

Master Courses

ANGEL has multiple ways of helping manage your course content, especially when it comes to sharing common content across multiple courses. Two of these tools are Learning Object Repositories and Master Courses. Each of them has strengths and weaknesses. This document will assist you in deciding the best tool for your situation.

Master Courses

Master Courses behave exactly as a normal course does within ANGEL. You have access to all of the same objects and features in a master course as you would in any of your other courses. The best use of a master course is to develop all of your content within a master course. Once it is completed, you can “apply” the master course, in its entirety, to any other courses that you have in ANGEL.

For example, say you have multiple sections of a course that you do not wish to merge. All of the sections will have the same content pieces and same gradebook assignments. Instead of having to enter everything for each individual course, you can develop the master course and then apply it, much like a template, to the individual courses.

There are a couple of limitations to master courses that are important to be aware of:

1. Applying a master course is an all-or-nothing process – you cannot select individual pieces of a class to apply.
2. Once applied, any changes made to either the master course or individual courses are not carried over into the other sections. You must manually change all of the individual courses as necessary.

How to Use a Master Course

All requests for a master course must begin with a request entered in FredQuest <https://fredquest.fredonia.edu>. Indicate you would like an initial shell for your master course.

Once your master course is created and all of your content in place:

1. Go into the course where you want to copy the content to.
2. Click the Manage tab.
3. Click the Import Wizard, found in the right hand column.
4. Click Master Course.
5. In the pull down menu, select the Master Course that you wish to apply. It is recommended that you leave “backup course before import” selected.
6. Click Import.

Combination uses of Master Courses and LORs

It is possible to utilize a combination of a Master Course and a LOR to create a very flexible and dynamic course. By placing all of your content within a LOR, and creating a Master Course which links to the content within the LOR, you can create a powerful course template capable of connecting to dynamic information sources. This option provides you with the most flexibility while preventing you from having to repeatedly add the same content pieces to multiple sections of a course.