

Course Design

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Course Design Video



Direct URL:

<https://youtu.be/RtCKI27Uao4?list=PLontYaReEU1tzu1T5gfiX-JQA5nBc3isN>

Video Description: The first page students see when they enter your course leaves a lasting impression. Use this first look to orient students and convey important information. This tutorial will show you how to set your course entry point page and add a banner image to it.

Course Design Instructions

Designing Your Course

Courses will vary in design depending on the nature of the subject you are teaching, your personal preferences and the way in which you intend students to use your course. It is very important to think about why you are using an online environment and what you hope to achieve for both yourself and your students. Your answers to such questions will shape the way in which you will use Blackboard and how you design and build your course.

Types of Layout

Three common ways of laying out the content and activities in your course are:

- *Chronological:* Primary focus is on the order and timing of the course so you might arrange material by week.
- *By Subject Area:* Primary focus on subject matter such as topics or issues (which may be studied over a varied number of weeks).
- *By Type of Content:* Primary focus on the type of resources being provided to students.

Changing Style Settings

The *Course Entry Point* for each course is by default the Home Page. This can be customized in various ways such as changing its name, adding a banner, modules or graphics. It is also possible to change your Course Entry Point to be a different page entirely.

Whatever you decide to do for the Home Page or Entry Point for your course, you should make sure that it is not confusing and that you give a welcome message. Students need to know how they should get started in the course and how they are intended to use the online environment in their studies.

1. Select Course Structure

Course structures are predefined course materials such as menu links, instructions, and content examples that can jump-start your course organization. The selected course structure's content is **added** to your course and does not replace existing menu items and content. You can delete unnecessary items.

2. Select Course Entry Point

Select the first area users see when entering the course from the drop-down list below.

Entry Point

3. Select Course Theme

Select a visual theme that will be applied to this course.

Personalise Your Course

- In the *Control Panel* select *Customisation* followed by *Teaching Style*
- Select a *Course Structure*: You may find it interesting to look through the available range of options – choose which is most compatible with your teaching style and subject.
- Select *Course Entry Point*: Choose the entry point for your students – select the most relevant page.
- Select a *Course Theme*: Select a visual theme that will be applied to your course.
- Select *Menu Style*: View the different looks and colour schemes.

Note: Note the other options available, including *Default Content View* and *Course Banners*.