

## Deliverable D 5.6 ATHOR eLearning Tool

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### Change log

#### History of changes

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## 1. Introduction

Tools and a platform (virtual classroom) will be provided to the ESRs to communicate and to learn. In the eLearning portal, literature, videos about laboratory work and industrial applications will be available. ESRs have to pass tests/quizzes and can communicate via a forum. This report will review these activities. The content of the virtual classroom is supposed to be fed by:

- Consortium members hosting Research Training Courses (RTCs);
- Online Webinars conducted by industrial partners

The points above are still in the process of development and optimization, and will advance together with the progress of the project.

The eLearning platform within the consortium - "RWTHmoodle", a university-based spin-off of the original Moodle with the same functionality - is hosted by RWTH Aachen University. This platform provides free, virtually unlimited storage space which allows the eLearning content to grow while ATHOR Training Events are taking place.

As a free and open-source learning management system (LMS) distributed under the GNU General Public License, Moodle meets the requirements within the ATHOR project. Developed on pedagogical principles, the fields of application are different eLearning concepts, e. g. blended learning, distance education and flipped classrooms, in schools, universities, companies and other sectors all over the world.

The functionality of Moodle surpasses common learning environments and exhibits a wide range of standard and innovative features such as calendar, gradebook, discussion forum and support of mobile devices via App.

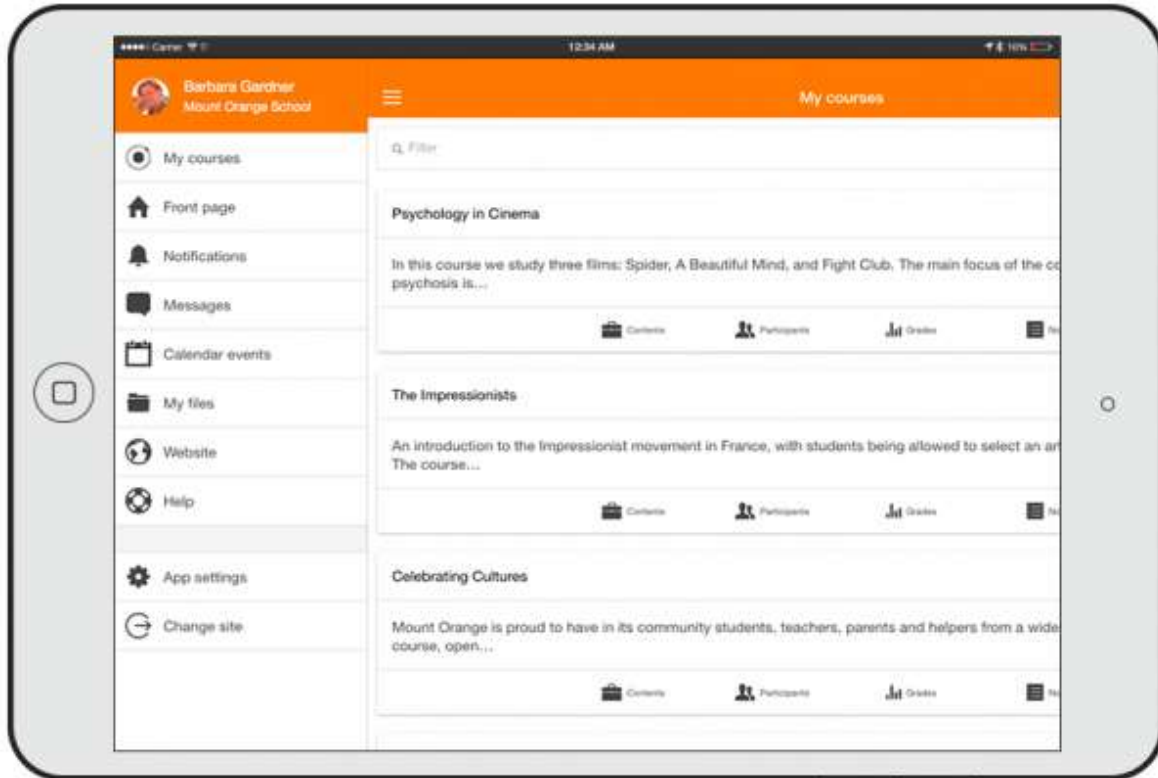


Fig. 1 : Example of a mobile access to eLearning environment via App [www.moodle.org].

## 2. Host and accessibility

The virtual classroom of the ATHOR project will be launched, hosted and administrated by RWTH Aachen University within the runtime of the ATHOR project. Not only ATHOR PhD students and project partners will be enabled to access the available content, also refractory students of the participating Universities may request login details for external users.

## 3. Public content

Content recorded during RTC events and recorded webinars will be added to the eLearning environment. If these educational presentations are not recorded, e.g. via screen recording software, the partners are invited to provide the presentation files with accompanying script and the leader of the work package, RWTH Aachen University, will organize the additional spoken audio to the presentation. All partners contributing content to the virtual classroom have to agree to the publication individually. Public release is possible with the help of the “Authorization letter” template, mentioned previously in the deliverable 6.2 (<https://ucloud.unilim.fr/public/authorization-letter-form>).

## 4. Subsequent use

After the lifespan of the ATHOR project, the Supervisory Board and all contributing partners will decide about the subsequent use of the gathered content within the *Federation for International Refractory Research and Education (FIRE)*.



Fig. 2: Preliminary appearance of the topics section prospectively available on ELEANOR platform

The work package leader considers a subsequent use within a special eLearning platform provided to all partners of the *FIRE* consortium under the working title “ELEANOR” (**E**lectronic **LE**arning **N**etwork **O**n **R**efractories). The terms of use and the publication of gathered contents (Fig. 2) will be approached separated from the ATHOR context after the project period and will be discussed with the involved parties prior to the performance of further steps.

## 5. Conclusions

The ATHOR eLearning platform is a virtual classroom enabling the transfer of knowledge, communication and exchange within the framework of the project. It will be regularly updated and improved by project members (contributing partners, ESRs and the administration team of RWTH Aachen University) in order to provide a beneficial eLearning environment. The subsequent use of the gathered content is considered within a spin-off hosted by FIRE.

The webspace provided by the RWTH Aachen University (RWTHmoodle) is meeting the project needs in terms of hosting of the gathered data, accessibility via mobile devices and offering administrative support.