Quickstart Guide
Team-Based Learning

NovoEd

Purpose

Research has proven that learning collaboratively is more successful than learning individually, leading to greater retention of information, more learner satisfaction, and a more impactful learning experience. Team-based learning can increase the understanding of diverse perspectives, and provide experience for real life social and employment situations. Learners can also discover improved self-esteem, self-management, and leadership skills they didn't they know they had.

NovoEd gives you three options to engage your learners in collaborative learning: **Course-long teams, assignment-long teams, and groups**. See below for more information on how to leverage these to enable team-based learning in your NovoEd experience.

Definitions:
- **Course-long Teams:** Teams that collaborate through discussions and/or projects for the duration of a course.
- **Assignment-long Teams:** Temporary teams that are created for one assignment only, then dissolve after the assignment deadline.
- **Groups:** People organized into networks based on interest, region, affinities, or identities with no formal assignment to submit.

Considerations

- Why use Course-long Teams? *(This is the most common)*
  - Learners can only be a member of one course-long team.
  - Teams are best utilized for course-long collaboration around a project or a series of projects which can be submitted by a team member.
  - The team discussion feature enables learners to have more intimate discussions with a small group throughout the course.
- Why use Groups? *(This can be used by itself or in conjunction with Course-long Teams)*
  - Learners can join multiple Groups throughout the duration of the course.
  - Groups are often used for:

- Affinity Groups
- To give people from similar regions or departments a place to connect
- Networking
- Why use Assignment-long Teams? *(This is less common)*
  - Learners can only be a member of one assignment-long team at a time.
  - Bring learners together temporarily to collaborate on a single assignment, and then the team dissolves.

Ways to Incorporate:

1. Course builder/designer creates a team formation activity on a lesson page. Note The team formation activity must come before the first team assignment in the course.
2. Input the details of the team assignment
3. Enroll learners to the course
4. When the page with the team formation activity is released, assign learners to teams (or make sure the page is released so learners can form their own teams).

Let's explore the similarities and differences between the most commonly used features: Course-long teams and groups.

	Similarities	
	Course-Long Teams	**Groups**
Private Workspace	Both are given a private workspace to chat, upload documents, schedule meetings, and share work	
Creation of Teams/Groups	Admins can create Teams/Groups or allow learners to create their own	
Team/Group Identity	Teams/Groups can create their own names, picture, and tagline (or admins can do this for them)	
Facilitation Dashboard	Team/Group facilitation dashboards can be enabled for admins	
	Differences	
	Course-Long Teams	**Groups**
Membership	Learners can only be members of 1 course-long	Learners can be members of multiple Groups

	Team at a time	
Assignments	Teams can submit an assignment where all team members receive credit for one submission	Groups cannot submit assignments
Team-based Discussions	Team-based discussions can be added as an activity that earns points	Groups discussions occur more organically within the workspace
Admin Menu Alias	Teams on NovoEd must remain named "teams"	Groups can be renamed to anything you like
Team Lead Progress Dashboard	Team leads can use this	Groups do not have this functionality

Examples:
- Use Affinity groups for learner-formed interest groups
- Use teams for projects for a multi-month project
- Use groups for feedback or discussion by using "share your work" with a team
- Utilize the team facilitation dashboard for insights on how your teams are performing
- If you have multiple facilitators/mentors, assign them to their own team
- Consider creating course-wide team collaboration guidelines

Explore More:

- Team Formation Options
- How to Create Groups
- Team Discussion Activity
- Team Assignment Activity: Assignment Component
- Team/Group Facilitation Dashboard
- Facilitating Teams and Groups