

## CUNY Academic Commons - Feature #9801

### Add courses item to main Commons nav

2018-05-18 12:26 PM - Matt Gold

<b>Status:</b>	Resolved	<b>Start date:</b>	2018-05-18
<b>Priority name:</b>	Normal	<b>Due date:</b>	
<b>Assignee:</b>	Boone Gorges	<b>% Done:</b>	0%
<b>Category name:</b>	Courses	<b>Estimated time:</b>	0.00 hour
<b>Target version:</b>	1.14		
<b>Description</b>			
For OER courses and other reporting needs, and to make courses more visible on the Commons, we should create a Courses item on the main Commons nav. It can perhaps just look like the list of site/groups (should it show both sites and groups together?) and hopefully once we have the new site launch process, we can list sites/groups designated as courses there			
some questions:			
1. can/should we implement this before we have the site launch process enabled? and if so, can we select groups/sites manually? I would be in favor of this if possible			
2. what would be shown?			
I know it is probably too early to start this ticket, but I wanted to do so. I am thinking about this for our October release.			
<b>Related issues:</b>			
Related to CUNY Academic Commons - Feature #10229: Remove 1 item from main na...		<b>Resolved</b>	<b>2018-08-27</b>
Related to CUNY Academic Commons - Design/UX #10580: Primary nav item review		<b>New</b>	<b>2018-10-24</b>
Blocks CUNY Academic Commons - Feature #10226: Add "My Courses" to drop down ...		<b>New</b>	<b>2018-08-26</b>

### History

#### #1 - 2018-05-18 12:52 PM - Boone Gorges

- Assignee changed from Boone Gorges to Erik Trainer

- Target version set to 1.14

Assigning to Erik for initial thoughts about how this fits into the navigation and what you see when you go to the page.

#### #2 - 2018-05-20 05:09 PM - Erik Trainer

Hi Matt/Boone, some clarification questions:

- In the way we're currently thinking about courses, could a course have multiple sites associated with it? Or just one?
- Could a course have multiple groups associated with it? Or just one? My sense is just one, since a group can be linked to one site on the Commons, and a course is a type of site.
- What does it mean for a group to be designated as a course?
- Matt, can you elaborate some on what you mean by "select groups/sites manually"? Not sure I understand.

#### #3 - 2018-05-20 08:39 PM - Matt Gold

- In the way we're currently thinking about courses, could a course have multiple sites associated with it? Or just one?

In most situations, there will be a single main course site. Students may create other sites associated with the course for projects, but we wouldn't classify those as "course" sites.

- Could a course have multiple groups associated with it? Or just one? My sense is just one, since a group can be linked to one site on the Commons, and a course is a type of site.

Just one group.

- What does it mean for a group to be designated as a course?

It means that we are marking it, through metadata, as a course, which then allows us to compile a list of courses. At least right now, we are not talking

about changing the properties of "course" groups or sites, though we are moving towards setting up some default templates for them in our development work next year.

The main reason for this request, overall, is that people want to see a list of course sites on the Commons. They want this for various reasons -- faculty want inspiration and to see what others are doing; administrators want reporting -- but adding courses to the nav bar will make course sites/groups easier to find.

- Matt, can you elaborate some on what you mean by "select groups/sites manually"? Not sure I understand.

At our meeting on Friday, we discussed our next year of work. Through the site launch process that Luke/Laurie specced out, we will eventually know which sites/groups are course sites/groups because people will mark them out as such through the launch process.

Until we have that in place, I (or others) could go through sites/groups and mark them as courses on a one-by-one basis.

#### #4 - 2018-06-20 08:39 PM - Erik Trainer

- File *courses\_main\_nav.png* added

- File *courses\_side\_nav.png* added

It seems like the Courses page should share some elements with groups/sites. An "All Courses" tab that lists all of the courses on the Commons, a "My Courses" tab that lists courses for which the logged in user is an administrator (faculty, administrators), and maybe an "Enrolled" tab that acts like the "Following" tab for sites (students).

Let's think about what students, faculty, and administrators would want to do here. Students, for instance, will probably need to be able to find courses to enroll in, so the "All Courses" tab might need to support several search dimensions:

- Course name
- Course code(?)
- General Topic area (e.g., philosophy, anthropology, etc.)
- Professor name
- Semester or term (how far back, or into the future should we display?)
- CUNY school
- others?

It might also be good to have a "group by" option where the courses in the list can be bucketed by general topic area, professor name, CUNY school - probably only the criteria where multiples would be shown. For instance, wouldn't make sense for course code.

Students will need to be able to quickly locate their enrolled courses (e.g., under the "Enrolled" tab) and navigate to the course site and associated course group. Faculty and administrators might benefit from easy navigation to their course site dashboard and group under "My Courses."

It would probably be helpful for faculty to see sites for previous versions of their courses (as taught by them or other faculty) to get inspiration/clone course sites. This might also be under the "My Courses" with an ability to sort or order by date (most recent at the top).

Thoughts?

#### #5 - 2018-06-21 11:58 AM - Matt Gold

Thanks, Erik, for these helpful thoughts. One thing we might think about is a MVP here, which I would say would be the following:

- a courses link in the main navigation bar in the two places you show in the PNGs you attached.
- when clicked, the link would show a courses page that shows a listing of courses

If we just start there, we have some things to figure out -- how do we display courses that have connected sites and groups? How do we display courses that have only sites, or only groups?

I very much agree with everything else you've laid out above -- it would be awesome to be able to filter courses by topic/campus/discipline/professor/etc, and to see a list of "My Courses." I guess one question, perhaps for Boone, is whether, if we are looking to include this in the Fall launch, we should just start with the MVP and think about these other issues for the Spring, or whether we can try to do it all for the Fall.

But at a basic level, and at a minimum, we would just need a page that shows courses on the Commons.

#### #6 - 2018-06-21 03:47 PM - Boone Gorges

I'm in agreement with Matt that we should shoot for something modest at first, especially if we plan to do something for the fall. The additional filters suggested by Erik would require us to collect various sorts of metadata that we don't currently have a mechanism to collect, which invariably leads us into discussions about the course (site? group?) creation process, which is something we've agreed to set aside until at least spring 2019. Moreover, we'll likely be identifying "courses" manually at first, which will already be a labor-intensive and error-prone process; adding a layer of manual metadata generation ("instructor", etc) would make the job much harder.

Before thinking too much about exactly what this new directory will look like, I would like to have a better understanding of the content of the page, and how it interacts with other parts of the site. Currently, items in the top-level nav represent "first class objects": Groups are different from Sites are different from Events, etc. We don't have a "Course" object type, and from my understanding we are not suggesting the introduction of one. Instead,

there will be certain objects of existing types - groups and sites - that have an additional piece of metadata that says "I am a course". For example:

1. Are we indeed including Sites and Groups on the Courses panel? Or are we only talking about one object type?
2. If we're including both types, are they collated together, or are they separated out? (separate tabs or columns or something)
3. If a group/site is a Course, does it cease to appear on the Groups/Sites pages?
4. If the answer to 3 is "no", then is there an indication in the Groups/Sites directory that an item is a course?
5. If a group is a course, is there an indication on the group home page? Where and what?
6. Same question as 5 but for sites - the problem here is harder, since sites can have different themes, and thus there's not a consistent place to put this kind of metadata.
7. What do we do with groups linked to sites? Do they get listed on Courses two times? If they're combined, which is the "primary" item? What if the group is private but site public, or vice versa?

#### **#7 - 2018-06-25 08:23 PM - Erik Trainer**

- File group & site course multiple sites 2.png added

- File group & site course multiple sites.png added

- File group & site course.png added

- File group only course.png added

- File site only course.png added

Thanks Boone and Matt for clarifying and helping narrow down the scope. I agree we should plan for something modest at first.

Since courses can be taught on a group, a site, or a site linked to a group, I think we want to support those distinct ways of teaching. I think showing both Sites and Groups on the Courses panel helps us do that.

Until we know that users in the Courses nav will want to see only Sites, or only Groups, or both together, I would be in favor of having Sites and Groups collated together rather than separated out. When viewing a course, not also seeing the group the site is connected to is misleading, and I think inconsistent with how we're thinking about a course. A site plus a group is a different experience than either a site or a group alone.

For now, I think it makes sense to leave groups/sites designated as courses in their respective groups/sites directories. We should preserve the ability for people to find sites and groups in ways that are familiar to them. According to Paige's previous user research, more than half of our users are using groups and sites, so I would argue for not doing something that might disrupt that until we are sure. Designating groups and sites in their respective directories (e.g., via icons, or some other way) could be something we return to after a MVP.

As far as the content on the page, I'm in favor of including some basic properties (group/site names, descriptions, hyperlink to each) — but leaving group and site specific actions, e.g., leaving a group, requesting membership), and other "management" activities in the Sites/Groups directory. There are other ways people can do these things (i.e., visiting the group main page). To me, Matt's ask seems to be more about reporting and visibility (at least in the short-term?). And we could add on these types of things later too. So the view would be the same whether you're logged in or not, part of a group/site or not.

I think we should handle groups linked to sites by combining them into one listing under a course "title." I tend to think as groups being the primary object here - sites are linked to a group (e.g., in the group creation process, or after the group is created). If we treat groups as primary, we could pull the name of the group up as the course title. Otherwise we would use the name of the site (site only), or the name of the group (group only).

I've attached some mock ups to illustrate some of these ideas. Looking forward to discussing further!

#### **#8 - 2018-06-25 11:44 PM - Matt Gold**

Thank you for these thoughts, Erik -- it's excellent to get these ideas on the table. I wonder if we should set up a meeting between you, me, Luke, and Chris (along with anyone else who would want to join) to continue brainstorming on this. It seems to me that this discussion would benefit from some in-person collective thinking.

#### **#9 - 2018-06-26 10:13 AM - Chris Stein**

I've followed the discussion and some good points are raised and I agree an in-person meeting might be helpful. I'm travelling and will be back on July 9. I can make time most days of the week except for Thursday.

#### **#10 - 2018-07-24 12:59 PM - Boone Gorges**

Following up on today's meeting, it sounds like the fall scope will have us presenting a pretty modest amount of data: course name, site (+ privacy?) if it exists, group (+ privacy?) if it exists, faculty member name and profile link. We'll initially get inspiration for the design from our existing directories, though objects may be presented in a more uniform way than the either-group-or-site conventions in some of Erik's earlier mockups. IMO this means that we should not have avatars (only groups have avatars at the moment - site avatars belong to their owners - so having avatars only from those courses with groups would be visually inconsistent). It also means that the course title will not link to anything - only the group and site links. Erik, does this seem like a fair takeaway? Do we need an updated mockup to show how this might look?

Ray, my current thought is that we should introduce some new sort of data object that supports "containers" of this kind. We might think of it as a 'cac\_container', and the particular kind of 'cac\_container' in this case is 'course'. 'cac\_containers' can then have names, descriptions, etc, as well as optional links to sites, groups, and so forth. This is somewhat more abstract than we strictly need, but I think it's the only way to maintain our sanity about data and sources-of-truth. Does this seem sensible to you? I'm thinking of just making it a CPT for the time being so that we don't have to build a bunch of UI and a database layer, though we can rethink this later on once we have a better sense of what kinds of data the "containers" will have to hold.

**#11 - 2018-07-24 06:29 PM - Matt Gold**

Thanks, Boone. my thoughts:

- I do agree that the course title will not link to anything but that the group/site links will.
- I think it would be nice for there to be avatars if at all possible. It will give the page visual interest. (Erik -- FYI, here is the OpenLab courses page -- <https://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu/courses/> ). I am not sure how we would choose an avatar for this first iteration in the fall, though. maybe we could create ones manually from site header images or the like? I know that sounds fuzzy/unclear, but I think that images on this course listing page would be a very nice feature, certainly one that we include when we do the spring release and start building content for this page automatically
- the other piece of information I'd love to include if possible this fall is the campus. that's pretty important info.

For a lot of this stuff, I think we will be able to enter it manually for the fall by looking over the course spaces (and possibly contacting faculty if needed)

**#12 - 2018-07-24 06:44 PM - Boone Gorges**

- the other piece of information I'd love to include if possible this fall is the campus. that's pretty important info.

Yes, this should not be a problem to add.

I think it would be nice for there to be avatars if at all possible.

Manual entry of avatars for things that don't have them (ie courses without groups) is going to be very complicated, both technically and in terms of manual entry. Technically, it's very hard to build a new interface for uploading/selecting/cropping images, so we'd likely have to fall back on image URLs, but these URLs would have to come from somewhere, and it's not clear where that would be. Adding this feature is likely to double the implementation time for the Courses tab, and may jeopardize our ability to get it done for the fall. Moreover, it's likely that whatever functionality we add as an interim fix will have to be overridden extensively for future interfaces, where users are able to do this themselves. For these reasons, I strongly suggest either (a) tabling avatars altogether for v1, (b) using only group avatars and leaving a blank space (or a default image) where a course doesn't have a group, or (c) using the user's avatar in cases where no other avatar is available (this is how sites already work). Either of these three options is far easier to implement for the fall.

**#13 - 2018-07-24 06:50 PM - Matt Gold**

Boone Gorges wrote:

Manual entry of avatars for things that don't have them (ie courses without groups) is going to be very complicated, both technically and in terms of manual entry. Technically, it's very hard to build a new interface for uploading/selecting/cropping images, so we'd likely have to fall back on image URLs, but these URLs would have to come from somewhere, and it's not clear where that would be. Adding this feature is likely to double the implementation time for the Courses tab, and may jeopardize our ability to get it done for the fall. Moreover, it's likely that whatever functionality we add as an interim fix will have to be overridden extensively for future interfaces, where users are able to do this themselves. For these reasons, I strongly suggest either (a) tabling avatars altogether for v1, (b) using only group avatars and leaving a blank space (or a default image) where a course doesn't have a group, or (c) using the user's avatar in cases where no other avatar is available (this is how sites already work). Either of these three options is far easier to implement for the fall.

Sigh. Okay, fine -- let's leave this to the Spring, then.

**#14 - 2018-07-24 06:51 PM - Luke Waltzer**

I think v. 1 should be as quick and dirty and simple to update as possible while also meeting our goal of collecting course-related Commons activity in one place. Maybe we can add visual interest with styling and with iconography for the jumps to the sites and groups. Perhaps something Lael could help with, Matt?

**#15 - 2018-07-24 06:54 PM - Matt Gold**

Luke Waltzer wrote:

Perhaps something Lael could help with, Matt?

That's a really nice idea

**#16 - 2018-07-24 06:55 PM - Matt Gold**

(Erik and Boone -- Lael is a designer we already have on board for some work; he is the designer I've been working with [through Cast Iron Coding] on Manifold -- <http://manifoldapp.org> )

**#17 - 2018-07-24 06:58 PM - Raymond Hoh**

Manual entry of avatars for things that don't have them (ie courses without groups) is going to be very complicated

FWIW, BuddyPress piggybacks off of the Site Icon functionality for blog avatars. You can set the Site Icon in the WP dashboard via the WP customizer (Administration Screen > Appearance > Customize).

More info here:

[https://codex.wordpress.org/Creating\\_a\\_Favicon#WordPress\\_Version\\_4.3\\_or\\_later](https://codex.wordpress.org/Creating_a_Favicon#WordPress_Version_4.3_or_later)

So if a course uses a WP site, all the admin needs to do is set the Site Icon and that should be it.

**#18 - 2018-07-24 07:03 PM - Boone Gorges**

Oh, I forgot that that's the case, Ray. If so, it might be an easy integration that's worth doing.

**#19 - 2018-07-24 07:10 PM - Raymond Hoh**

It should be pretty easy if you use `bp_get_blog_avatar()`:

<https://buddypress.trac.wordpress.org/browser/tags/3.1.0/src/bp-blogs/bp-blogs-template.php?marks=347#L322>

However, that is only used within the blogs loop. We can figure something out if we're calling on this outside the blogs loop though.

**#20 - 2018-07-24 07:33 PM - Boone Gorges**

Yeah, this will make it technically easier, but it still depends on people having set their blog avatar, which won't be the case for most. I guess I'd lean toward leaving it out until there's a system in place that allows people to upload it.

**#21 - 2018-07-26 08:27 PM - Erik Trainer**

All, thanks much for the great feedback.

So, what I'm hearing is that the courses tab will include the following pieces of information for the fall release:

- course title (no underlying link),
- site (+ privacy?) if it exists,
- group (+ privacy?) if it exists,
- faculty member name,
- profile link, and
- campus name

Is that right?

Boone, I'll flesh out some updated mockups over the next few days and post here.

**#22 - 2018-07-26 08:28 PM - Matt Gold**

Thanks, Erik. That sounds right to me.

**#23 - 2018-07-30 08:37 PM - Erik Trainer**

- *File 1 (table).png added*

- *File 2.png added*

- *File 3 (nested table).png added*

- *File 4.png added*

Hi all, I put together several variations:

- 1 (table) - a table format is the most basic, albeit visually uninteresting - doesn't draw the eye anywhere in particular
- 2 - more similar in look to our group/site directory, draws eye from top to bottom (campus and instructor most visually prominent) and left to right
- 3 (nested table) - similar to 2, but nests in order to display the group and site - creates a visual hierarchy that could look ugly if there are many courses with no group/site
- 4 - straightforward, but busy. lots of empty space on the right

Thoughts?

**#24 - 2018-08-05 05:40 PM - Luke Waltzer**

Thanks so much for these, Erik!

1 (table).png seems closest, imo.

I'm a bit concerned about including the "instructor" field, at least in v.1 of this interface. That link doesn't map to an existing data source (we can't assume that site or group admin will always be the instructor, and we can't assume there'll be only one instructor). If we want to list that, we'll have to game out scenarios.

Some similar complexity with campus, but a bit more manageable... most (but not all) courses will be on a single campus, and we can anticipate pulling from the site/group metadata once that interface is built.

**#25 - 2018-08-13 02:34 PM - Matt Gold**

Hi Luke -- I hear your concerns, and I agree with your general desire to keep things simple on v1, but I think that multiple instructors for a single course represent a pretty small use case overall. Given how important instructor info is, both for students and faculty looking for particular sections of a course, I think we should keep the instructor name in on this first go-around if we can.

**#26 - 2018-08-27 07:52 AM - Boone Gorges**

- *Blocks Feature #10226: Add "My Courses" to drop down list added*

**#27 - 2018-08-29 05:16 PM - Boone Gorges**

- *Related to Feature #10229: Remove 1 item from main nav bar when we add courses added*

**#28 - 2018-09-17 03:29 PM - Boone Gorges**

- *File CNonNA2.png added*

- *File Peek 2018-09-17 13-46.gif added*

- *Category name changed from Information Architecture to Courses*

- *Assignee changed from Erik Trainer to Boone Gorges*

I've got a first draft of the functionality up and running on cdev.

The Gutenberg integration was complicated to build but is basically working. I've attached a gif to show the process of creating/editing a course in the Dashboard. Note that all fields support multiple values. In the case of instructors and campuses, this is a good feature. In the case of sites and groups, I figure it's something we might want in the medium term, but it's likely that it'll remain unused for now, and courses will have a single site and/or group.

The front-end integration mostly matches 4.png from above. Some steps could probably be taken to prettify this, but we should be modest about what's required for 1.14. Note that no other integrations have yet been built; see [#10226](#), [#10229](#). I also haven't actually added the 'Courses' item to the main nav, as we'll need to make a decision about where it goes and what it replaces.

**#29 - 2018-09-20 07:51 PM - Matt Gold**

This is cool, Boone -- thank you. I am adding Sonja as a watcher because I do feel this could use a touch of design. Sonja, if you see ways to style this to improve the visual appearance (in line w/the rest of the CAC), please let us know

**#30 - 2018-09-21 12:49 PM - Matt Gold**

Please add Year (4 digits) Semester (Fall, Spring, Summer, Winter ) data points

**#31 - 2018-09-21 09:43 PM - Sonja Leix**

Matt Gold wrote:

This is cool, Boone -- thank you. I am adding Sonja as a watcher because I do feel this could use a touch of design. Sonja, if you see ways to style this to improve the visual appearance (in line w/the rest of the CAC), please let us know

Matt, are you referring to looking at improving the visual appearance of the "adding a course" screen or how the course renders in the course list for members?

Boone, the flow in the gif looks intuitive!

**#32 - 2018-09-22 10:38 AM - Matt Gold**

Hi Sonja, since we are releasing in November, our options are a bit limited. I would say that in general I am hoping we have just a bit more improvement on the visual appearance generally. If you other ideas, we would love to hear them, but if they involve significant development efforts we may not be able to implement them immediately. I would suggest a conversation with Boone on these matters -- perhaps you two can talk about it next week when you connect

**#33 - 2018-09-22 10:50 AM - Boone Gorges**

To clarify, I don't think Matt is concerned with the "adding a course" workflow, as it's not going to be visible to users, and is an admin-only tool. The concern is with the public-facing directory, shown here <https://redmine.gc.cuny.edu/attachments/8840/CNonNA2.png>

It may be helpful for Sonja to have some background on the context for this ticket. Let's talk about it this week, either during the dev call if you're on it, or when we have our kickoff call

**#34 - 2018-09-24 03:02 PM - Boone Gorges**

Following up from last Friday's call, I've added the ability to associate a course object with one or more academic term: <https://github.com/cuny-academic-commons/cac-courses/commit/041bc1cfbe8a0bfaf6984491531d81f34544b6ff> After I've had an initial talk with Sonja about design issues, we can talk about how/whether this should be integrated into the v1 interface.

**#35 - 2018-10-03 06:54 PM - Sonja Leix**

- File *CNonNA2-mod.png* added

This new feature has a lot of moving pieces and decisions to be made. I agree that a minimal viable version is best for the Nov release. Design wise, I wouldn't complicate it for now and put more effort and design thinking into v2. I have attached a modified version of the mockup Boone has shared. I think we should show the course info in the list in two columns. This would help save vertical space, as well as help users scan associated groups and sites easier (in the right column).

Matt or Boone, is there a Commons style guide that compiles all the site's consistent design elements, typography, color scheme, etc.? This would be helpful to have for me as the designer as well as the devs so we can all implement consistent designs. If we don't have it, I'd love to work on creating one if that's ok with you, Matt.

**#36 - 2018-10-04 03:19 PM - Boone Gorges**

Thanks, Sonja! I've implemented your suggestion about multiple columns. You can see this in action on our shared testing environment, which we often call "cdev". Instructions: <https://commons.gc.cuny.edu/groups/cac-community-team-project-planning/docs/cdev-connection-instructions/>

There is no Commons style guide, though I strongly believe there should be one. The only question is to what extent we should spend time codifying what's currently on the site, as opposed to an "aspirational" styleguide that can guide our redesign process.

**#37 - 2018-10-04 03:37 PM - Matt Gold**

Agreed on the need for a style guide And it would be awesome to have you work on that, Sonya. Chris may have put together the beginnings of one — I remember him doing something around buttons across the Commons

Boone's question is a good one, though. We do need to redesign the entire site, so should we do a style guide now, wait for the redesign, or use the style guide us a chance to move us towards the redesign?

**#38 - 2018-10-04 05:54 PM - Sonja Leix**

Boone Gorges wrote:

Thanks, Sonja! I've implemented your suggestion about multiple columns. You can see this in action on our shared testing environment, which we often call "cdev". Instructions: <https://commons.gc.cuny.edu/groups/cac-community-team-project-planning/docs/cdev-connection-instructions/>

I'm sorry but I can't get to the /courses/ overview page. I added the line to my hosts file, but now my login for WP no longer works on commons.gc.cuny.edu  
Is this the cdev site's url: <https://commons.gc.cuny.edu/>

There is no Commons style guide, though I strongly believe there should be one. The only question is to what extent we should spend time codifying what's currently on the site, as opposed to an "aspirational" styleguide that can guide our redesign process.

I've created a new ticket for the style guide and assigned it to me: [#10439](#)

I would approach it by first taking inventory of all existing styles on the site (I assume there are a lot of unnecessary duplicates or variations of styles), then make decisions together which ones to drop/replace to simplify the style guide to achieve more consistent styles. We want to only includes styles we need, e.g. one style for each of these: primary button large, primary button small, secondary button large, secondary button small, link style in text, nav styles (default, hover, active), etc.

**#39 - 2018-10-04 05:58 PM - Sonja Leix**

Matt Gold wrote:

Boone's question is a good one, though. We do need to redesign the entire site, so should we do a style guide now, wait for the redesign, or use the style guide us a chance to move us towards the redesign?

It would be beneficial to create the style guide, especially the taking an inventory of styles across the site could be very beneficial to work towards a redesign.

**#40 - 2018-10-04 06:27 PM - Boone Gorges**

- File *Screenshot\_2018-10-04\_17-24-52.png* added

Sonja Leix wrote:

Boone Gorges wrote:

Thanks, Sonja! I've implemented your suggestion about multiple columns. You can see this in action on our shared testing environment, which we often call "cdev". Instructions:

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Is this the cdev site's url: <https://commons.gc.cuny.edu/>

Yes, cdev has the same URL as the production site. You'll know you're looking at cdev because you'll see a red flag at the lower right of every screen (see screenshot). User names are not synced automatically; I've just created an account there for you, so if you get a password reset email, note that it's for cdev, not for the production site. If you didn't get the password reset email, let me know and I'll manually reset your password. If you're not seeing the red flag with the line in /etc/hosts, try opening a private/incognito browser window - and don't forget to remove/comment out when you're ready to look at the production site.

**#41 - 2018-10-04 06:30 PM - Sonja Leix**

Boone Gorges wrote:

Yes, cdev has the same URL as the production site. You'll know you're looking at cdev because you'll see a red flag at the lower right of every screen (see screenshot). User names are not synced automatically; I've just created an account there for you, so if you get a password reset email, note that it's for cdev, not for the production site. If you didn't get the password reset email, let me know and I'll manually reset your password. If you're not seeing the red flag with the line in /etc/hosts, try opening a private/incognito browser window - and don't forget to remove/comment out when you're ready to look at the production site.

Thanks Boone, didn't receive the pw reset email (checked spam too). Please manually reset and send me an email with the pw. Thanks for your help with this!

**#42 - 2018-10-04 06:32 PM - Boone Gorges**

Email's partially crippled on cdev, which may be why you didn't get it. I've just emailed you a password.

**#43 - 2018-10-04 06:41 PM - Sonja Leix**

Thanks Boone, I was able to access the cdev site. Implementation is looking good. We'll just need to add some cascading styles for mobile: let's stack the columns on mobile to one column content.

**#44 - 2018-10-05 10:39 AM - Chris Stein**

Sonja, I agree that it should go down to 1 column on mobile.

Boone you can do that by making sure to specify Flex-wrap for the flex box and adding in a flex-basis. Here is an example pen: <https://codepen.io/profstein/pen/bmewVL> (I chose 300px for the flex-basis but didn't have time to test it out on mobile devices so change that as needed).

I have to disagree about having Sonja spending time doing a style guide or inventory of styles of the current site. It's a mess and something that we would basically throw out when we redesign. But I do think there are things we could do to document functionality and needs.

Along those lines I have this site I made 3 or 4 years ago that is a start at documenting the current interface elements:

<https://redesign2015.commons.gc.cuny.edu/>

Sonja, I sent you an invite to the site. Let em know if you don't get it.

Here is the document on buttons that you were referring to Matt: <http://www.teachingmultimedia.com/commons/buttons/buttons.html>

If you read it you'll see that there are a number of different styles which are sometimes confusingly used. [Some of these issues have actually be remediated.]

Instead of documenting the styles that we have, I would instead advocate that time be spent documenting functionality and types of interface elements. If we do that it could be a valuable tool for the redesign.

So at a higher level than buttons, but maybe how much do we have an list of items with title, thumb, date, description, or when do we use tabs, etc.

For the redesign we can then focus on whether these are the right interfaces, making a style guide etc.

I would also advocate against what I'm doing here and move the conversation on style guides and redesign to another thread either here in red mine or on the Commons.

**#45 - 2018-10-05 02:29 PM - Boone Gorges**

- Status changed from Assigned to Testing Required

Thanks, Chris. I've copied your comment over to [#10439](#), and added you as a watcher there.



I've made the change to the mobile styling for the directory.

<https://github.com/cuny-academic-commons/cac/commit/0d5b5b45005fd636587a4378585e8b1fdd141b3f>

**#46 - 2018-10-24 12:29 PM - Boone Gorges**

- Related to Design/UX #10580: Primary nav item review added

**#47 - 2018-11-02 01:58 PM - Boone Gorges**

- File cac-import-courses.php added

- File CAC courses to import - courses.csv added

A brief update to note that Matt's assistants completed the review of courses earlier this week. This morning, I wrote an import script (attached for posterity) and ran it on the production site, so that everything is fully populated and ready to go on launch day.

**#48 - 2018-11-11 10:08 PM - Matt Gold**

Hi Boone,

One note. I spoke to a colleague Anna Akasoy, last week who told me that she is teaching a few courses on the Commons using only groups. I don't believe that she is on the list that Raven and Anthony compiled. Is there a way to add a sentence like this to the top of the listings?

"Don't see your Commons-hosted course listed here? Please get in touch, and we'd be happy to add it!"

With "get in touch" linked to the email address [support@cunycommons.zendesk.com](mailto:support@cunycommons.zendesk.com)

**#49 - 2018-11-13 02:12 PM - Boone Gorges**

In Anna's case, the issue is likely that the groups are hidden. The Courses directory, in this iteration, won't show any non-public courses.

I've added the suggested message in <https://github.com/cuny-academic-commons/cac/commit/f02c945185f908d00b5e17efbc4bd6f80781cd41>.

**#50 - 2018-11-13 02:13 PM - Boone Gorges**

- Status changed from Testing Required to Resolved

Marking resolved in advance of tomorrow's release.

**#51 - 2018-11-13 02:15 PM - Matt Gold**

Boone Gorges wrote:

In Anna's case, the issue is likely that the groups are hidden. The Courses directory, in this iteration, won't show any non-public courses.

I've added the suggested message in <https://github.com/cuny-academic-commons/cac/commit/f02c945185f908d00b5e17efbc4bd6f80781cd41>.

Thanks!

**Files**

courses_main_nav.png	271 KB	2018-06-21	Erik Trainer
courses_side_nav.png	510 KB	2018-06-21	Erik Trainer
group & site course multiple sites 2.png	132 KB	2018-06-26	Erik Trainer
group & site course multiple sites.png	129 KB	2018-06-26	Erik Trainer
group & site course.png	164 KB	2018-06-26	Erik Trainer
group only course.png	140 KB	2018-06-26	Erik Trainer
site only course.png	120 KB	2018-06-26	Erik Trainer
1 (table).png	156 KB	2018-07-31	Erik Trainer
2.png	153 KB	2018-07-31	Erik Trainer
3 (nested table).png	154 KB	2018-07-31	Erik Trainer
4.png	152 KB	2018-07-31	Erik Trainer
CNonNA2.png	68.4 KB	2018-09-17	Boone Gorges
Peek 2018-09-17 13-46.gif	1.6 MB	2018-09-17	Boone Gorges
CNonNA2-mod.png	68.8 KB	2018-10-03	Sonja Leix
Screenshot_2018-10-04_17-24-52.png	5.21 KB	2018-10-04	Boone Gorges
cac-import-courses.php	2.04 KB	2018-11-02	Boone Gorges

