

Setting up and Managing an Online Classroom (LMS) in WordPress

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What an LMS needs to do

Communicate Objects (Courses, Lessons, Modules)

1. Register for an account OR setup hosting (buy a URL + one year web hosting)
2. Setup your site (install, customize, etc)
3. Gather your teaching materials & content
4. Create a Post for every Lesson
 - a. Assign a Category correlating to the Class
 - b. Add Tags based on the subject matter
 - c. Upload or embed media content (like a class video)

Learning Timelines (Syllabus)

1. Create a Page for every Class
2. Upload the Syllabus OR type it up in an unordered list OR table
 - a. PLUGIN: Easy Tables
3. Link each Post in that Category to its Syllabus item OR just link the entire Category

Delivery (dripped content - only accessible after a certain time or activity)

1. Schedule Posts for the dates they should be available OR just Publish each week
 - a. PLUGIN: Show/Hide Content at Set Time
 - b. PLUGIN: Search "Drip Content"

Assess & Track (Quizzes, Tests, Attendance, Participation, Gradebook)

1. Add Users manually, in bulk, OR allow sign-up (+ assign default role)
2. Allow Student Publishing AND/OR
3. Enable Comments
 - a. PLUGINS: Search "Gradebook, Quiz tool, Badges (gamification)"

Communicate with students (Comments, Forums, Wikis, Chat)

1. Require comments
 - a. PLUGINS: Akismet, Disqus, De:comments
2. Add a Contact Form
 - a. PLUGIN: Contact Form 7
3. Add Polls or Surveys
 - a. PLUGIN: PollDaddy
 - b. Additional Plugins: bbPress, BuddyPress, Search "wiki" and "chat"

Ongoing Resources (Library of resources)

1. Use the Media Library
 - a. PLUGIN: Enhanced Media Library
2. Create a "Resources" Page for class Resources
3. Add a Blogroll (list of links) in a Custom Menu OR using a Widget
 - a. PLUGIN: Search "Blogroll"