

Courses

What is a course?

A course is an online class on the hub. The HUBzero courses platform offers many features to get you up and running, distributing online course materials and interactive content to a local classroom, or around the world. Watch lectures taught by world-class professors, learn at your own pace, test your knowledge, and earn recognition for your achievements.

Student Features

Enrolling into a Course

The Courses environment offers instructors and students many features to help facilitate the most engaging and interactive learning experience possible. And we're adding new features all the time. Many of these features, like in-depth instructor videos, announcements, and more, are available right away, just by browsing the available courses. But, some features require an extra level of personalization, and thus require enrollment in the course.

To enroll into a course:

1. Log in to the hub with your username and password.
2. Navigate to <https://yourhub.org/courses>.
3. Look for a course either by searching on the search bar in the Courses page, or browsing through the list of courses on that page. You can see an extended list of courses by clicking "Browse the catalog."
4. Once you have found a course you'd like to learn more about, click on the title of the course.
5. On the Course's Overview, click on "Enroll in Course".

Note: Each course might have certain registration constraints such as a payment to enroll into the course or other parameters.

6. Once enrolled, you will be on your way to better your knowledge on topics related to your field of interest.

Tracking Course Progress

As a student, the course will track your personal progress compared to the course schedule. Tracking progress can be found inside a course and if you follow these steps:

1. Navigate to the course and from the course overview, click on "Go to Course".
2. Click on the "Progress" tab to enter the progress overview page.
3. A chart will appear displaying information about your overall progress in the course and the course's progress.
4. Here is a breakdown of the progress information chart:
 - a. The "Running Man": This figure displays the course's progress. Course instructors predetermine where students should be by setting dates for each section of the course. The "Running Man" helps indicate what a student has completed in the course.
 - b. The Progress Bubbles: These blue bubbles that the "Running Man" runs on indicates how much progress a student has completed in each area. The bubble

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- will be all the way filled in blue with a check mark to indicate that all the material has been completed for that section.
- c. Your Current Score: This percentage is the student's current score in the course. The grade is calculated by the 'grading policy' that is predetermined by the hub administrators.
 - d. Quizzes Taken: The number of quizzes taken by a student out of the total amount of quizzes in the course.
 - e. Homeworks Submitted: The number of homeworks submitted by a student out of the total amount of homeworks in the course.
 - f. Exams Taken: The number of exams taken by a student out of the total amount of exams in the course.
 - g. Grade Breakdown: A list of all the sections in the course. The percentage listed on the right side is the section's grade percentage.

Course Administrator Features

Course Administrator Features

Though the platform has been designed to be simple and self-serve, there are also plenty of options to keep you busy. Follow the tutorials below to help clear up those options, or dive deeper into the intricacies of the HUBzero courses platform!

NOTE: You must be logged in and must have special privileges (role of Instructor, Manager, etc.) in order to perform/access the features below.

Editing the Course Overview Page Content

1. Go to the course's overview (<https://yourhub.org/courses/coursealias>).
2. You may edit any of the following from the course overview page:
 - **Course Title & Short description:** allows the change of the title of the course, short description, and addition of tags. To edit, click the edit button, make your changes, and click "Save".
 - **Course Overview Long description:** allows the editing of the long description of the course displayed in the Overview tab. To edit, click the "Edit" button, make your changes, and click "Save".
 - **Offerings:** an offering is a collection of materials (lectures, quizzes, etc.) that represents a version or edition of a course. If no offerings exist for the course, you will see a "Create an offering" button. If offerings exist, you will see a "New" button under the Offerings tab to create an offering. To create the first or an additional offering, click the corresponding button and provide at least the title for your new offering and click "Save".
 - **Course Overview Pages (tabs):** you may add more pages (tabs) for additional content via the "Add page" button or edit existing added pages via the "Edit" button found under each added tab. Just click the corresponding button, add content or make your changes to an existing added page, and click "Save".
 - **Instructors or Managers:** allows management of special user permissions in the course. Clicking "Manage" will enable you to:
 - i. Add users and assign them a privileged role in the course. Default roles are Instructor and Manager.

Additional roles may be available depending on what the hub administrators have made available.

To add a user, enter their username or hub ID in the field (the field supports multiple entries separated by a comma), and select the role you would like to assign. Click "Add" and if successful, a "Changes saved" message will appear and the added user(s) will be listed below with the

- assigned role.
- ii. Change assigned role by selecting a different role from the drop-down next to the user's name. A "Changes saved" message will appear upon successful role switch.
- iii. Remove special privileges by clicking the box next to their name and clicking the "Remove" button and that will remove them from that position.

Building the Course Outline

This allows course managers and instructors to build the course outline. All the materials that need to be completed by students will be stored for student access throughout the course.

1. Go to the course's overview (<https://yourhub.org/courses/coursealias>) and click "Go to Course" to access the course.
2. On the course's dashboard, click on "Outline" and click on "Build outline" to begin editing.
3. To build the outline, first create the units of the course, if the course is following a traditional standard of being broken up into sections.
 - a. Units can have time restrictions of when it is available to access or have the title changed, by hovering over the "New Unit" title and clicking "edit" on the right.
 - b. Click "Save" after any changes to the unit.
4. Under each unit, use the available categories (such as "Lectures", "Homework", "Exam" and "Reference").
 - a. To edit the title, publishing status, or description of the category, begin editing by hovering over the title and clicking "edit" on the right.
 - b. Click "Save" after any changes to the unit.
5. Add all documents and materials needed for the course clicking "Add new" in the categories where the material will be held.
 - a. All newly-added material to the outline are saved as you complete them.
6. Click "Done" to navigate back to the outline.

Adding Material to the Outline

1. To add documents such as a lecture, homework, or exam, you can upload the document by dragging a file onto the page or adding the file by four other options.
 - a. Attach a link: Insert links to webpages by typing them into the box with commas to separate out multiple links.
 - b. Embed a Video: Embed a Youtube or Kaltura videos by pasting the video embed code.
 - c. Include a Wiki Page: Create a wiki page by adding a new wiki page along with

- any references that will be attached to the wiki page.
- d. Browse for Files: Browse the files on the computer and add them to the category directly. These documents will be downloadable for users to access. This upload option will be used when creating a gradable document using a PDF.
2. Once an attachment has been added the system will check to make sure that the files are not corrupted, and then you can edit the title and availability of the course material.
 - a. All four options allow multiple files to be uploaded at once.

Adding Graded Documents

1. To add quizzes or exams save the file that you would like to upload as a PDF. Upload the file. You will be asked, "What do you want to do with these files?" Select "Create a quiz/exam."
2. Fill in the title of the document.
3. At each question select with your cursor the entire question and all the answers. This will create a yellow box around the area of the question.
4. Click beside each possible answer to create a bubble. These bubbles will be what the student can select when answering the question.
5. Finally, click the correct bubble that is next to the correct answer. Repeat this process next to all of the questions. When you are done creating the answer bubbles, click "Save and Close".
6. Check the box on the right to publish the homework/quiz/exam, and then a pop-up will appear with deployment settings.
7. Select the times when the homework/quiz/exam will be available to complete.
8. Select the time limit by clicking the arrows up or down in the "Time limit" text field.
9. Select the number of attempts allowed by clicking the arrows up or down in the "Attempts" text field.
10. Select the settings of what a user can see after they take the homework/quiz/exam:
 - a. Select from the radio buttons the setting for what users will be able to see when the homework/quiz/exam session is open and when it is closed:
 - i. "Only confirmation that their submission was accepted": Users will not see their scores until after the session is closed.
 - ii. "Their score": Users will only be able to see their score but not the answers.
 - iii. "A complete comparison of their answers to the correct answers": Users be able to view their score and the answers to the homework/quiz/exam.
11. Click "Create deployment" to save the settings for the gradable document.
12. You can always edit each homework, quiz, or exam again after submitting it by clicking the small pencil icon next to the document's name.

Adding Prerequisites

Course items can now have prerequisites. These items must be completed prior to accessing the item for which the prerequisite applies. Prerequisites can be enabled for units and assets. These items can have other items of like kind as their prerequisite (i.e. assets can require assets and units can require units).

Adding Prerequisites to a Unit

1. Navigate to a course overview.
2. Click on “Go to Course” to enter the course.
3. Select the “Outline” tab and then click on the “Build Course” button.
4. To add a prerequisite to a unit, click on the title of the Unit.
5. Under “Prerequisites” choose the unit from the drop-down.
 - a. The prerequisite that you chose will determine the order of the course, such as making Unit 1 a prerequisite for Unit 2 forces students to complete Unit 1 before moving on to Unit 2.
6. The prerequisite will be automatically saved.

Adding Prerequisites to an Asset

1. Navigate to a course overview.
2. Click on “Go to Course” to enter the course.
3. Select the “Outline” tab and then click on the “Build Course” button.
4. To add a prerequisite to an asset, hover over the asset and click the “Edit” or pencil icon.
5. In the “Edit Asset” pop-up, locate the “Prerequisites” section and choose the prerequisite for this asset from the drop-down.
 - a. The prerequisite that you chose will determine the order of the course, such as making Asset 1 a prerequisite for Asset 2 forces students to complete Asset 1 before moving on to Asset 2.
 - b. Only published assets can be selected as a prerequisite.
6. The prerequisite will be automatically saved.

Deleted Assets

“Deleted Assets” is a button available on the course-building page, where you can restore

deleted content. If you are in the process of building a course you can remove content in the course outline but clicking the “Delete” button or trashcan icon beside the title of the file. If something is accidentally removed from the outline, you can retrieve it but accessing the “Deleted Assets”:

1. Navigate to the course that is currently being built.
2. Go into the course and from the Overview page, click on the “Outline” tab.
3. Click on “Build outline” to access the content of the course.
4. Inside of “Build Outline”, click on the “Deleted Assets” button to access all deleted material.
5. To restore a deleted item, just click the “Restore” button next to the file that you wish to add back to the course outline.
6. Any changes will be automatically saved.

Adding an Image to Pages using CKEditor

1. Navigate to a course and then click on the “Pages” tab inside the course.
2. Select the “Add Page” button to create a new page or edit a previous page but clicking the “Edit” or pencil icon.
3. Under the “Content” field, click or drop an image to upload the picture.
4. The uploaded file will appear on the right side of the “Upload” field.
5. Copy the URL that appears under the image.
6. Place your cursor in the section of the page where the new image is to be placed.
7. Click the “Image” button, and a pop-up of “Image Properties” will appear.
8. Under the “Image Info” place the copied URL in the URL field.
9. Fill in the settings if you wish to alter the dimensions of the image.
10. Click “OK” to save the image properties.
11. The image will be automatically placed into the content of the page.
12. Click “Save” to save the new image and preview the image in the course’s page.