Using Mastery Paths in Canvas

A Resource by the Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching and Learning (GMCTL)

Mastery Paths

Mastery Paths is a Canvas feature that supports adaptive, personalized learning by automatically releasing content based on student performance or choice. This tool allows instructors to build differentiated pathways within a course, guiding students to review core or enrichment materials that match their current level of understanding or interests. This helps create a more flexible, inclusive and responsive learning experience for students.

What Can it do?

- Automatically Differentiate: Assign practice, enrichment, or advanced tasks based on performance.
- **Support Diverse Learners:** Tailor content to meet individual student needs.
- **Personalize at Scale:** Ideal for large courses or multiple sections.
- **Promote Self-Paced Learning:** Show only relevant content to keep students focused.

Ways to Use it

STEM: Offer lab simulations or practice problems based on pre-lab quiz performance.

Humanities: Provide tiered reading tasks or scaffolded writing assignments.

Professional Programs: Assign case studies or reflections based on formative assessments.

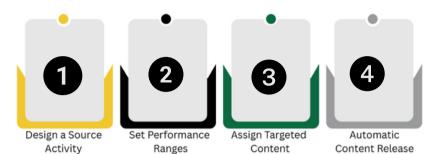
First-Year Courses: Use diagnostic quizzes to address knowledge gaps early.

Technology: Tailor coding challenges or tutorials based on progress.

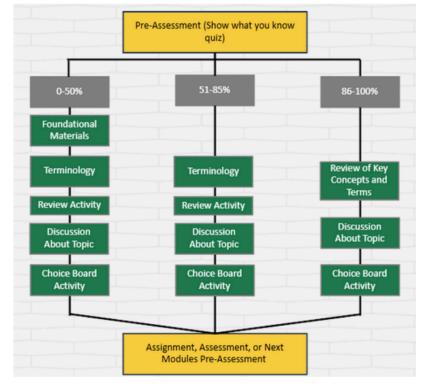


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How it Works



What it Could Look Like



Want to Learn More?

Check out the **Advanced Modules** found in the *GMCTL Standard Design Rubric Examples* (self-enroll) course. These modules feature two different ways to use mastery paths.





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