

GUIDE FOR THE HELLO COURSE SYLLABUS

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Hello Course Syllabus Platform

As educators at International Balkan University, we are committed to fostering an environment of excellence and innovation in teaching and learning. The Hello Course Syllabus platform is a pivotal tool in this mission, designed to streamline the creation, management, and dissemination of course syllabi across our institution. This guidance document aims to equip you with a comprehensive understanding of how to effectively use the platform to enhance the clarity and accessibility of course expectations and content for both instructors and students.

The course syllabus serves as a foundational blueprint for course planning and student engagement, outlining the educational goals, resources, responsibilities, and evaluation criteria integral to each course. With the integration of the Hello Course Syllabus into our academic system starting the 2024/2025 Academic Year, we are moving towards a more digital, organized, and transparent educational environment. This document will walk you through the step-by-step process of utilizing the platform, from initial login to detailed syllabus creation, ensuring that you can maximize its potential to support your teaching and your students' learning experiences.

Let this guide be your companion as you navigate the features of the Hello Course Syllabus platform, empowering you to prepare thorough and effective course syllabi that not only meet but exceed our educational standards.

WHAT IS A HELLO COURSE SYLLABUS?

Effective teaching and quality courses are crucial for student success at the university; thus, instructors are expected to enhance education and training. Using course syllabuses is one of the positive ways to achieve an effective teaching process. In its simplest form, the course syllabus is expressed as the "outline of a course". The syllabus is an informal contract prepared to inform both the instructor and the student about the goals and expectations that shape the learning environment. Therefore, students should have easy access to course syllabi. As of the 2024/2025 Academic Year, the Course Syllabus Model has been integrated into the Hello system.

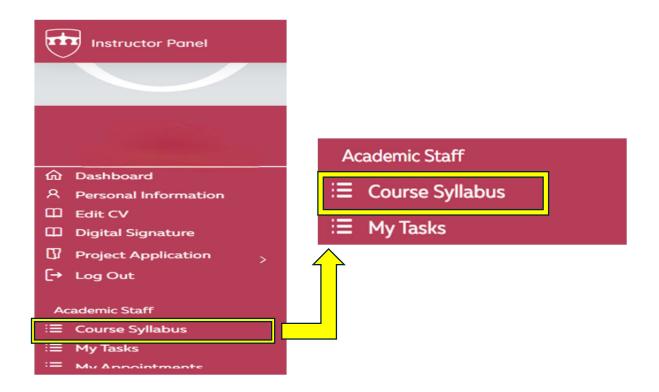
Hello Course Syllabus, is a platform that allows you to prepare and manage our university's course syllabus online. This system makes it easier for you to organize and share course planning, content, and evaluation criteria in a digital environment. Hello Course Syllabus, contributes to the more efficient and organized execution of your education processes. Preparing your course syllabus via an online platform creates a more transparent and accessible education environment for both faculty members and students.

HOW TO USE HELLO COURSE SYLLABUS?

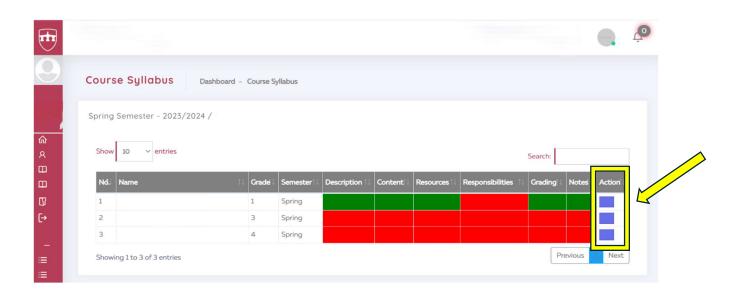
Following specific steps is crucial for accurate data. Please carefully review the images and instructions.

COURSE SYLLABUS

Open your Hello system. The instructor Panel is on the left side. The second part of the Instructor Panel is Academic Staff. In the first tab of Academic Staff is located "Course Syllabus" as shown in the picture below.

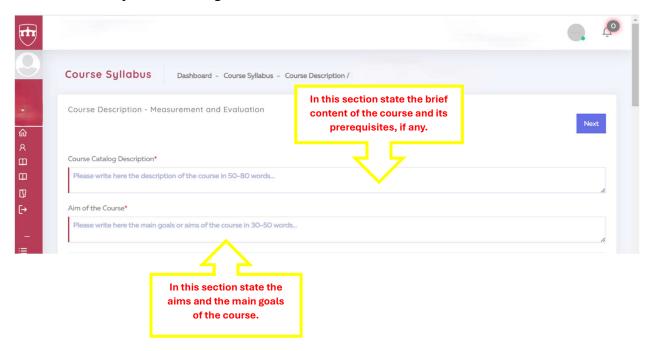


After clicking the "Course Syllabus" tab, you will be directed to the following page. You are required to create separate course syllabi for the courses you are taking this semester. The red boxes in the table in this section indicate the fields that need to be filled in. The essential information that should be included in the course syllabus is as follows: course description, course content, resources to be used, student responsibilities, grading criteria, and detailed information about the students.

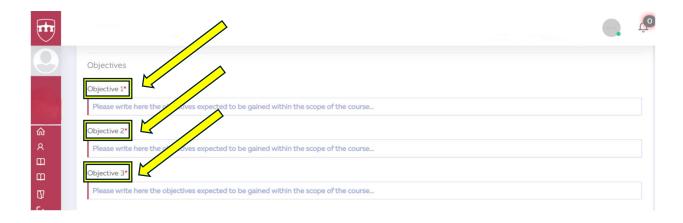


COURSE DESCRIPTION

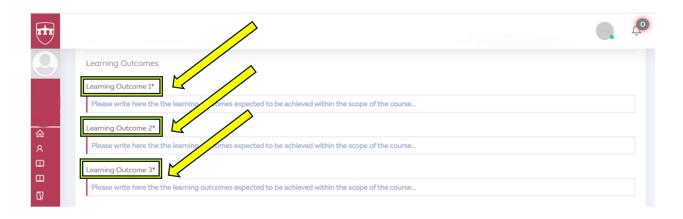
After clicking on the edit bar in the "Action" row, you can start filling out the course syllabus. The first stage consists of four sections with all fields required to be filled in. The first section includes the course description according to the curriculum and aim of the course.



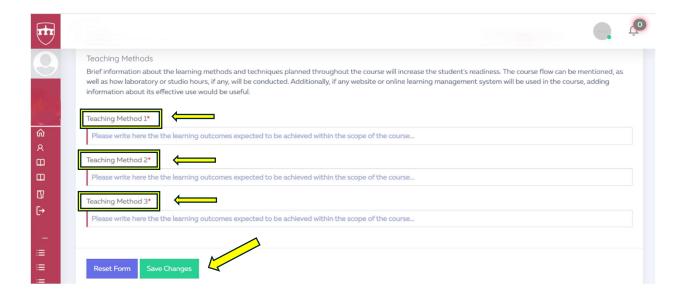
Following the course description are objectives expected to be achieved within the scope of the course. At least three objectives should be determined for each course. In these sections, you need to write the objectives expected to be gained within the scope of the course. Additional sections can be added if necessary.



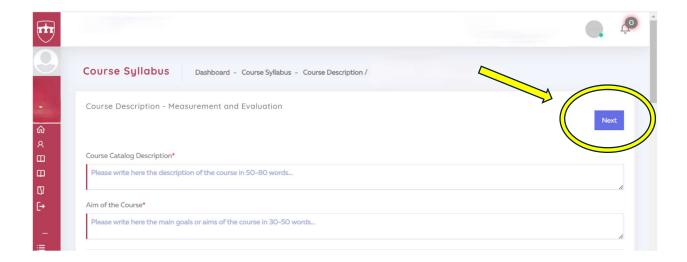
Learning outcomes are located immediately below the objectives. Remember that there are some important differences between objectives and learning outcomes. Learning objectives are specific, measurable statements that describe what students are expected to achieve during a lesson or course. They are typically written from the instructor's perspective and focus on what will be taught. Learning outcomes are statements that describe what students are expected to know, do, or value as a result of the learning experience. They are written from the student's perspective and focus on what students will have achieved.



The end of this stage is designated for teaching methods and techniques. In this section, specify the methods and techniques you will apply throughout the term.

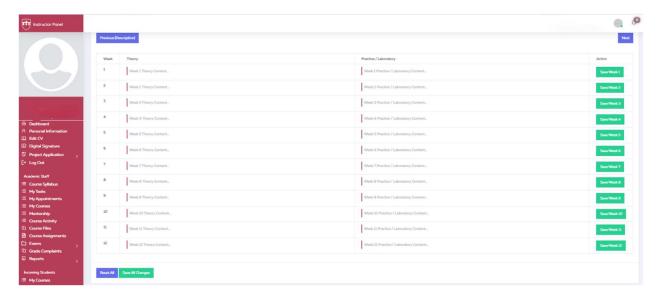


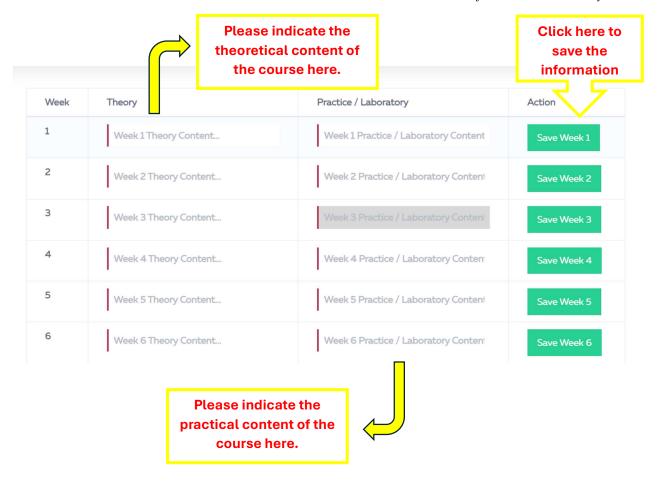
When you have completed all fields, remember to save your changes by clicking the "Save Changes" button. After saving the information, you can click on the "Next" tab located in the upper right corner to proceed to the next step.



B. COURSE WEEKLY CONTENT

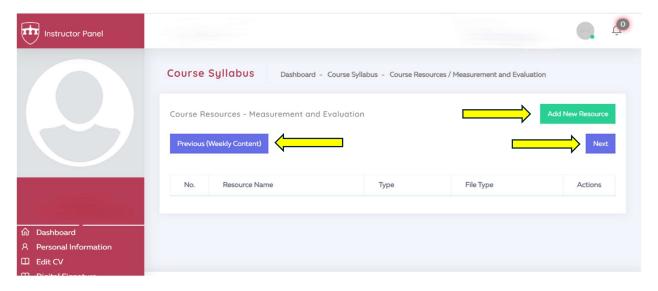
The second stage is the Weekly Course Schedule. At this stage, the course topics/content to be covered by week are specified. The theoretical content of the course is stated in the first column and the practical content in the second column. There are twelve weeks in total. Midterm and final weeks are not included.

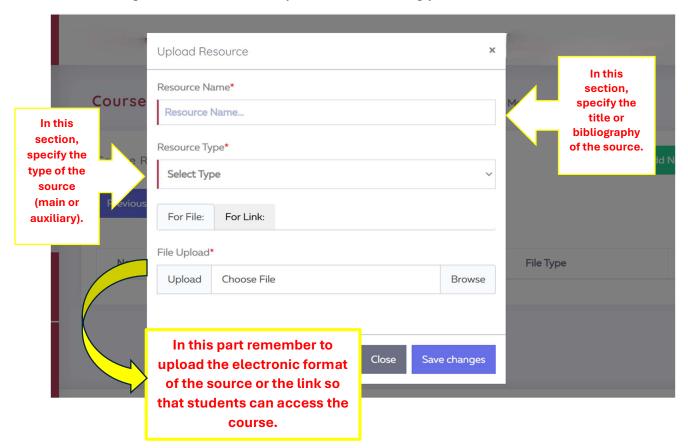




C. COURSE RESOURCES

The "Next" button will direct you to the "Course Resources" stage. In this section, you are required to specify the main and auxiliary resources for the course.



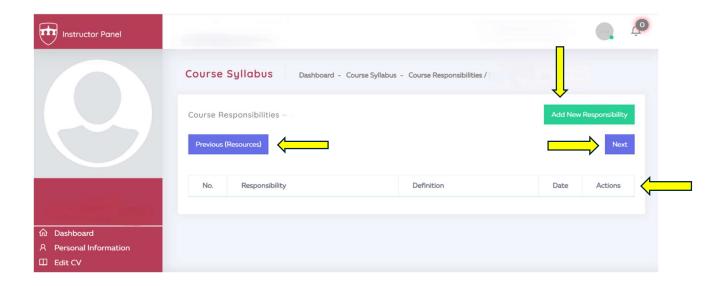


After clicking "Add New Resource" you can start entering your resources.

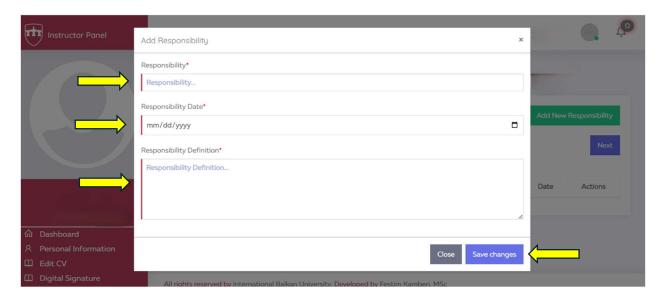
In this section, all resources that will be used in the course throughout the semester should be specified and uploaded. Course materials include textbooks, readings, presentations, software, or other basic resources required for the course. Be sure to include both main and auxiliary course materials. Don't forget to save your information after adding the source.

D. COURSE RESPONSIBILITIES

Details and justifications for assignments, projects, exams, tests, required readings, participation, due dates, etc. are included in this section, as are policies regarding lateness, missed assignments, extra credit, etc. The responsibilities that students have throughout the semester should be listed one by one, along with their due dates.



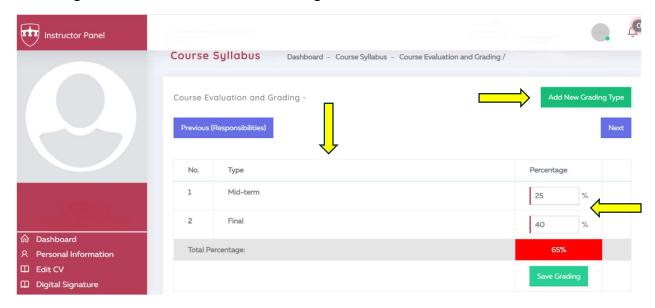
Use the "Add New Responsibility" button to add the responsibilities students must fulfill during the semester. Open a separate window for each responsibility and specify the "Type of Responsibility", "Date or Deadline", and "Description".



You can make changes or remove responsibilities from the "Action" tab.

E. COURSE EVALUATION AND GRADING

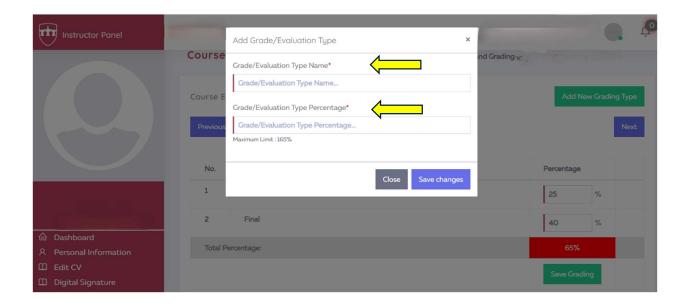
This part explains how different course components (e.g., exams, assignments, projects) are weighted in the final grade. For example, a syllabus might state that final exams are worth 40% of the final grade, mid-term exams 40%, and assignments 20%.



In the window, there are tabs for the mid-term and final exams. The "Add Grading Type" tab can add other grading components. In the new window that opens, you must first enter the grading component type name and then the percentage. You can enter more than one component (e.g. Quiz, Project, etc.). The sum of all components must be 100%.

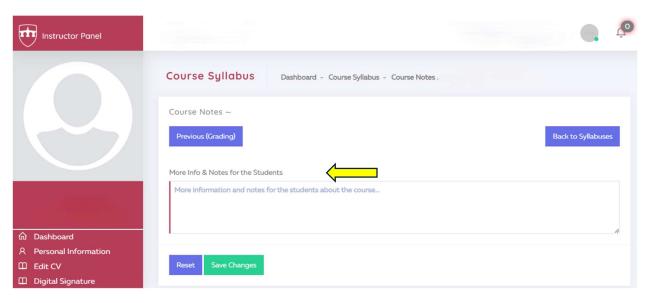
Here's a simplified example:

Midterm Exam: 30%
Final Exam: 40%
Group Project: 20%
Participation: 10%



F. MORE INFO & NOTES FOR THE STUDENTS

The last section of the syllabus is "More Info & Notes for the Students". Typically, in this section you can provide additional details and guidance that are important for students to know, beyond the basic course structure and requirements. This section can cover a range of topics to help students succeed in the course.



Here are some examples of what you might add in this section:

- 1. Important Policies:
- Attendance Policy: Details on how attendance affects grades and any specific requirements for excused absences.

- Late Work Policy: Information on penalties or procedures for submitting late assignments.
- Academic Integrity: Guidelines on plagiarism, cheating, and other academic conduct expectations.
- 2. Office Hours and Contact Information:
- Instructor Availability: Times and methods for students to meet with the instructor or teaching assistants for additional help.
- Contact Details: Email addresses, phone numbers, and preferred communication methods.
- 3. Course Logistics:
- Class Schedule: Details on any changes to the regular schedule, including important dates or deadlines.
- Classroom Etiquette: Expectations for behavior during class, such as participation, use of electronic devices, and respectful interaction.
- 4. Support Services:
- Academic Support: Information on tutoring, writing centers, or study groups.
- Counseling Services: Details on mental health resources and counseling services available to students.
- 5. Special Instructions:
- Technical Requirements: If applicable, information on software or hardware needed for the course.
- Group Work Expectations: Guidelines for group projects and collaboration.
- 6. Emergency Procedures:
- Safety Protocols: Information on what to do in case of emergencies, such as fire drills or other campus safety concerns.

Including this section in the syllabus helps ensure that students are aware of all the relevant details and can navigate the course more effectively. It also provides a way to address any additional concerns or information that might not fit neatly into other sections of the syllabus.

Finally, make sure to save the changes.

When you click "Back to Syllabus" you will be directed to the first page. The rows of the courses whose syllabus you have completed will be green.

