



**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**  
**Open, Distance & e-Learning Campus**  
**DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

***INTERNAL MEMO***

**FROM:** Director, ODeL Campus

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**TO:** All staff

**OUR JOURNEY TO AN ONLINE LEARNING COMMUNITY  
DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

**1.1 Introduction**

The Covid-19 pandemic has accelerated the University of Nairobi community on the journey to online teaching and learning. The focus to this destination started in 2018 when the ODeL campus reengineered and revamped the Learning Management System (LMS) by installing a Moodle Based LMS. Moodle is non-commercial, open source and is one of the most widely used LMSs in the world.

According to available data, the LMS market share in different continents is as follows: Europe, Moodle (57%) Blackboard (18%); Latin America, Moodle (67%) Blackboard (20%); North America, Moodle (25%) Blackboard (33%) and Oceania; Moodle (57%) and Blackboard (28%). Moodle, therefore, is the most used LMS in the world.

(<https://www.insidehighered.com/digital-learning/data/2017/07/12/blackboard-moodle-still-lms-leaders>)

## 1.2 What is Moodle Learning Management System?

MOODLE is an acronym that stands for Modular Object Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment. It is a Virtual learning Environment System (VLE) that faculty in both face-to-face class settings and distance learning can engage their students in an online environment. LMSs facilitate a web enhanced teaching and learning experience for faculty and students. It has sub-systems namely; online delivery system, user support system and technical support system. All these systems work together to ensure a pain free online learning experience for faculty and students.

## 1.3 Who can use eclass?

eclass is the name given to Moodle based LMS at the University of Nairobi and it is used by University of Nairobi faculty and students.

## 1.4 How do you access eclass?

The Learning Management System can be accessed by logging into url, [eclass.uonbi.ac.ke](http://eclass.uonbi.ac.ke) on your browser using your Personal Employment Number for faculty and student registration number for students. Instructions are given on the web page.

## 1.5 When can you access eclass?

eclass is available 24/7 anytime and anywhere where there is internet connectivity and offline using the Moodle offline application which can be downloaded from a Smartphone's Play store

## 1.5 Why use the eclass for teaching and learning?

1. Moodle LMS is developed by faculty for faculty and it is continually updated
2. It is highly customizable to users' needs.
3. It has a mobile app for mobile and offline learning
4. Organizes eLearning content in one location. ...
5. Provides unlimited access to eLearning materials. ...
6. Easily tracks learner progress and performance
7. It is highly intergratable with other University systems such as SMIS and HRMIS

## 1.6 What are its features?

<input type="checkbox"/> All-in-one calendar	<input type="checkbox"/> Peer and self-assessment
<input type="checkbox"/> Bulk course creation and easy backup	<input type="checkbox"/> Personalized dashboard
<input type="checkbox"/> Collaborative tools and activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular security updates

<input type="checkbox"/> Convenient file management	<input type="checkbox"/> Secure authentication and mass enrolment
<input type="checkbox"/> Customizable site design and layout	<input type="checkbox"/> Simple add-ons and plugin management
<input type="checkbox"/> Detailed reporting and logs	<input type="checkbox"/> Simple and intuitive text editor
<input type="checkbox"/> Embedded external resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Supports open standards
<input type="checkbox"/> Manage user roles and permissions	<input type="checkbox"/> its design philosophy based on social constructivist pedagogy
<input type="checkbox"/> Multilingual capability	<input type="checkbox"/> SCORM 1.2 compliant
<input type="checkbox"/> Multimedia integration	<input type="checkbox"/> Free and commercial Reporting tools
<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple progress tracking options	<input type="checkbox"/> Ease of use to learn
<input type="checkbox"/> Notifications and automatic alerts	<input type="checkbox"/> Ease of Integration with existing systems
<input type="checkbox"/> Outcomes and rubrics	

### 1.7 How do you assess students using eclass?

Tests and assessment can be conducted on eclass. Different types of testing such as multiple choice questions, short answer questions and essay questions. It can therefore be used for open book examinations. However, for real time examinations it may be used together with suitable software that would check cheating in exams. This may be through ensuring that the student accesses only one gadget and the software locks all other content on the computer except the examination.

### 1.8 How is content stored in eclass?

eclass is cloud based, hence unlimited storage and is installed in the university servers where data is secure.

For User support contact us on [lst@uonbi.ac.ke](mailto:lst@uonbi.ac.ke) or through our

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