## Adding a Choice activity

The *Choice* activity is commonly used to conduct an opinion poll or to survey students about a single topic. It is simple to set up and administer, as demonstrated in the Stage 2 training. It is possible to include photos or other types of media in a *Choice* activity.

## Using the Choice Activity to support blended learning

An easy way of blending online learning with a face-to-face lesson using this activity would be to conduct an opinion poll, e.g. about a controversial topic covered in the face-to-face class. This could also be used as a lead-in activity to a face-to-face and the results could jump start a discussion or be used in a prompt for a writing assignment. Other uses of the *Choice* activity might be to conduct a needs assessment or as a way for students to organize themselves into groups.

## Step-by-Step Instructions for Adding this Activity

**Important note:** Since our upgrade to Moodle 3.1, some of the following screenshots may appear slightly different in your course, but the principles remain the same.

1. Click the *Turn editing on* button on your course home page.
2. Click the *Add an activity or resource* link in the topic where you want to add this activity. The *Add an activity or resource* window appears.
3. Select *Choice* in the left panel under ACTIVITIES.
4. Click the *Add* button.

   The *Adding a new Choice* page appears.
   Settings in the **General** section are used to set the general information about the activity.

5. Type a descriptive name in the *Choice name* text box.
6. Type a prompt for the poll in the *Description* text box.
7. To display the prompt on the course home page, select *Display description on course page*. (To keep the page less cluttered this is not recommended.)
8. Choose either *Display horizontally* or *Display vertically* in the *Display mode for the options* setting. This determines how the choices in the poll will be displayed and can improve readability.

The **Options** section is used to define the various choices students can make.

▼Options

| | |
|---|---|
| Allow choice to be updated | No ▾ |
| Allow more than one choice to be selected | No ▾ |
| Limit the number of responses allowed | No ▾ |
| Option 1* ⑦ | |
| Limit 1 | 0 |
| Option 2 ⑦ | |
| Limit 2 | 0 |
| Option 3 ⑦ | |
| Limit 3 | 0 |
| Option 4 ⑦ | |
| Limit 4 | 0 |
| Option 5 ⑦ | |
| Limit 5 | 0 |

Add 3 field(s) to form

9. Select *Yes* in the *Allow choice to be updated* if students are allowed to change their submitted choice at a later time.
10. Type the choices offered to the students in *Option 1*, *Option 2*, etc.
    The *Limit* options are used to set a maximum number of responses, although this is not normally used in a poll. (One use of this might be for students to select groups, as explained in the video section.)
    If more choice fields are required, Click the *Add 3 field(s) to form* button.

Settings in the **Availability** section can control when the activity is available to students.

**Availability**

Restrict answering to this time period ☐

Open  21 ▾  October  ▾  2016 ▾  10 ▾  10 ▾  📅

Until  21 ▾  October  ▾  2016 ▾  10 ▾  10 ▾  📅

Show preview ⑦  ☐

11. To control the times and dates for students to access the poll, use the *Restrict answering to this time period* setting. (The *Show/Hide* function discussed in the Pre-Stage 2 and Stage 2 training is another option to restrict student access to the activity.)

The **Results** section is used to set the privacy and poll results settings.

**Results**

Publish results  | Do not publish results to students ▾ |

Privacy of results  | Publish anonymous results, do not show student names ▾ |

Show column for unanswered  | No ▾ |

Include responses from inactive/suspended users  | No ▾ |

12. The *Publish results* setting can be used to control if and when students can access the poll results.
13. The *Privacy of results* setting specifies whether or not students can see each others' responses.
14. To display the names of participants who have not completed the activity, Select Yes in the *Show column for unanswered* setting.

The **Common module settings** section is common to many Moodle activities and resources.

**Common module settings**

Visible  | Show ▾ |

ID number ⑦  | |

Group mode ⑦  | No groups ▾ |

Grouping ⑦  | None ▾ |

| Add group/grouping access restriction |

15. The *Visible* setting is used to S*how/Hide* the activity. This is identical to using the show/hide icons when the *Turn editing on* function is enabled on a course home page.

16. The *ID Number* setting sets an ID number for advanced use of the grade book. (This is not used in the LINC courseware.)
17. The *Group* mode setting enables the use of groups. (More information is available in the *Groups* documentation in the Stage 3 *Course Management* section.)
18. The *Grouping* option enables the use of groupings (a collection of groups).

Settings in the **Restrict access** section can be used to limit access to the activity. (More information is available in the *Conditional Release* documentation in the Stage 3 *Course Management* section.)

▼ Restrict access

| Access restrictions | None |
| --- | --- |
| | Add restriction... |

19. There is a pop up menu upon selecting the *Add restriction...* button.

Settings in the **Activity completion** section are used to set completion tracking, the completion requirement and the expected completion date. (More information is available in the *Completion Tracking* documentation in the Stage 3 *Course Management* section.)

| Add restriction... | |
| --- | --- |
| Date | Prevent access until (or from) a specified date and time. |
| Grade | Require students to achieve a specified grade. |
| Group | Allow only students who belong to a specified group, or all groups. |
| Grouping | Allow only students who belong to a group within a specified grouping. |
| User profile | Control access based on fields within the student's profile. |
| Restriction set | Add a set of nested restrictions to apply complex logic. |
| Cancel | |

20. Click the *Save and return to course* button to save/update the activity.

The *Choice* activity link appears on the course main page. Use the *Switch role to... student* function in the *Administration* block to preview the activity.

# Deployment Tips

- Make sure the options are easy to read and don't run into each other after creating a *Choice* activity, especially if *Display horizontally* is selected.
- Use the *Display vertically* option for choices that are sentences.
- Use the *Display vertically* option if all of the choices cannot display on a single line.
- When polling students, the results may be more objective if you do not allow students to see the results until after they have made their choice - or until everyone's votes are collected.
- Refer to the Stage 2 *Managing a Choice* documentation for information about using a *Choice* activity with your students.