



Magic with Moodle

Monitoring students & completion tracking

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Perspectives on Sustainability
“NOOC”

The screenshot displays the Moodle LMS interface for the course 'Perspectives on Sustainability (Nottingham Advantage Award)'. The page is titled 'moodle.Nottingham' and shows the user is logged in as Admin Helen Whitehead. The main content area features a video introduction titled 'View introductions from Dr Sarah Speight and Dr Mike Clifford'. The left sidebar contains a 'Module Navigation' menu with 16 items, including a pre-week and 15 weekly topics. The right sidebar includes a 'Latest news' section with a welcome message from Admin Helen Whitehead, a 'Tweetsstream' section with a tweet from @Sarah_CSR, and a 'Welcome! Start here...' section with links for 'About the course' and 'What to expect'.



Background



- Perspectives on Sustainability was offered from March-May 2013 as an open online course to any staff or students in the University
- Large numbers (840 by the end)
- Some students took the module for credit for the Nottingham Advantage Award
- We needed to monitor completion for the credit-taking students AND
- Monitor all, so that we could provide some kind of statement of accomplishment for all participants (e.g., number of weeks completed).

What we did

- Ten weeks with an assessment defined for each as “completion” of that week
- For 20 credits, students had to complete 5 weeks plus a poster in week 9
- For 10 credits students had to complete 3 weeks worth of activities plus the poster
- Anyone who completed one or more weeks gets a certificate

Module Navigation

- Show all
- Welcome Week [11-19 March 2013]
- Week 1: Introducing Sustainability...
- Week 2: Sustainability Through the Ages...
- Week 3: Big issues in Sustainability...
- Week 4: Cultural Dimensions of...
- Week 5: Social Dimensions of...
- Week 6: Economic and Political...
- Week 7: Learning for Sustainability [1-7...
- Week 8: Case studies [8-14 May]
- Week 9: Sustainability and You -...
- Week 10: Thinking about our learning so...



What we did

- Moodle completion tracking was turned on
- Completion tracking allows you to specify conditions that define when an activity is considered to be complete

E.g.,

- Database (require grade to have been given)
- Forum (require number of posts or number of replies or number of either)

(There are other options to define 'completion'.)



Moodle then tracks when students satisfy that criterion

First name: All ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
Surname: All ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

ID number	Username	1.3a Week 1 Assessment forum	2.3c Image Bank (Assessment)	Waste Audit Results Report	4.2a Week 4 Cultural	5.3a: Film Critique Forum	6.3 Environmental Strategy	7.2c OER Evaluation F
:144238	leyla	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
:118747	pmyeirb	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
:159558	pcybb	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
:186180	lgyeb4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
:185674	eaajfb	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
:116307	llyrb1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
:183471	leypc3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
:113984	leypc4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
:186801	lgyed3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
:182121	lgylldo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
:146561	llymd2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
:120377	leyae	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
:156136	stymfg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
:162023	stych2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
:188274	lgybh2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
:104464	eejdgll	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
:121321	llyel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- Navigation > SHORTNAME > Reports > Completion Tracking



How it worked

- Easy to see which students had completed what
- Could sort them by group (e.g., all 10 credit students in China) once I'd set up the groups
- Could export the data to a spreadsheet and crunch the numbers
- Contacted individual students to advise them how many more activities they needed to do to get the credits

Completion tracking – student view

The screenshot shows a Moodle completion tracking interface. At the top, there is a progress bar labeled "Your progress" with a question mark icon. Below this, there is a list of activities with checkboxes indicating completion status. The activities listed are:

- 1.3 Reflective blog post: You, your peers, and sustainability [Assessment]
- 1.3a Week 1 Assessment forum
- 1.3b View all blog posts (in Moodle) about this module

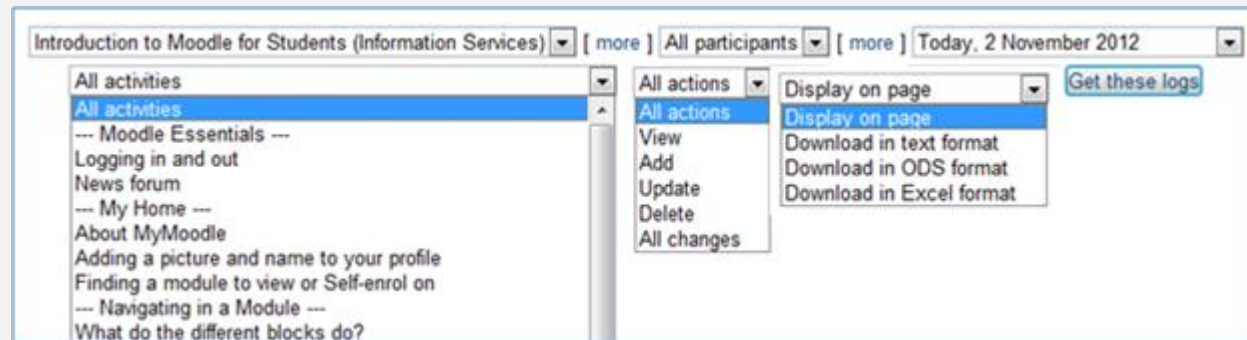
Below the list of activities, there is a section header for "Week 2: Sustainability Through the Ages [27 March - 2 April]" with an unchecked checkbox. The text "History and Evolution of the concept" is partially visible below the section header.

- Students really liked the ticks as they could see that they had successfully completed an assessment and thus the week

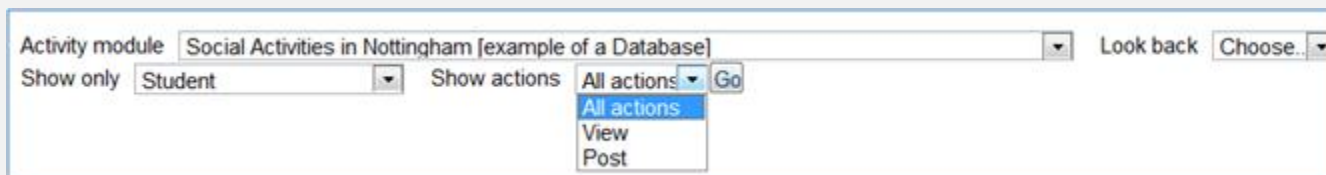
Tracking course activity inc. students

Navigation > SHORTNAME > Reports >

- Logs



- Module participation





URL Views: view, view all
URL Posts: update, add

839 Student

First name : AllABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

Surname : AllABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

Page: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 ...42 (Next)

First name / Surname	All actions ↑	Select
Theodore Harrison	Yes (2)	<input type="checkbox"/>
S... ..	Yes (1)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lucy...	Yes (1)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alison...	Yes (1)	<input type="checkbox"/>
K... ..Ma...	Yes (1)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shar... ..H...	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Si... ..CHEN	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Xiao... ..FAI	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ti... ..FENG	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Qi... ..U	No	<input type="checkbox"/>



Issues, tips and recommendations

- In EXCEL, use the *COUNTA* function to count the number of cells that have value (Completed) then you get a quick total (with exported completion data).
- If you need to have a full record of participation (e.g., you're researching the data) download it every month or so as Moodle logs are only kept for 3 months.
- You can also allow students to mark resources and activities as complete themselves. Some students like to do this so they can keep track of their own learning.



Further information

- Recording of Moodle Bytes webinar on conditional release and completion tracking

<http://uni-of-nottingham.adobeconnect.com/p37yc03reec/>

How to achieve this

- How to see tracking information for students

<https://workspace.nottingham.ac.uk/display/Moodlehelp/How+to+see+tracking+information+for+students>

- How to set up and use completion tracking to monitor student progress

<https://workspace.nottingham.ac.uk/display/Moodlehelp/How+to+use+completion+tracking+to+monitor+student+progress>

Learning Team Support

learning-team-support@nottingham.ac.uk

Blog: bit.ly/ltnottingham

Moodle Help: bit.ly/uonmoodlehelp

(or search Workspace for “Moodle help”)