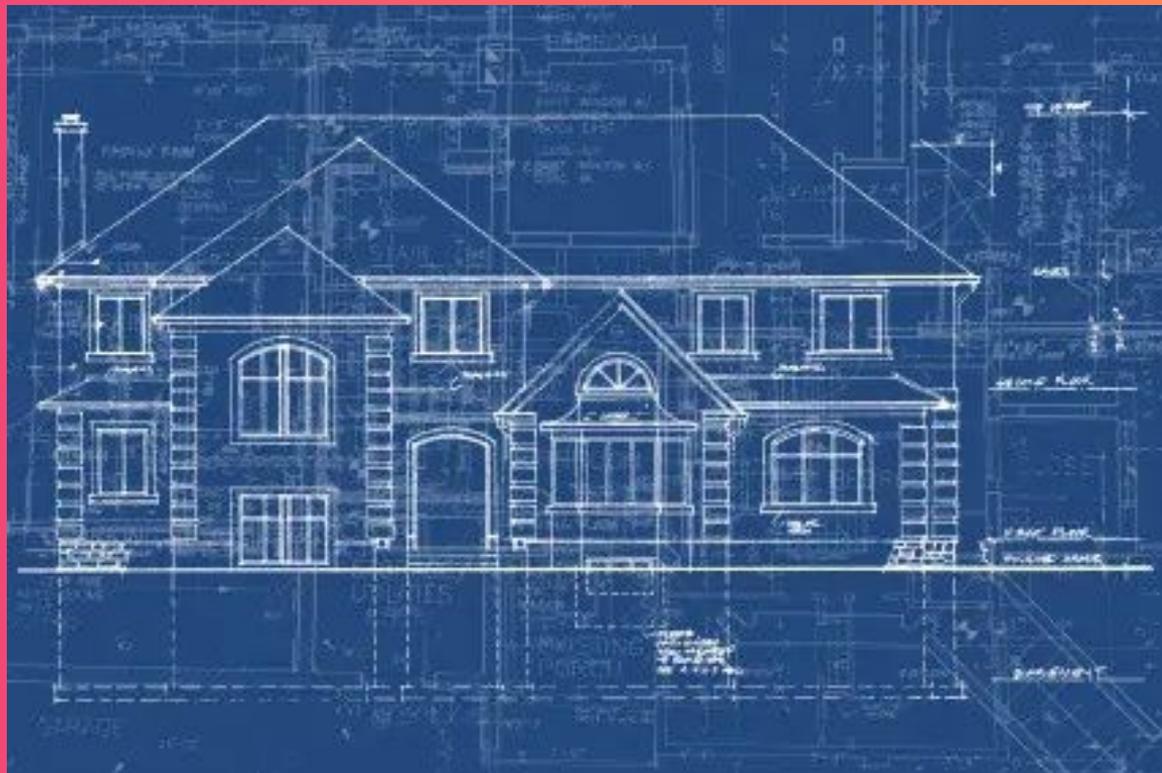




Our course templates

January 2022



Content Team



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What are course templates?

Good courses are designed before they're built... but not everything needs to be designed wholly from scratch

The Learning Design Team have developed **six reusable short-course templates** to support course design.

- Suitable starting point for all course types (short course, ExpertTrack, microcredential)
- Use each template in its entirety, or adjust according to your needs (e.g. by adding or removing weeks)
- Alternatively, pick out relevant template activities or steps to add to your course
- Importable into your Course Creator organisation sandbox
- Accompanied by off-platform course outline document
- Four-week courses, approximately 3-4 hours learning time per week

Each template in Course Creator includes...

- course boilerplate (week, activity and step titles)
- guidance and suggestions for each step
- preloaded placeholder media (images, audio, video) - allowing you to building before final media edits

What do we mean by 'course template'?

We DO mean something that...

- provides a guide for authors on how to structure course content
- can be used if needed, adjusted, or not used if it doesn't apply
- makes it easier for authors to design course content *off-platform*
- speeds up build of course content *on-platform*

We DO NOT mean...

- a rigorous, one-size-fits-all approach
- inflexible sequencing of course content
- predetermined quotas for content types (i.e. you must have 12 videos exactly, not 11 and not 13)
- a substitution for proper course planning or submitting a course outline for Learning Designer review

Top tips for using course templates

- Think about how learners will engage with your content - what are learners *doing*?
 - Identify template elements that work well to meet your content **learning outcomes**
 - More than one template may suit - mix and match aspects from multiple if required
 - Plan your course using each associated **course outline document**
 - Edit, reorder, add and remove steps, activities and weeks to fit your ideas
- > **Share your course outline for feedback from the Learning Design Team**

Which template will work for you?

Discovery

What will your learners explore?

This course type is particularly suitable for **emerging** or **newsworthy** topics - learner exploration keeps course comment and discussion fresh.

Support your learners to become **active creators** of their learning by **sourcing and sharing** ideas and resources, researching off-platform, commenting and critiquing topics and engaging with issues that are **shaping the world around us right now**.

Topic areas for you to try this template with:

Sustainability

Environment

Changing world

Cultural and societal issues

Emerging topics



Case study

What will your learners apply?

This course type is particularly suitable for **professional disciplines with agreed standards in practice** - learners benefit from engaging with detailed case studies which **exemplify and bring to life** significant events or aspects of practice. Your learners identify core principles, consider relevance to their context, **share and empathise with peers** from their community, offer advice and reflect on how to **move from theory to application**.

Topic areas for you to try this template with:

Business

Medical

Healthcare

Law and Politics

Teaching



Hands on

What will your learners create?

This course type is particularly suitable for **creative** and **practical** topics - learners may watch **step-by-step** walkthroughs and **develop confidence** as they **learn by doing** and take learning beyond the course. **Equip learners with skills** to build, make and create. A space for learners to share their experience, reflect and iterate, and **offer tips and suggestions, learning from and with course peers**.

Topic areas for you to try this template with:

Personal interest

Arts and culture

Hobbies

Maker and creator

Practical skills



Follow along

What will your learners practice?

This course type is particularly suitable for **technical, methodological or language topics** where learners practice in a safe and supportive space to **develop the skills** and familiarity they need to succeed..

Walkthroughs, controlled practice, and the **freedom to revisit to gain confidence** supports learners through to expertise while **troubleshooting along the journey with the course community.**

Topic areas for you to try this template with:

Coding

Modern languages

Technical products

Workplace tools

Methodologies and approaches



Discussion

What will your learners share?

This course type is particularly suitable for **reflective and opinion-based topics** - learners' personal feelings and an emphasis on sharing, considering others and **broadening perspectives** put communication at the course core. Learners navigate topics and structure their thoughts, embrace the **diversity of thought and experience** from our global community; **becoming part of a conversation, even if learning alone.**

Topic areas for you to try this template with:

Personal health

Wellness

Lifestyle

Culture

Art appreciation



Low media

What will your learners discover?

This course type is particularly suitable for **rapid response** topics or courses aimed at learners for whom **internet access may be sporadic or costly**, or conversions from text-based original material such as books. Low media courses **prioritise text-based course content**, use low-resolution imagery and utilise audio over video. Downloadable transcripts, resources and content increase access by **decreasing reliance on bandwidth**, while written content is given centre stage which can in turn **expedite course development timelines**.

Topic areas for you to try this template with:

Rapid response

Conceptual

Lower budget

Emerging topics

Book-based



At a glance comparison



Discovery

Sustainability
Environment
Changing world
Cultural and societal
issues
Emerging topics



Case study

Business
Medical
Healthcare
Law and Politics
Teaching



Hands on

Personal interest
Arts and culture
Hobbies
Maker and creator
Practical skills



Follow along

Coding
Modern languages
Technical products
Workplace tools
Methodologies and
approaches



Discussion

Rapid response
Conceptual
Lower budget
Emerging topics
Book-based



Low media

Personal health
Wellness
Lifestyle
Culture
Art appreciation

If you're interested in hearing more about how our course templates can work for you, please get in touch.