Auto-Create Groups in Moodle

Introduction

An instructor can organize users into groups within particular activities. Activities that have groups enabled allow users to filter contributions by group.

For example, enabling either separate or visible groups on an assignment drop-box enables staff to filter the student submissions to see only those from a particular tutor group.

Using groups with discussion forums allow teachers to restrict interaction between students.

Separate groups mean only students in the same group can see and participate in discussions within a particular forum.

Visible groups allow students to see other group's discussions, but only participate in their own group's discussions.

Auto-Create Groups

Step 1: To begin, click on Users from the Settings panel, after you have logged into your course.
Step 2: Click Groups.

The Group page appears as shown below.

Step 3: Click Auto-create groups.

The Auto-create Groups age appears as shown below.
Step 4: Select Student from the Select members from role drop down menu.

You can specify if you would like to create x number of Groups or each group contain x number of students. When selecting Members per group the Prevent last small group will allocate additional members to an existing group rather than create a new group with fewer members than x.

Step 5: Select Number of groups from Specify drop down menu.

Step 6: Enter Group/member count.

Step 7: Select Randomly from Allocate members drop down menu.

The “at” symbol (@) may be used to create groups with names containing letters. For example: Group @ will generate groups named Group A, Group B, Group C...

The “hash tag” symbol (#) may be used to create groups with names containing numbers. For example: Group # will generate groups named Group 1, Group 2, Group 3, Etc....

Step 8: Enter Naming scheme.

Step 9: Select No from the Create in grouping drop down menu.
Step 10: Click Preview, to preview the group.

The Group preview displays as shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Groups (2)</th>
<th>Group members</th>
<th>User count (5)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group A</td>
<td>Jack Buck, John Doe, Anne Brown</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group B</td>
<td>Tom Harris, Carlos Sosa</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Step 11: Click Submit, when finished.

Conclusion
We hope this guide was helpful.

For more information about online course development, please visit the TLITC or contact us via email at tlitc@bhcc.mass.edu.