OLAT

Multifunctional learning platform

https://www.olat.uzh.ch

What is a learning platform?

A learning platform or Learning Management System (LMS) is a complex software system which can be used to support teaching events. LMS are especially suited to supporting events in organisational matters such as group allocation, practice and semester processing or for communications within learning groups or to support with the managing persons. Students gain structured access to instructional materials via the learning platform; they can be organised in lectures according to the semester progression; and students can check their learning success with self-tests.

The University of Basel offers the learning platform OLAT (Online Learning And Training) from LearnTechNet.

Functionalities

— Learning group management

— Management of learning contents

— HTML Editor

— Discussion forums and file discussions

— Wiki, Chat and simple Blog

— Podcast and E-Portfolio

— File folders with versioning

— Calendar and message system (e-mail)

— Questionnaires

— Tests and self-tests with various types of questions

— Task building block (to submit and to correct exercises)

— Evaluation component (to publish assessments)

— Multilingual

— AAI access

Benefits

OLAT integrates various tools into a platform for:

- Administration (registration)
- Organisation (group work, exercises)
- Communication (Chat, Wiki, forum, Blog)
- Generation and provision of (interactive) learning contents

Disadvantages

- The varied functionalities of OLAT make it more difficult to handle
- Specific know-how on setup and management of online courses required
- Attendance of training and other time engagement are absolutely necessary
- OLAT's integrated tools Wiki, Forum, Blog, Podcast and E-Portfolio only offer base functionalities compared to individual applications.

When can I use OLAT?

The use of a learning platform is recommended when not only one, but several functionalities are used and they also offer students and lecturers added value. If only individual functionalities are used, the effort for both sides – students and lecturers – is often too great, and it is recommended to use a specific tool such as ADAM for distributing learning materials or FlexiForm for surveys.

Examples

Financial Markets
https://www.olat.uzh.ch/olat/url/RepositoryEntry/1985019913

Latinum Electronicum
https://www.olat.uzh.ch/olat/url/RepositoryEntry/1018986511

The medical faculty uses OLAT as a tool for the entire medical studies.

How and who?

You will need your unibas e-mail address and password for registration.

After the first login, please give yourself a clear and unique username such as maria_sample. This OLAT user name can NOT be changed again.

To produce a course in OLAT yourself, you need author rights which you can request from the LTN-URZ team. You can also ask this team about technical questions regarding the tools: nikt@unibas.ch; Tel. 061 267 10 99; http://nikt.unibas.ch