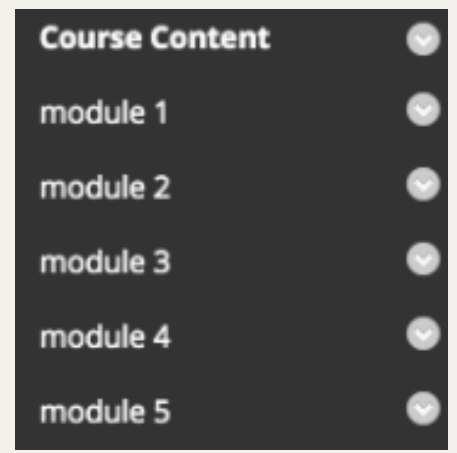
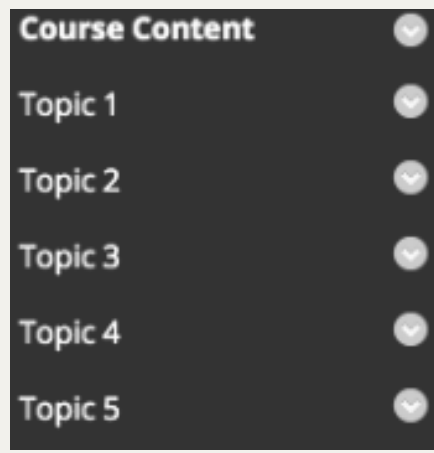


Online Instruction designing for modularity

Providing an intuitive map for students to progress through an online or hybrid course is essential for online student success. This guide offers up tips for modular course design that creates easily navigable courses where students progress chronologically.



What is a module?

You, the instructor, set the parameters of each "module", which can be organized by content topics, content chunks, or time frame. Try to break away from organizing into folders like readings and assignments which require students to bounce back and forth within a course.

How do modules work?

In an 8-week course, you might organize your course so that there is 1 module for each week of the term. You could also organize it into 4 major content topics that you need to cover during that 8 weeks.

Introduce each module.

At the start of each module, provide an introduction to the module learning objectives, the purpose of the module, and an agenda that outlines the module learning activities and assessments.

Instruct by module.

Within each module, include opportunities to practice, apply, analyze, or synthesize new information which may include practice exercises, labs, or case studies.

Assess by module.

Within each module, design multiple and varied informal and formal assessment opportunities that allow students to receive feedback and master skills and content within the module.

Stay consistent.

Try to keep the structure of activities from module to module consistent as possible so students know what to expect from week to week or topic to topic.

What are the benefits?

Modules provide students a linear and intuitive way to navigate their way through a course. Modifying a course module by module is also easier than having to revamp an entire course. You can hide and then unhide modules throughout the term which means students might not get as overwhelmed with all of the course content, activities, and assessments they need to navigate.