you track them:

1. From the reviewing toolbar, click on the “Track Changes” icon (Alternatively, you can select “Track Changes” from the “Tools” pull-down menu).



2. Make changes you want by inserting, deleting, moving, and formatting text or graphics. You will notice all the changes are marked up by different colors and formatting. Some markup elements are displayed in the text of the document, while others are displayed in balloons that appear in the margin.
3. Click on “Track Changes” again to turn off change tracking.

Accept/Reject Changes

When you turn on the “Track Changes” feature, all the changes (insertions, deletions, or formatting changes) that you make are tracked and marked up. As you review these changes, you can choose to accept or reject a specific change or all changes.

Accept Changes

To accept a single change:

1. Select the specific change you want to accept, you can use the “Previous” and “Next” icons on the Reviewing toolbar to navigate to a specific change.



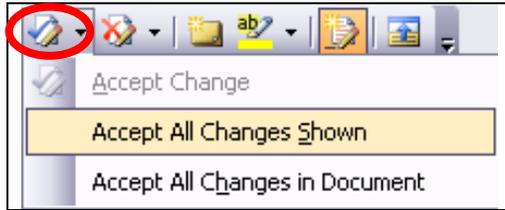
2. Click on the “Accept Change” icon on the Reviewing toolbar (Alternatively, you can click on the small dropdown arrow next to the “Accept Change” icon and select “Accept Change,” or you can right click on the specific change and select “Accept Insertion/Deletion/Format Change” from the pop-up menu).



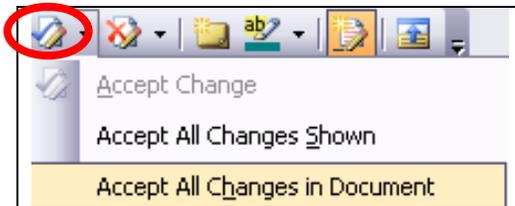
To accept changes from specific reviewers:

1. On the Reviewing toolbar, click “Show >> Reviewers,” and then click “All Reviewers” to deselect all the reviewers first.
2. Click “Show >> Reviewers” again, and then select the check boxes next to the names of the reviewers whose changes you want to accept. All the changes shown in the document now are made from those specific reviewers.
3. On the Reviewing toolbar, click on the “Accept Change” icon or click on the small drop-down arrow next to it, and then select “Delete All Comments Shown” (**Note:** This option is grayed out when all reviewers are selected). This procedure

will accept all deletions, insertions, and format changes made by the reviewers you have selected.



To accept all changes in document, on the Reviewing toolbar, click on the “Accept Change” icon or click on the small-drop down arrow next to it, and then select “Accept All Changes in Document.” This procedure will accept all changes in document no matter whether or not they are shown.



Reject Changes

To reject a single change:

1. Select the specific change you want to reject, you can use the “Previous” and “Next” buttons on the Reviewing toolbar to navigate to a specific change.

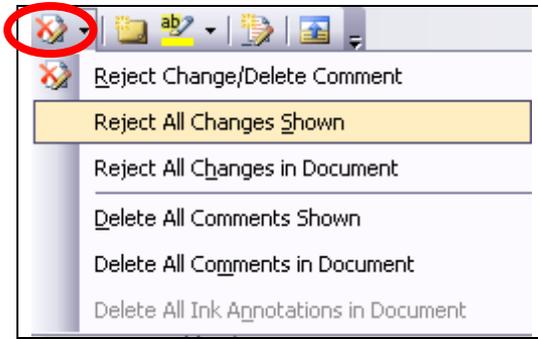


2. Click on the “Reject Change/Delete Comment” icon on the reviewing toolbar (Alternatively, you can click on the small drop-down arrow next to the “Reject Change/Delete Comment” icon and select “Reject Change/Delete Comment,” or, you can right click on the right and select “Reject Insertion/Deletion/Format Change” from the pop-up menu).

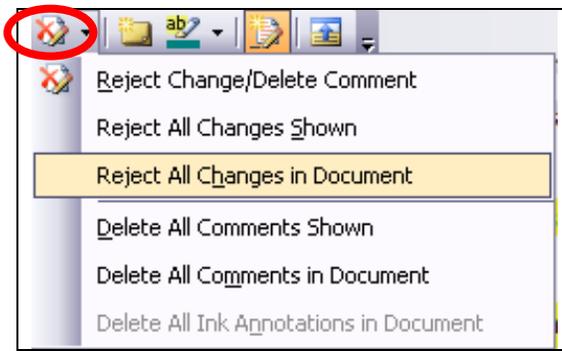


To reject changes from specific reviewers:

1. On the reviewing toolbar, click “Show >> Reviewers,” and then click “All Reviewers” to deselect all the reviewers first.
2. Click “Show >> Reviewers” again, and then select the check boxes next to the names of the reviewers whose comments you want to delete. All the changes shown in the document are now made from those specific reviewers.
3. On the reviewing toolbar, click the “Reject Change/Delete Comment” icon or click on the small drop-down arrow next to the icon, and then select “Reject All Changes Shown” (This option is grayed out when all reviewers are selected). This procedure will delete all changes made by the reviewers you have selected.



To reject all changes in the document: on the Reviewing toolbar, click on the “Reject Change/Delete Comment” icon or click on the small drop-down arrows next to it, and then select “Reject All Changes in Document.”



Alternatively, you can accept and reject changes in the “Reviewing Pane” at the bottom of the screen. Click on “Reviewing Pane” button  on the Reviewing toolbar to display or hide the “Reviewing Pane,” right click on the change you want to accept or reject, and select “Accept Insertion/Deletion/Format Change” or “Reject Insertion/Deletion/Format Change” from the pop-up menu.

Note: the “Reviewing Pane” only displays changes that are shown in the document.

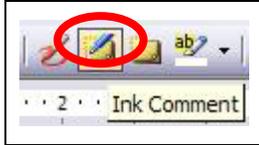
Add Ink Annotations

If you are using a Tablet PC, you can use a tablet pen to make handwritten comments or annotate a document with handwriting.

Note: You must be running Microsoft Office Word 2003 on a Tablet PC in order to see all the tools described in this section and use this feature.

To make handwritten comments:

1. Select the text you want to comment on.
2. On the Reviewing toolbar, click “Ink Comment” icon (Alternatively, you can select “Ink Comment” from the “Insert” pull-down menu).



3. Write your comment in the comment balloon.

Blackboard V.S. ANGEL

Nowadays, there are many course management systems (CMS) on the market. Blackboard is a big player which dominates the course management industry, especially after it bought out WebCT. ANGEL is another well-known CMS with many clients, such as Penn State. They both contain most of the teaching and learning tools often used by faculty members: such as discussion boards, chat rooms, quiz and survey tools, emails, etc. Based on my personal experiences, I think they are both easy to use.

When it comes down to a choice between Blackboard and ANGEL, there are many things needs to be considered:

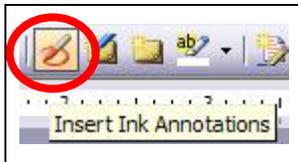
1. What features and functions are most important to your faculty members? You probably need to weigh the importance of each feature/function.
2. What are the features and functions that Blackboard or ANGEL contains?

Comment [JZ1]:

*Write your
comment
here!*

To mark up the content of a document with handwriting:

1. Select “Insert Ink Annotations” on the Reviewing toolbar (Alternatively, you can select “Insert Ink Annotations” from the “Insert” pull-down menu).



2. Start write or draw anywhere on the document.

Blackboard V.S. ANGEL

Nowadays, there are many course management systems (CMS) on the market. Blackboard is a big player which dominates the course management industry, especially after it bought out WebCT. ANGEL is another well-known CMS with many clients, such as Penn State. They both contain most of the teaching and learning tools often used by faculty members: such as discussion boards, chat rooms, quiz and survey tools, emails, etc. Based on my personal experiences, I think they are both easy to use.

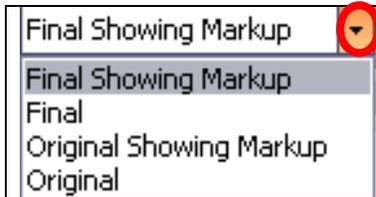
When it comes down to a choice between Blackboard and ANGEL, there are many things needs to be considered:

explain in detail

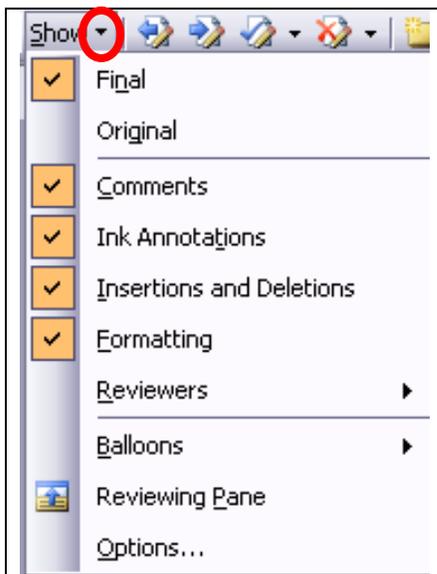
Note: it’s advised to use Print Layout when you insert ink annotations.

Different Display Options

You can select different display options on the Reviewing toolbar. By default, Word will display the final version of the document with markups shown. You can choose different display options by clicking on the small drop-down arrow next to the “Final Showing Markup” on the Reviewing toolbar. Here you can choose to show the final version of the document without the markups shown, the original version with markups shown, or the original version of the document.

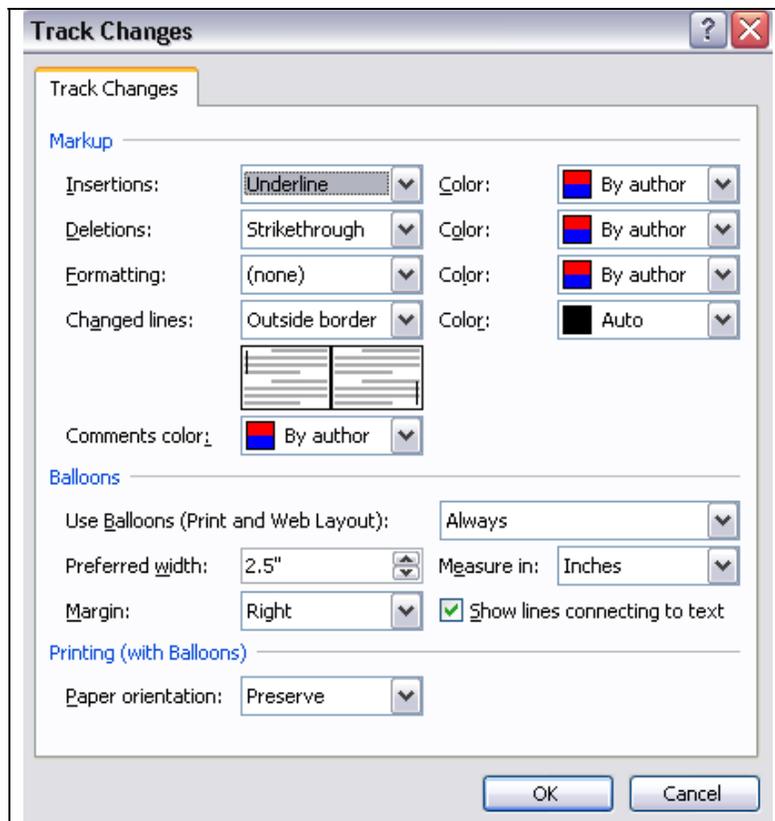


If you choose to have the markups shown (either “Final Showing Markup” or “Original Showing Markup”), you can choose to display specific changes you make to the document. Clicking on the “Show” icon on the Reviewing toolbar or click on the small drop-down arrow next to the icon, you will see different display options.



- Check/Uncheck “Comments”, “Ink Annotations”, “Insertions and Deletions”, or “Formatting” to display/hide these changes in the document.
- Select which reviewers’ changes to display/hide by click on “Reviewers” and then check or uncheck the checkboxes next to the reviewers’ names.
- Click “Balloons” then select the way that you want the balloons to be displayed. Three options available: “Always,” “Never” and “Only for Comments/Formatting.”

- “Always” option: deletions, comments and formatting changes will be displayed in the body of the text as well as in balloons in the page margin. Insertions will still be displayed in the body of the text.
- “Never” option: All insertions, deletions, formatting and comments will be displayed in the body of the text.
- “Only for Comments/Formatting” option: both insertions and deletions will be displayed in the body of the text, while comments and formatting changes will be displayed in the body of the text as well as in balloons.
- Select/deselect “Reviewing Pane” to show and hide the “Reviewing Pane” at the bottom of the screen.
- Click “Options” to change the way tracked changes and comments look. When you click on “Options,” the “Track Changes” window will open.



To change the format of the markups, under Markup:

- Click the drop-down arrow next to the type of change (Insertions, Deletions, Formatting, or Changed lines) and specify the format that Word will use for each type of change. For instance, you can have Word display Insertions as “Color only” instead of “Underline.”

- Click the drop-down arrow next to the color to change a color Word uses to indicate the specific type of change. **Note:** By default, Word uses a different color for each reviewer.

To change display options for the balloons:

- Click on the drop-down arrow next to the “Use Balloons (Print and Web Layout)” and select the way that you want the balloons to be displayed. See above.
- Adjust the values in the “Preferred width,” “Margin,” and “Measure in” boxes to change the layout and margin width for the balloons.

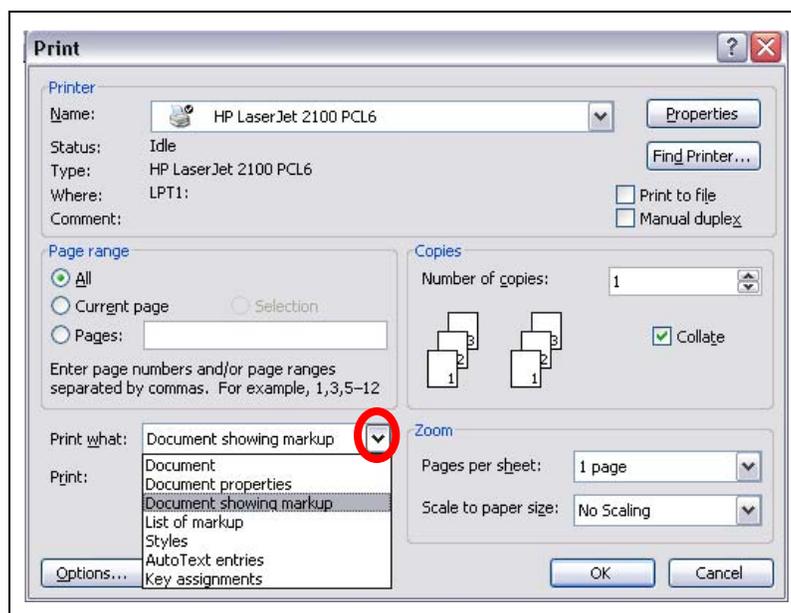
To change the printing options for the balloons, under “Printing (with Balloons),” choose from the three options for “Paper orientation”

- “Auto” option: Word will decide the paper orientation to provide the best document layout.
- “Preserve” option: to print the document with paper orientation specified in the “Page Setup” under the “File” pull-down menu (for instance, if “Portrait” is selected in “Page Setup,” then your document will be printed with portrait orientation.
- “Force Landscape” option: to print the document with landscape orientation. This option will allow the most room for the balloons.

Different Printing Options

You can choose to print document with markups shown:

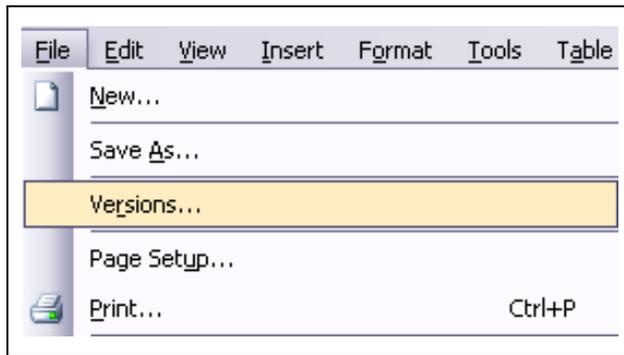
1. Select “Print” from the “File” pull-down menu.
2. Click the small drop-down arrow next to “Print what,” and select “Document showing markup.” You can also choose to print just a list of markup.



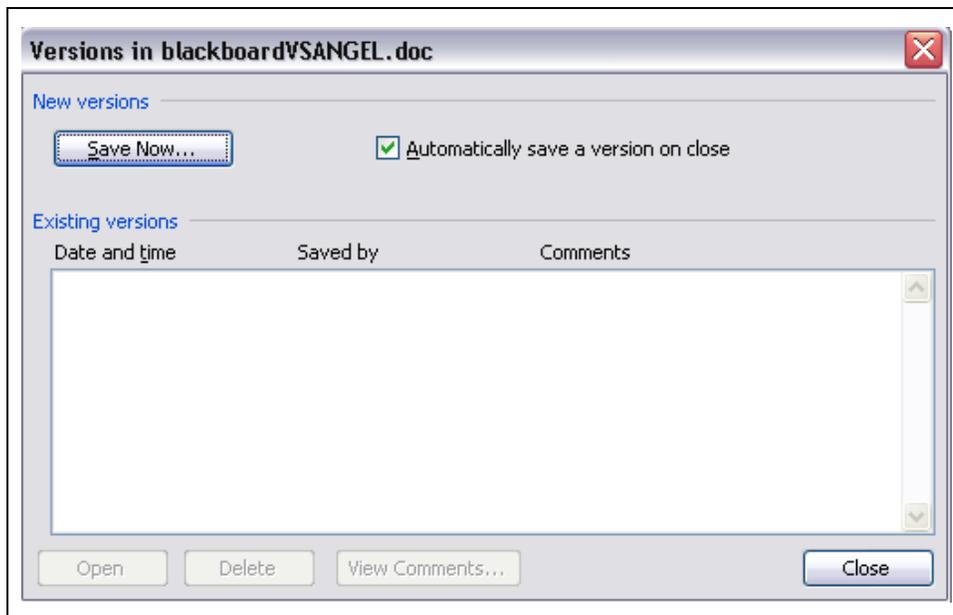
Create Different Versions of a Document

You can save multiple versions of a document within the document itself at many stages of its evolution. Microsoft Word will save only the differences between versions, not an entire copy of each version, therefore, you can save disk space. Later, you can go back and review, open, print or delete earlier versions. It is different from the “Save as” option which saves the entire copy of the document as a separate file. There are some situations when you want to save a version of a document. For example, you might want to save a version when you or the student makes changes to the document and make a note on what changes are made, who made those changes and when.

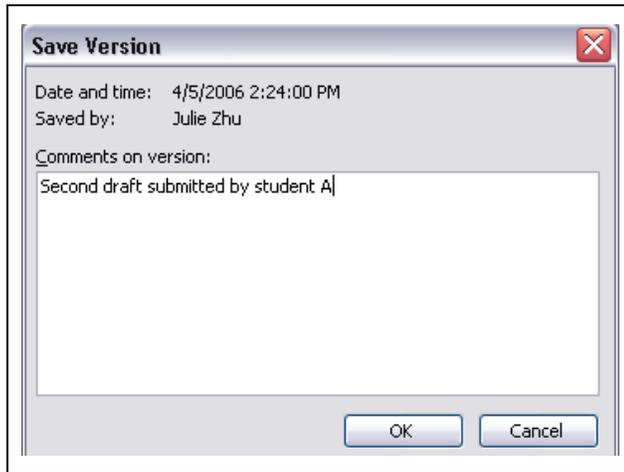
1. Select “Versions” from the “File” pull-down menu.



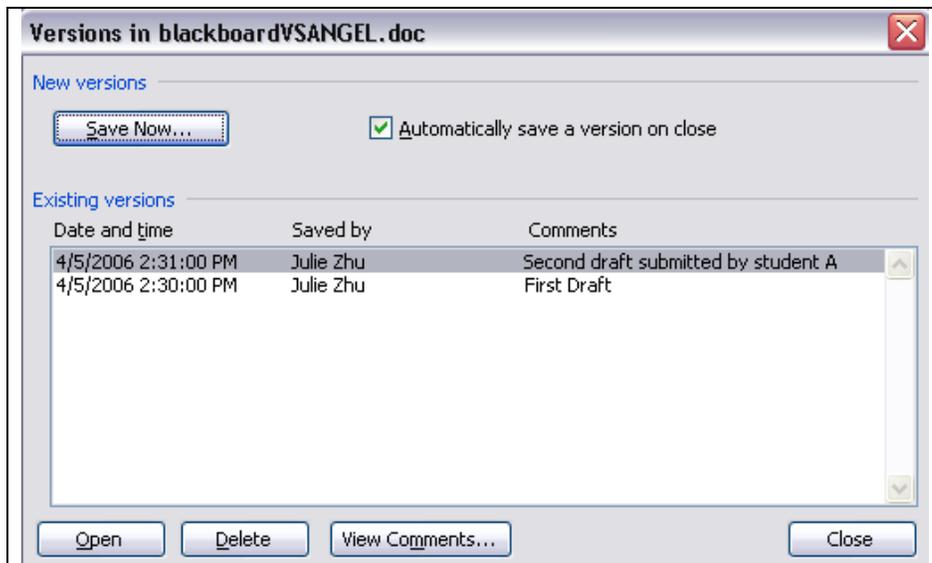
2. Form the pop-up window, you can check the checkbox “Automatically save a version on close” to automatically save a version of the document whenever you close it. The “Comments” for this version will be automatically entered as “Automatic Version.” Click “Save Now...” to save a version manually.



3. From the “Save Version” window, enter your comments on this version you are saving. Then click on “OK.”



4. You can click on “Version” from the “File” pull-down menu again to open or delete previous versions.



Alternatively, you can double click the “Versions” icon at the bottom of the WORD screen to access previous versions.



File Naming Conventions

Each semester, you may receive many files from students. Therefore, it is especially important for both you and your students to establish file naming conventions.

You can assign numbers to your writing projects, and ask the students to name their files as “A#_Lastname” (A# represents assignment number), for example, “A1_Zhu.” If they will submit several versions of the assignment, ask them to add version number (V#) following the assignment number, for example, “A1(V2)_Zhu” (**Note:** ask them to add first name if there is someone else in the class who shares the same last name).

After you make comments and changes to the file submitted by the students, you can save it either as a separate file (using the “Save as...” option under the “File” pull-down menu) or save it as a new version (using the “Versions” option under the “File” pull-down menu), and name it as “A#_Lastname_YourInitialsComments,” for example, “A1_Zhu_BGComments.” For version 2, name it as “A1(V2)_Zhu_BGComments,” so on and so forth. If you save the file as a new version, you can enter the name in the “Comments on version” dialogue box.

You can come up with your own file naming conventions as long as it’s easy for you to manage the many files and versions.