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Information technology for learning, education and training — Online course information model

Technologies de l'information pour l'apprentissage, l'éducation et la formation — Modèle d'information pour les cours en ligne

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Contents

Page

Foreword ..... **v**

Introduction ..... **vi**

1 Scope **1**

2 Normative references **1**

3 Terms and definitions **1**

4 Symbols and abbreviated terms **2**

5 General elements of online courses **2**
5.1 Online course 2
5.2 Learning activity 3
5.3 Knowledge point 3
5.4 Digital learning resource 3

6 Properties of Online Course **4**
6.1 General 4
6.2 Property specification of course ID 4
6.3 Property specification of course title 4
6.4 Property specification of description 5
6.5 Property specification of objective 5
6.6 Property specification of publisher 6
6.7 Property specification of contributor 6
6.8 Property specification of creator 7
6.9 Property specification of syllabus 8
6.10 Property specification of program 8
6.11 Property specification of start date 9
6.12 Property specification of end date 9
6.13 Property specification of delivery mode 10
6.14 Property specification of course fee 11
6.15 Property specification of preRequisite 11
6.16 Property specification of announcement 12
6.17 Property specification of target audience 12
6.18 Property specification of award 13
6.19 Property specification of referenceMaterial 14
6.20 Property specification of preview 14
6.21 Constraints on properties of online course 15

7 Properties of learning activity **16**
7.1 General 16
7.2 Property specification of activity ID 16
7.3 Property specification of activity name 17
7.4 Property specification of Classification 17
7.5 Property specification of description 18
7.6 Property specification of start time 18
7.7 Property specification of end time 19
7.8 Property specification of learning resource link 20
7.9 Property specification of subdivision 20
7.10 Property specification of subactivity ID 21
7.11 Constraints on properties of learning activity 21

8 Properties of knowledge points **22**
8.1 Property specification of knowledge point ID 22
8.2 Property specification of knowledge point name 22
8.3 Property specification of description 23
8.4 Property specification of relevant learning activity 23
8.5 Constraints on properties of Knowledge points 24

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9 Properties of digital learning resource **24**
9.1 Property specification of learning resource ID 24
9.2 Property specification of learning resource name 25
9.3 Property specification of learning description 25
9.4 Property specification of classification 26
9.5 Property specification of format 27
9.6 Property specification of learning resource link 28
9.7 Property specification of relevant knowledge points 28
9.8 Constraints on properties of digital learning resource 29
Annex A (informative) **General elements of online course** **30**
Bibliography **31**

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Foreword

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Introduction

The role of online learning within formal education and training has developed considerably since the advent of the world wide web. During the public health emergencies, this mode of teaching and learning was pivotal in maintaining continuity of delivery and access. As a result, there is renewed attention on issues associated with efficiency and interoperability of the systems that support online learning.

The primary purpose of this document is to:

a) provide an information model that identifies opportunities for course interoperability;

b) promote course sharing among different institutions and learning management systems, i.e. course information sharing and course importation and exportation;

c) specify common elements of an online course for participants and suppliers using ISO/IEC 19788-1:2024 [1];

d) enhance user experience of participants and interested parties; and to

e) guide e-learning related suppliers to provide more quality products and services.

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Information technology for learning, education and training — Online course information model

1 Scope

This document presents an online course information model, highlighting common elements and their descriptions. This document also describes online courses. Its purpose is to support conceptual understanding of online courses and instructional strategies in online education. This model can be used to inform about the design and development of online courses, and to support migration of online courses between different platforms under the premise of copyright transfer.

The information model of online courses can be extended based on metadata of learning resource (MLR) rules.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 4217:2015, *Codes for the representation of currencies*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/

3.1
online course
instructional process that is provided via an online learning platform with a structured learning activities linked to related digital learning resources, according to certain instructional strategies and learning outcomes. Relationships of elements of an online course is provided in Figure A.1 of Annex A

Note 1 to entry: An *online course* (3.1) is a type of learning and education, in a broad sense, it can be seen as learning resource (see ISO/IEC 19788-1:2024 [1], 3.23).

3.2
digital learning resource
digital entity that can be referred to and used for online learning, education and training

Note 1 to entry: Digital learning resources referred to digital files, multimedia materials and other resources related to online courses.

Note 2 to entry: Evaluation resources include but are not limited to: tests, assignments, quizzes, online examinations, question bank, etc. Non-evaluation resources include but are not limited to: slides, videos, audio, pictures, digital books, digital lab, links, etc.

Note 3 to entry: A *digital learning resource* (3.2) is a learning resource (see ISO/IEC 19788-1:2024 [1], 13.3.2) used for online learning, education and training.

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3.3
learning activity
task or series of tasks assigned to learners according to instructional objectives

EXAMPLE It could be an arrangement of learning resources and schedules of instructional interactions to realize the information exchange among learners, learning resources and learning platform.

3.4
knowledge point
label to the minimum unit of learning content (theory, principle and thought)

4 Symbols and abbreviated terms

IRI internationalized resource identifiers

LMS learning management system

MLR metadata of learning resource

5 General elements of online courses

5.1 Online course

The information model of online courses comprises of an online course (see Table 1), learning activities (see Table 2), knowledge point (see Table 3) and digital learning resources (see Table 4), shown in Figure A.1 of Annex A.

Table 1 — Class "Online Course"

Resource class specification	
Identifier	ISO_IEC_8808:202x::RC0001
Canonical Identifier	ISO_IEC_8808::RC0001
Label	Online Course
Name	OnlineCourse
Definition	Instances of this class are instructional processes that are enabled in an online learning platform with a structured learning activity linked to related digital learning resources, according to certain instructional strategies and learning outcomes.
Subclass of	-
Note(s)	-

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