



The Elluminate Bridge for Moodle™

A solution brief

February 2009

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What is the Elluminate Bridge for Moodle?

The Elluminate Bridge for Moodle makes the connection between synchronous and asynchronous components of a complete eLearning solution. It brings instructionally sound Elluminate *Live!* real-time collaborations directly into the framework of the Moodle course management system and methodology. The Elluminate Bridge for Moodle enables:

- **Course designers and instructors** to add scheduled classes or “virtual office hours”-style real-time sessions as an activity in a Moodle course.
- **Students** to enter live or archived real-time sessions from within the familiar Moodle course environment.
- **Administrators and IT professionals** to use powerful Elluminate *Live!* ASP or self-hosted enterprise deployment options to bridge to their campus Moodle and other directories or LMS systems at the same time, to the same instance of Elluminate *Live!*
- **CIOs and other educational executives** to be confident that their existing expenditures in learning management systems, directories, training, and content development are extended and not thrown away when adding real-time collaboration to the mix.
- **Staff** to have secure access to real-time collaboration for meetings from the same Elluminate system even if they don't have access to the Moodle like instructors do.

Powerful and easy to implement for course designers and instructors

As a teacher or course designer, there are a number of exciting things this Bridge brings to your Moodle courses.

Illuminate session as a Moodle activity: From within the standard Moodle interface, an instructor or course designer can add a real-time Elluminate session as an activity.

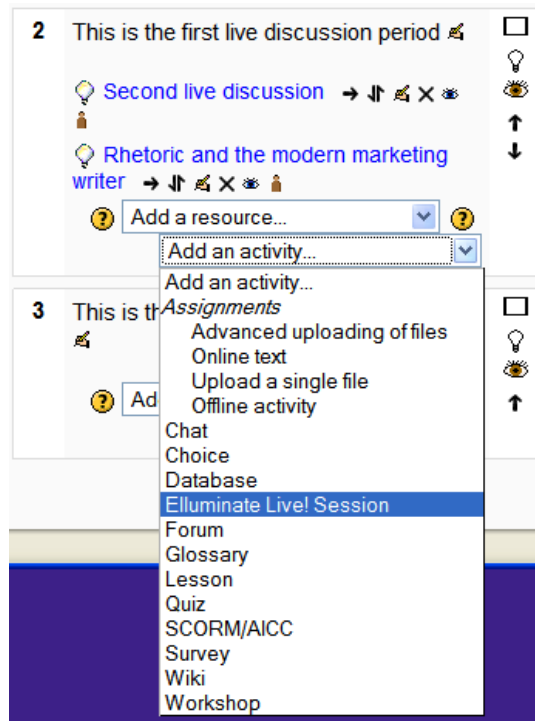


Figure 1. The teacher role's point of view, adding an Elluminate Activity

Flexible session characteristics: A number of characteristics about this live session can be set up, including the scheduled time and whether the session recording will start automatically or manually.

Name: ard grammar and marketing writing

Description: Trebuchet 1 (8 pt) Lang **B** *I* U ~~S~~ x₂ x² This session will discuss when it is and isn't okay to use non-standard grammar. Come prepared with 5 examples from corporate websites where non-standard grammar was not effective.

Path: body

Session begins: 7 February 2009 11 00

Session ends: 7 February 2009 12 00

Session recording: Automatic

Boundary time: 15

Grade attendance: No grade

Private session: No

Visible: Show

Save changes

Figure 2. Defining the Elluminate session activity

Predefined moderators from existing Moodle users: You can also predefine who is assigned the ability to be the moderator in the Elluminate session on a system-wide level or by course. While Elluminate Live! allows you to promote or demote moderators on the fly, this capability lets teachers and students just click and join with the proper moderators already assigned even before the session starts.

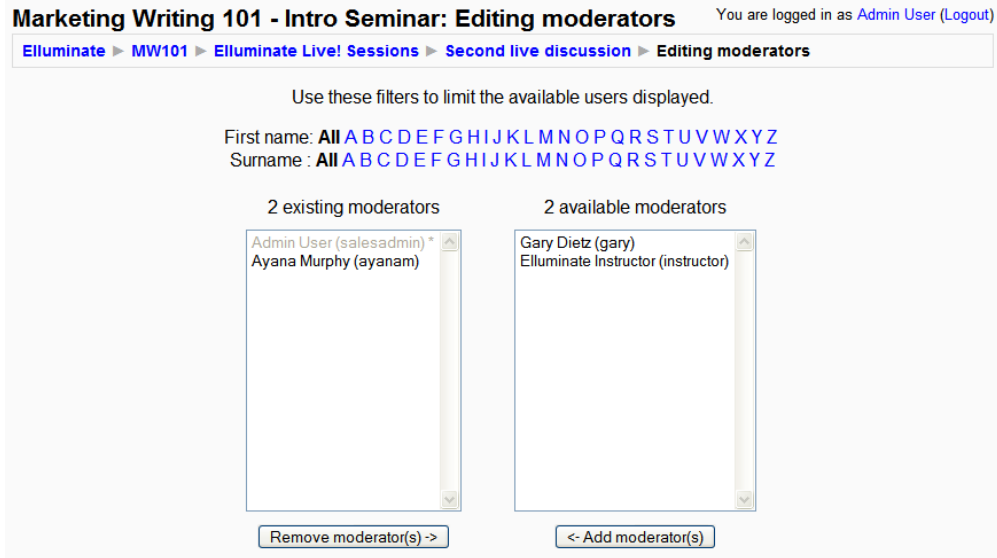


Figure 3. Assign moderators for a session from Moodle before the session

Elluminate sessions published (or not) on the calendar: The Elluminate sessions can be published to the Moodle calendar as course or user.

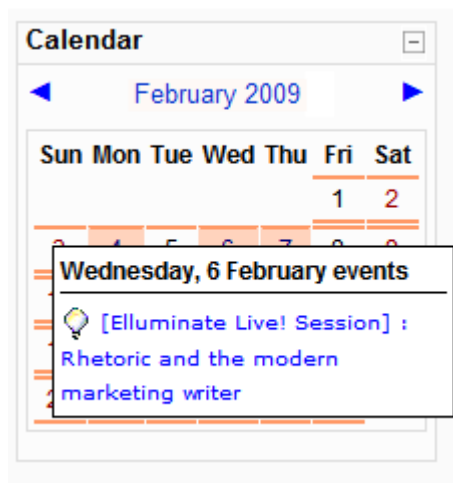


Figure 4. Scheduled Elluminate sessions can automatically appear in the Moodle calendar

Elluminate extended to Moodle logs: Also, the Moodle logs are extended to show events and activities that have taken place based on Elluminate *Live!* sessions. This lets administrator and teachers track activities as they always have.

MW101	Thu 7 February 2009, 11:58 AM	192.168.1.146	Admin User	course view	Marketing Writing 101 - Intro Seminar
MW101	Thu 7 February 2009, 11:54 AM	192.168.1.146	Admin User	elluminatative view	11
MW101	Thu 7 February 2009, 11:54 AM	192.168.1.146	Admin User	elluminatative add	11

Figure 5. Moodle logs reflect Elluminate events

Recent session recordings and course recordings: Recent public session recordings are shown in the Elluminate recording block, while individual courses show recordings of individual sessions from within the course.

The screenshot shows the Elluminate interface for a course titled "Marketing Writing 101 - Intro Seminar". The breadcrumb trail is "Elluminate > MW101 > Rhetoric and the modern marketing writer". There is a "Jump to..." dropdown menu and an "Update this Elluminate Live! Session" button. The main content area displays the following details for a session:

- Name:** Rhetoric and the modern marketing writer
- Description:** An interactive lecture across all class sites in this section that are English speaking.
- Session begins:** Wednesday, 6 February 2009, 03:30 PM
- Session ends:** Wednesday, 6 February 2009, 06:30 PM
- Boundary time:** 15 minutes

At the bottom, there is a link: "Play recording - Wednesday, 6 February 2009, 03:26 PM x".

Figure 6. Access recordings from the course

Easy for students

The Elluminate Bridge for Moodle makes students joining live and recorded Elluminate sessions simple. Since they already know Moodle, they will quickly understand the way in which Elluminate sessions are used in it. No new user interface training is needed.

Students can join from their Moodle interface: Students can join their live sessions directly from the Moodle course.

The screenshot shows the Elluminate interface for a course titled "Marketing Writing 101 - Intro Seminar". The breadcrumb trail is "Elluminate > MW101 > Second live discussion". There is a "Jump to..." dropdown menu and an "Update this Elluminate Live! Session" button. The main content area displays the following details for a session:

- Name:** Second live discussion
- Description:**
- Session begins:** Thursday, 7 February 2009, 01:45 PM
- Session ends:** Thursday, 7 February 2009, 03:45 PM
- Boundary time:** 15 minutes

Below the details, there is a note: "Recording is manually controlled". There are two links: "Edit moderators for this session" and "Join session". At the bottom, there is a link: "Verify your system is setup properly here".

Figure 7. Join live or view recorded Elluminate sessions directly from a course

Illuminate sessions are just Moodle activities: Illuminate sessions show up in Moodle as activities. They can appear in the topic outline.

The screenshot shows a Moodle topic outline with the following structure:

- Topic outline header
- Text: "This is Professor X's marketing writing seminar. Prepare to write!"
- Activities:
 - News forum
 - Dr. X - Virtual Office Hours
- Section 1: "Our first session - what is marketing writing?" (checkbox)
 - Initial Reading
 - Elluminate Live! Session
- Section 2: "This is the second live discussion period" (checkbox)
 - Second live discussion
 - Rhetoric and the modern marketing writer
 - Session 2 Survey

Figure 8. Topics can contain live Elluminate sessions as activities

They can appear in the Upcoming events section. They can even appear in the Moodle calendar.

The screenshot shows two parts of the Moodle interface:

- Upcoming Events:** A list of events including:
 - [Elluminate Live! Session] : Dr. X - Virtual Office Hours (Today 10:00 AM) » Monday, 7 July (11:00 AM)
 - [Elluminate Live! Session] : Elluminate Live! Session (Today 01:00 PM)
 - [Elluminate Live! Session] : Second live discussion (Today 01:45 PM) » 03:45 PM
- Calendar View:** A calendar for Monday, 7 July 2009. Under "Events underway:", there is an event:
 - [Elluminate Live! Session] : Dr. X - Virtual Office Hours (Marketing Writing 101 - Intro Seminar) Thursday, 7 February (10:00 AM) » Monday, 7 July (11:00 AM)
 - Description: "I have an open virtual office policy. Please join me for help on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 5pm to 7pm EST."

Figure 9. Elluminate sessions can appear in places that Moodle activities appear

Valuable to Administrators and IT professionals

The Elluminate Bridge for Moodle is open source This allows security conscious instructors to examine how the system connects from the campus Moodle to Elluminate.

The Elluminate Bridge for Moodle is built on the Elluminate Bridge SDK This is the same SDK that has allowed partners and customers construct other bridges. If your campus wants to

build a bridge between a custom campus portal and Elluminate Live! this is the same documented and supported SDK you will use. Elluminate also has professional services available to help you build your own Elluminate Bridge.

ASP or Hosted The Elluminate Bridge for Moodle can connect to a campus supported or an ASP-hosted version of *Elluminate Live!* This gives your campus maximum deployment flexibility (see the next section).

Deploying the Elluminate Bridge for Moodle: ASP or Self-hosted

Elluminate recognizes that some organizations want to host Elluminate *Live!* themselves while others want an ASP 'software as a service' model. In either case, the Elluminate Bridge for Moodle connects the Moodle you are already supporting on your campus to the Elluminate *Live!* system. (Elluminate does not host the actual Moodle instance.)

There are two ways your organization can deploy.

Elluminate ASP hosted Elluminate Live! services When you are using Elluminate *Live!* services hosted by the Elluminate ASP, the Elluminate Bridge for Moodle connects your Moodle to the Elluminate *Live!* ASP managed servers.

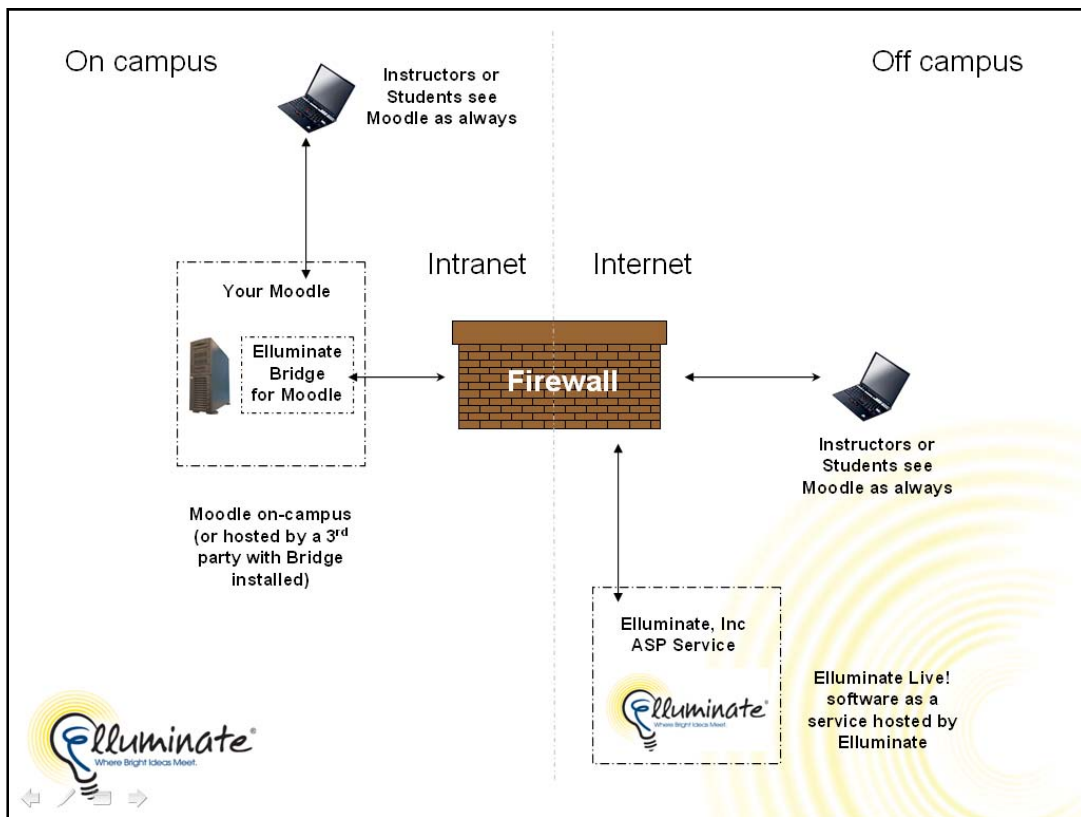


Figure 10. Elluminate ASP hosted service bridged to Moodle

In the scenario in Figure 10 above, you install the ASP-hosted Elluminate Bridge for Moodle (the SAS version) from the open source tree. Here are a few important things about this scenario:

- The Bridge itself is free and open source, but there are additional ASP hosting costs involved in connecting the bridge to the *Elluminate Live!* ASP. Please contact your Elluminate, Inc. salesperson for more details on this hosting service fee.
- Elluminate, Inc. is not a provider that will host the Moodle instance. Remote-Learner.net and other providers can discuss these options with you. Of course, the Moodle itself can be hosted by your own campus IT department.
- In this scenario, Elluminate *Live!* services are hosted by Elluminate. If you host Elluminate on your own campus with Elluminate ELM, see the other scenario.

Self-hosted Elluminate Live! server When you are hosting the Elluminate *Live!* server from your campus, the Elluminate Bridge for Moodle connects your Moodle to your Elluminate Live! ELM server.

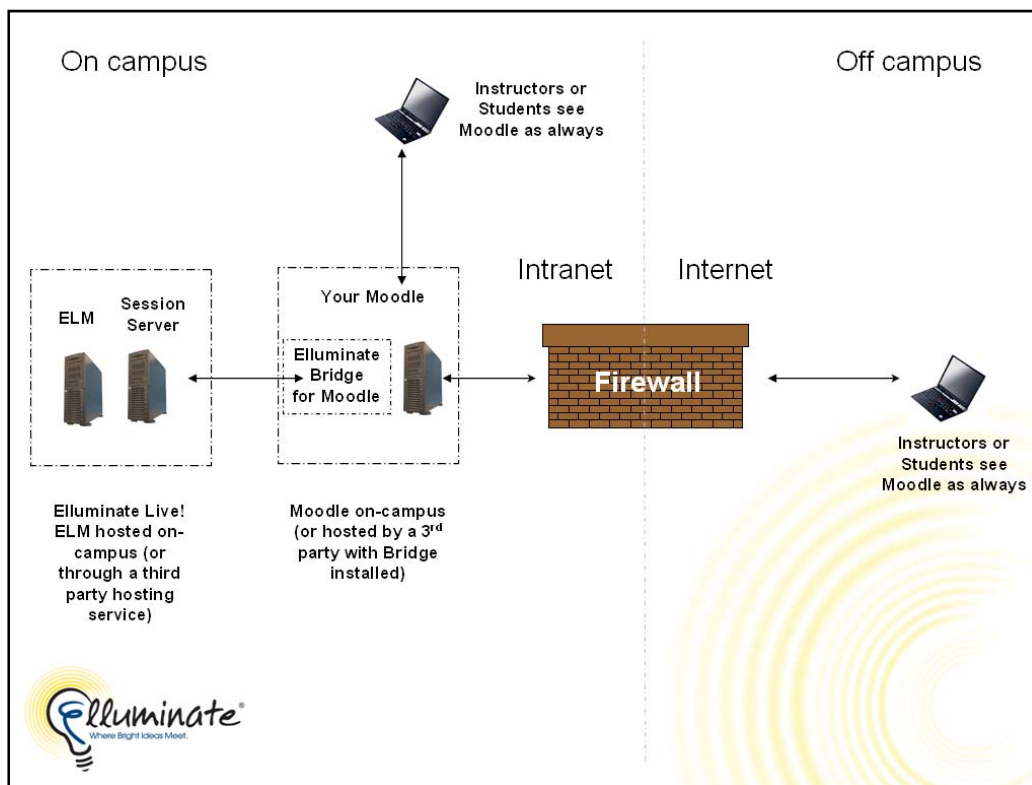


Figure 11. Campus hosted Elluminate (ELM) bridged to Moodle

In the scenario in Figure 11 above, you install the self-hosted Elluminate Bridge for Moodle (the ELM version) from the open source tree. Here are a few important things about this scenario:

- The Bridge itself is free and open source, but technical support the bridge that connects to the Elluminate *Live!* Manager (ELM) for campus-hosted Elluminate services is provided by Remote-Learner.net. Please contact Remote-Learner.net for pricing and information about their support plan for this connector.
- Elluminate, Inc. is not a provider that will host the Moodle instance. Remote-Learner.net and other providers can discuss these options with you. Of course, the Moodle itself can be hosted by your own campus IT department.
- In this scenario, Elluminate *Live!* services are hosted by your campus, or by a hosting provider your campus contracts with. To bridge with Elluminate, Inc. ASP services, please see the other scenario.

For more information

For more information, please email us at info@illuminate.com or visit us on the web at www.illuminate.com. You may also contact Elluminate by phone at 1-866-388-8674 (Outside the US/Canada, please call 1-954-229-2622).

Company Information

Elluminate, Inc. provides proven, best-in-class solutions for real-time online learning and collaboration that deliver exceptional outcomes, including enhanced learning experiences, increased retention and completion rates, and higher ROI. Elluminate Live! features high-quality voice over the Internet, robust interactive functionality, and unique No User Left Behind™ technology that supports multiple platforms and low-bandwidth connectivity. Elluminate has served more than 580 million web-collaboration minutes to over 7 million teachers and students located in 170 different countries.

Headquartered in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, and Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Elluminate is the trusted choice of prominent academic institutions and corporations, including ADP, Apple Computer, California State University, Florida Virtual School, Georgetown University, K12 Inc., London Knowledge Lab, Los Angeles Unified School District, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Novell, Queen's University, Royal Veterinary College, Red Hat, Sun Microsystems, and many more. The winner of several prestigious awards, the company is also one of Deloitte's 50 Fastest Growing Technology Companies and is positioned in the Visionaries Quadrant of the Gartner Magic Quadrant for Web Conferencing, 2008.