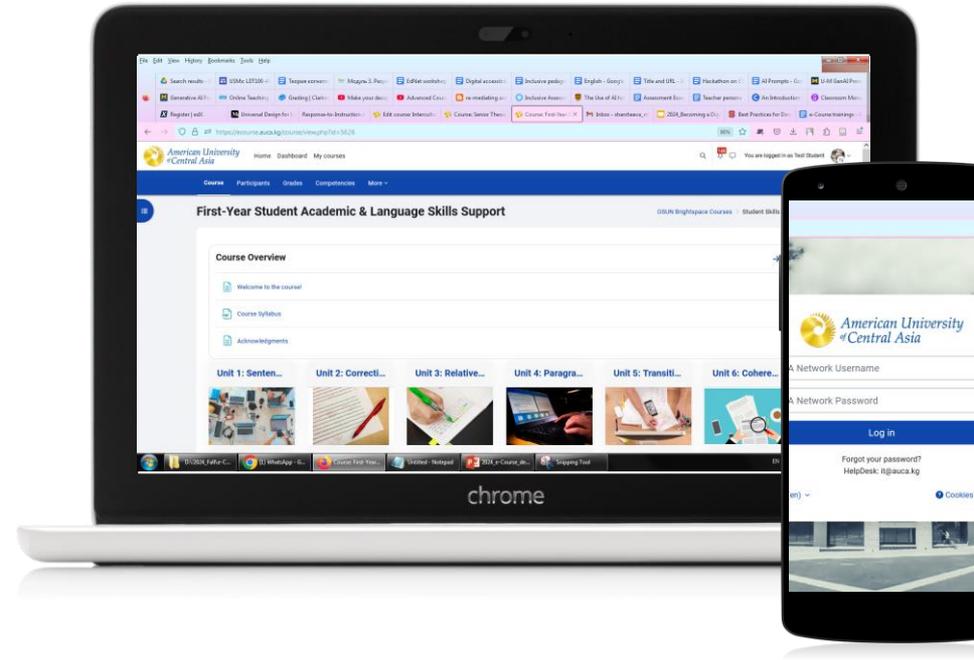


Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology

New e-Course features for student-friendly courses

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 office #201



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Join a training session



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Board: interactive learning in a sticky-note style

Think of it as a collaborative idea lab where students visually **build**, **connect**, and **refine** thoughts in ways that static forums cannot support.

Imagine this **in action**:

- brainstorming sessions;
- discussions and debates;
- mind mapping;
- Q&A interactions;
- problem-solving activities;
- storytelling exercises.

New post for column Grid or Tiles format (structured)

Post title: Lev Vygotsky

Content: I plan to use the Grid format to reduce scrolling and make navigation easier.

Media:   

Post Cancel

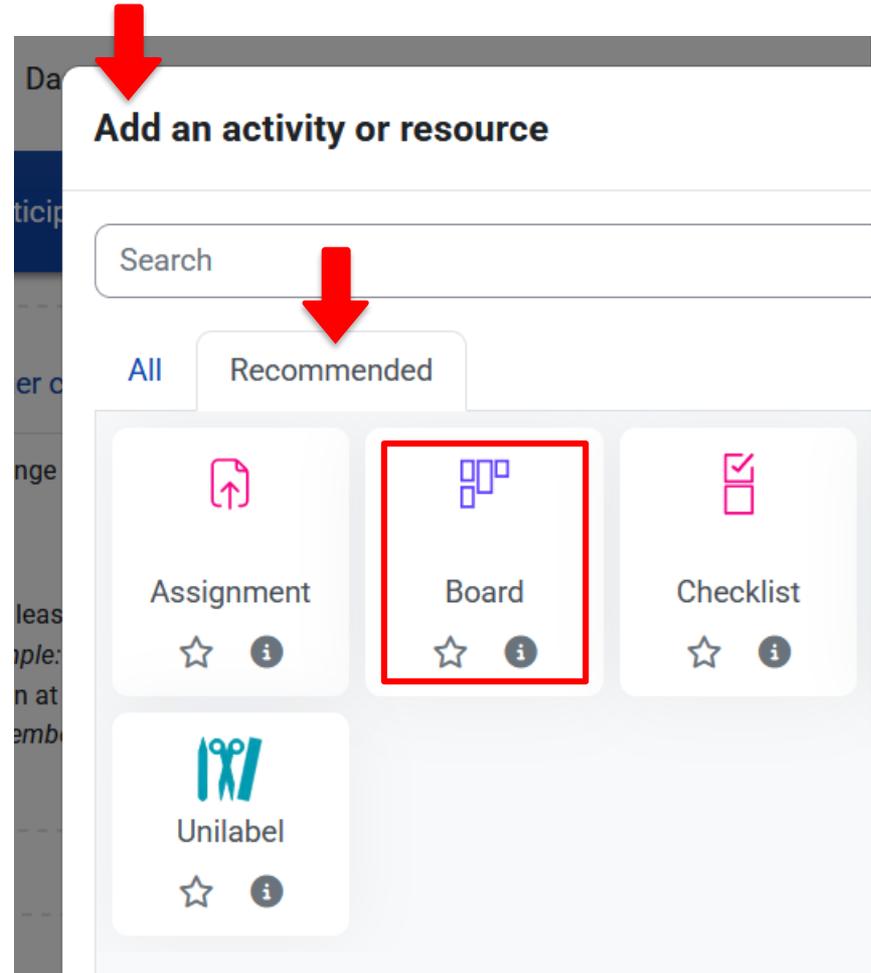
What can students do on the Board?

- post and discuss ideas in a visual way
- share text, pictures, and even YouTube videos
- rate or star posts to highlight valuable contributions

Set up Board

Follow the steps below:

1. Navigate to the section where you want to add a Board.
2. Click Add an activity or resource.
3. In the Recommended tab, select Board.



Adjust Board settings

- Give your Board a name, add a description and what actions students to take.
- Upload a background image (optional).
- Set who can rate posts: All, Students, or Teacher.
- Choose how to sort posts: by Creation date or by Rating.
- Limit students posting by date (adds a deadline for student posts).
- Allow all users to edit the placement of their own posts (lets students to move their posts around).

The screenshot shows the 'Settings' page for a Board. The 'Settings' tab is highlighted with a red box. Under 'Board settings', the 'Background Image' option is highlighted with a red arrow. The 'Rating posts' dropdown is set to 'by All', and the 'Sort by' dropdown is set to 'Creation date'. The 'Limit students posting by date' checkbox is checked and highlighted with a red arrow. At the bottom, the 'Allow all users to edit the placement of their own posts' checkbox is checked and highlighted with a red box. The interface includes a navigation bar with 'Board', 'Settings', 'Freeze this context', 'Export', and 'More'. The 'Background Image' section shows a file named 'Flowers_1.jpg' under the 'Files' folder. The 'Accepted file types' section lists 'Image (GIF) .gif', 'Image (JPEG) .jpeg .jpg', and 'Image (PNG) .png'. The 'Limit students posting by date' section shows a date picker set to '1 March 2025 12:00'.

Use case: Board for project planning

Scoping stage

Engage with stakeholders

Stakeholders need to be identified, and interviewed to find their requirements, concerns, and prior experience relevant to the project.

★ 0

Design stage

UX principles

Important UX design principles 1) User-centered design 2) User-centered design 3) Consistency 4) Hierarchy 5) Textual aspects 6) Comfort of the users 7) Accessibility

★ 0

Development stage

Allocating time

Align amount of resources with required timeframes for reasonable delivery milestones

★ 0

The Art of Stress-Free Productivity

★ 0

Students can create a new post by clicking the + button in each respective column

Post title

Post content

Students cannot vote on their own posts

Column heading
(double-click to edit)

Manage your Board

- + Add new column
- ✚ Move a column/post
- 🔒 Lock/unlock a column
- ✕ Delete a column/post

Quick tips for easy use

- All posts are **anonymous** by default unless you instruct students to add their name in the Post title to see who posted what.
- You can **export contributions** in excel or pdf (with student names) at the Board admin panel.
- Students can **engage with their peers' posts** by leaving comments (simple text and/or emojis).

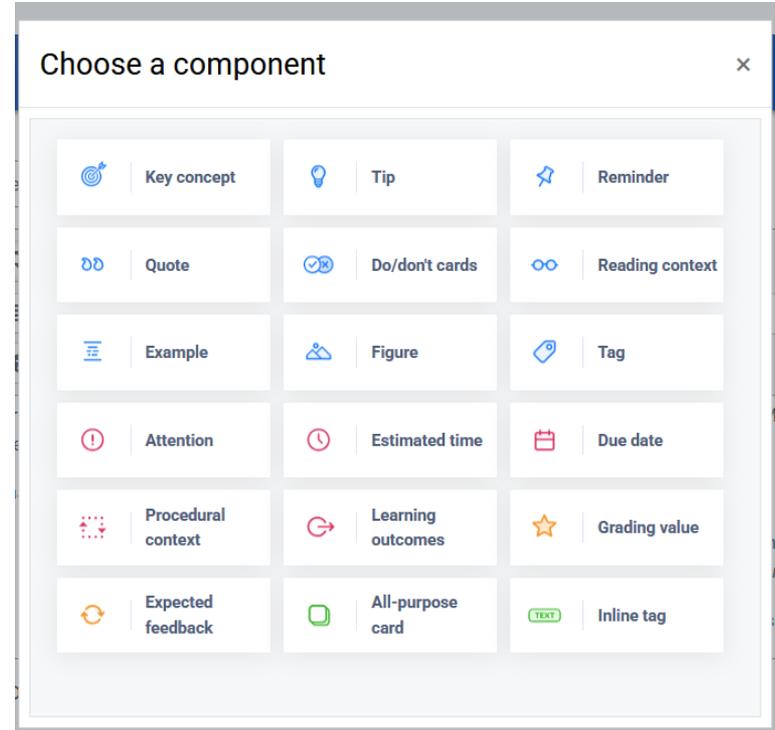
2

Components for Learning (C4L): visual aids to reinforce learning

18 ready-to-use visual tools help reduce cognitive load and improve the clarity of instructional materials.

Imagine this **in action**:

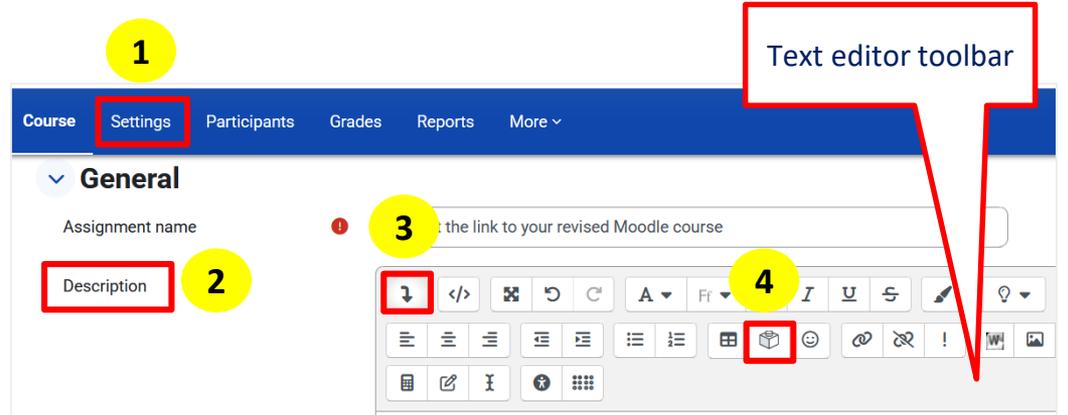
- provides diverse content formats to support all learning styles;
- turns complex ideas into easy-to-understand visuals;
- highlights key points and guides student focus;
- seamlessly **integrated** into every e-Course **resource** and **activity**.



Integrate components (C4L)

Follow the steps below:

1. Navigate to an existing or create a new resource/activity, e.g. Assignment.
2. On the settings page go to the Description (content) area.
3. Click the expand toolbar button ↴ to show more options.
4. In the text editor toolbar find and click the C4L  button.



The screenshot shows the Moodle course settings page. The 'Settings' tab is highlighted with a red box and a yellow circle labeled '1'. The 'Description' field is highlighted with a red box and a yellow circle labeled '2'. The text editor toolbar is expanded, showing the expand button (a downward arrow) highlighted with a red box and a yellow circle labeled '3'. The C4L icon (a blue cube) is highlighted with a red box and a yellow circle labeled '4'. A red callout box labeled 'Text editor toolbar' points to the toolbar area.

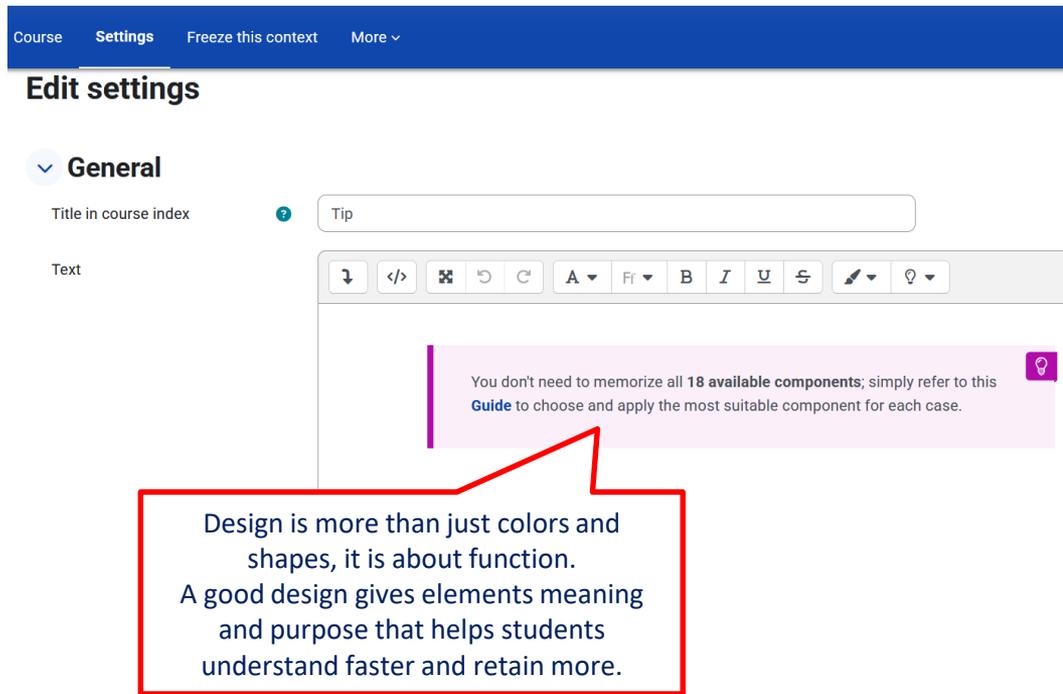
You can integrate components wherever the text editor toolbar is available, including:

- course announcements
- section overviews
- assignment instructions
- discussion forum posts
- quiz questions

Use case: Tip component

Let's say you want to give your students a quick tip. With the **Tip component**, you could easily display it in a visual and meaningful manner without needing to specify in your text something like 'Here's a quick tip ...'

No need to memorize all 18 components – simply check this [GUIDE](#) to find and apply the right one for each case.



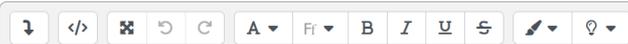
Course Settings Freeze this context More ▾

Edit settings

▼ General

Title in course index ?

Text



You don't need to memorize all **18 available components**; simply refer to this [Guide](#) to choose and apply the most suitable component for each case. 

Design is more than just colors and shapes, it is about function. A good design gives elements meaning and purpose that helps students understand faster and retain more.

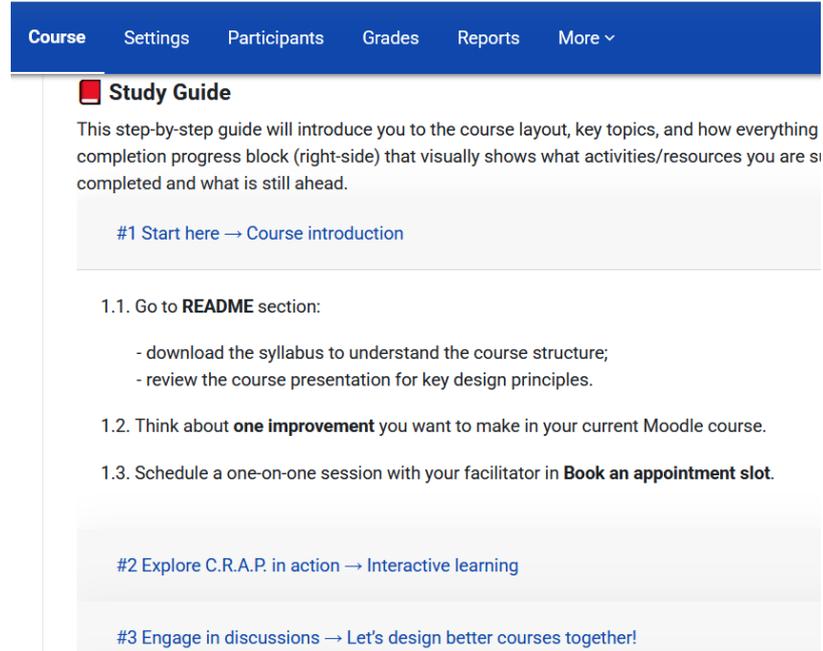
3

Unilabel: improving student-content interaction

Provides **flexible layouts** that reduce information overload and make content more interactive and accessible.

Imagine this **in action**:

- **Accordion:** a vertical layout with collapsible sections. Good for syllabi, study guides, checklists, to-do lists.
- **Carousel:** a dynamic slideshow that brings content to life. Good for galleries, portfolios, storytelling, before-and-after comparisons.
- **Collapsed text:** clickable headings that reveal additional information. Good for extra resources, glossaries, explanations, hints.



The screenshot shows a Moodle course interface with a blue navigation bar at the top containing links for Course, Settings, Participants, Grades, Reports, and More. Below the navigation bar is a section titled "Study Guide" with a red square icon. The text below the title reads: "This step-by-step guide will introduce you to the course layout, key topics, and how everything completion progress block (right-side) that visually shows what activities/resources you are si completed and what is still ahead." Below this text are three numbered sections, each with a blue heading and a right-pointing arrow:

- #1 Start here → Course introduction
- 1.1. Go to **README** section:
 - download the syllabus to understand the course structure;
 - review the course presentation for key design principles.
- 1.2. Think about **one improvement** you want to make in your current Moodle course.
- 1.3. Schedule a one-on-one session with your facilitator in **Book an appointment slot**.

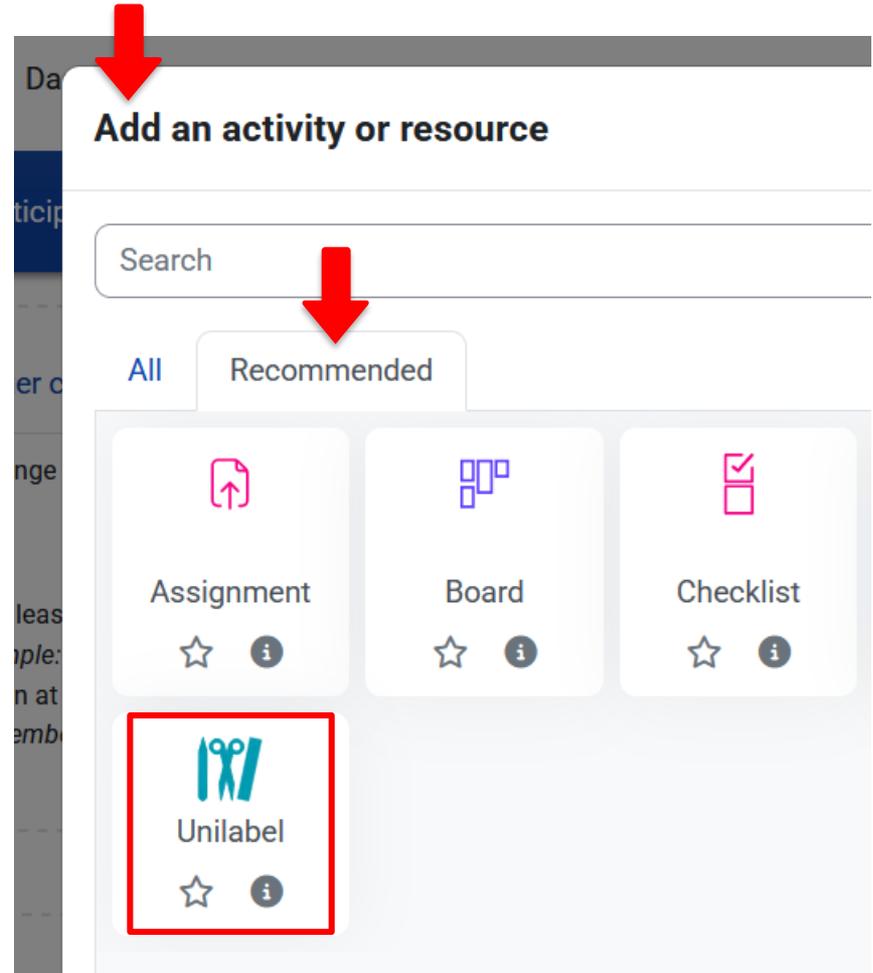
Below these sections are two more numbered sections, each with a blue heading and a right-pointing arrow:

- #2 Explore C.R.A.P. in action → Interactive learning
- #3 Engage in discussions → Let's design better courses together!

Set up Unilabel

Follow the steps below:

1. Navigate to the section where you want to add a Unilabel.
2. Click Add an activity or resource.
3. In the Recommended tab, select Unilabel.



Adjust Unilabel settings

The screenshot shows the 'Settings' tab for an 'Unilabel' in a course. The interface includes a top navigation bar with 'Unilabel' and 'Settings' tabs, and a 'Freeze this context' button. The main content area is titled 'General' and contains three sections: 'Name', 'Unilabel text', and 'Label type'. Each section has a red exclamation mark icon indicating a warning or error.

- 1** Name is not visible on the course page Duplicate it below
- 2** Explain what's inside and how to use it
- 3** Choose a unilabel type, e.g. Accordion
- 4** Scroll down and click 'Save and edit content'

Name: Study Guide

Unilabel text: Study Guide
This step-by-step guide will introduce you to the course layout, key topics on each step to readdropdown text the completion progress block (right- are supposed to interact with. It is color coded so you can quickly see wh

Label type: Accordion

Accordion: edit content page

The screenshot shows an accordion editor interface. At the top is a dark blue navigation bar with the following items: 'Unilabel', 'Settings', 'Freeze this context', and 'More'. Below this is a white area with two checked options: 'Show unilabel text' and 'Allow to open multiple segments simultaneously'. A red arrow points from the second option to a callout box. The main content area is divided into segments. The first segment is titled 'Segment-1' and contains a 'Heading-1' section with the text '#1 Start here → Course introduction'. The second segment is titled 'Content-1' and contains two numbered list items: '1.1. Go to **README** section:' followed by two bullet points, and '1.2. Think about **one improvement** you want to make in your current Moodle course.' The interface includes a toolbar with various icons for text formatting and a green '+ Add element' button. Four yellow circles with numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4 are placed on the interface to highlight specific features: 1 is on the '+ Add element' button, 2 is on the heading text, 3 is on the first list item, and 4 is on the 'Save changes' callout.

Unilabel Settings Freeze this context More ▾

Show unilabel text

Allow to open multiple segments simultaneously

You can reorder segments by dragging and dropping ⇅

Click here to add as many sections/segments as needed

Use clear, action-driven labels to guide students

1 + Add element

2 #1 Start here → Course introduction

3 1.1. Go to **README** section:

- download the syllabus to understand the course structure;
- review the course presentation for key design principles.

1.2. Think about **one improvement** you want to make in your current Moodle course.

4 Scroll down and click 'Save changes'

Limit content per section to avoid overwhelming students

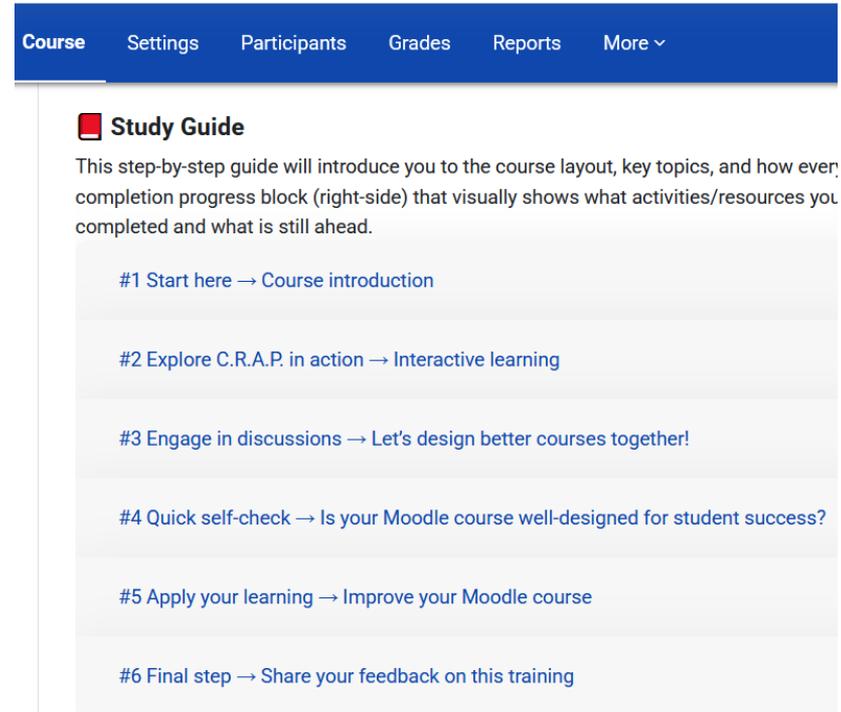
Use case: Accordion

Problem: Students disengage when content feels cluttered or difficult to navigate.

Solution: Organize content into smaller, readable chunks so students can quickly find what they need without endless scrolling.

Quick tips for easy use

- Clear labels help students understand what's inside before they open it.
E.g. Additional reading (expand to view)
- Visible prompts ensure that expandable sections stand out.
E.g. Icons, bold or colored text
- Direct references remind students to check hidden content at the right time.
E.g. Did you check the collapsible section for additional examples?



The screenshot shows a Moodle course navigation menu with a blue header containing the following items: Course, Settings, Participants, Grades, Reports, and More (with a dropdown arrow). Below the header is an accordion-style section titled "Study Guide" with a red square icon. The section contains six items, each with a number and a link:

- #1 Start here → [Course introduction](#)
- #2 Explore C.R.A.P. in action → [Interactive learning](#)
- #3 Engage in discussions → [Let's design better courses together!](#)
- #4 Quick self-check → [Is your Moodle course well-designed for student success?](#)
- #5 Apply your learning → [Improve your Moodle course](#)
- #6 Final step → [Share your feedback on this training](#)

What if I need more help with e-Course?

Please contact the e-Course admin:

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References

- ✓ [Guide to Components for Learning \(C4L\)](#)
- ✓ [Moodle Teaching Basics](#)
- ✓ [e-Learning for Beginners](#)
- ✓ [Engaging learners in the age of distraction](#)
- ✓ [5 Highly effective strategies for creating engaging e-Learning](#)
- ✓ [Essential guide to visual design](#)
- ✓ [Visual design basics](#)
- ✓ [What is visual design?](#)
- ✓ [Reading 13: Graphic Design](#)

References

Free stock images and videos sites

- ✓ [Freeimages](#)
- ✓ [Pexels](#)
- ✓ [Pixabay](#)
- ✓ [Unsplash](#)
- ✓ [Vecteezy](#)

Free vector icons and illustrations sites

- ✓ [Flaticon](#)
- ✓ [Thenounproject](#)
- ✓ [Illustrations](#)

Tools for non-designer

- ✓ [Adobe color wheel](#)
- ✓ [Colors palettes](#)
- ✓ [Color contrast checker](#)
- ✓ [Image background remover](#)