PeerWise Instructor User Guide

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CETL
CENTRE FOR ENHANCED
TEACHING & LEARNING

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What's Inside

This document complements 6 other components available through the Instructional Technology Lab at UNB. They include: (1) a simple online Demo of PeerWise in use from a student perspective and (2) a guide for using the demo (3) a checklist for integrating PeerWise into your course (4) instructions for formulating quality questions (5) suggestions for assessment and frequency of use and (6) rationale for using PeerWise.
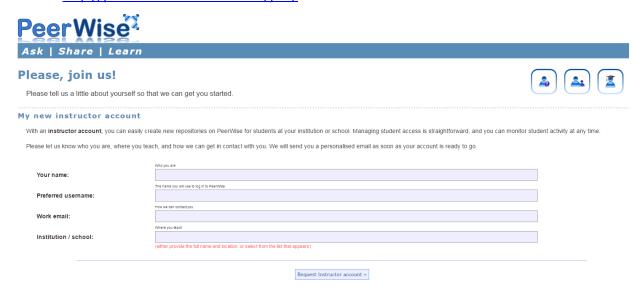
1   INTRODUCING PEERWISE

PeerWise is a free web-based, multiple choice question repository, where students develop questions pertaining to course content. Students create questions with up to 5 plausible answers and provide explanations for the correct answer. The questions can include text, equations, graphs, chemical formulae and images. Students also answer questions submitted by others. Once they have done so, they see which answer option is listed as correct, the distribution of the responses contributed to date and an explanation of the answer. Additionally, students can request help from the author of a question, rate the question for difficulty and quality, and comment on the question. Only the instructor can see the name of the author of questions or comments to allow the option of intervening if anything inappropriate is posted. The instructor does not edit, correct or comment on the questions.

2   ACCESS TO PEERWISE

Instructors

PeerWise is free to both instructors and students. The first time you use PeerWise you must create an instructor account: http://peerwise.cs.auckland.ac.nz/join/

Enter your name and UNB email, and "University of New Brunswick" as the institution name. Press Request Instructor Account. You will be emailed a verification code, which you can copy and paste onto the next screen.
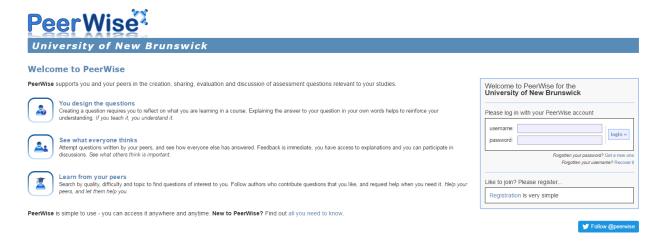

Your account will be created and details will be emailed to you within 1-2 days.

3   STEP-BY-STEP EXAMPLE

1A. Login to the UNB PeerWise site at: http://peerwise.cs.auckland.ac.nz/at/?unb_ca. Use the username and password provided in the email from PeerWise (after you register it takes about 1-2 days to receive the email).
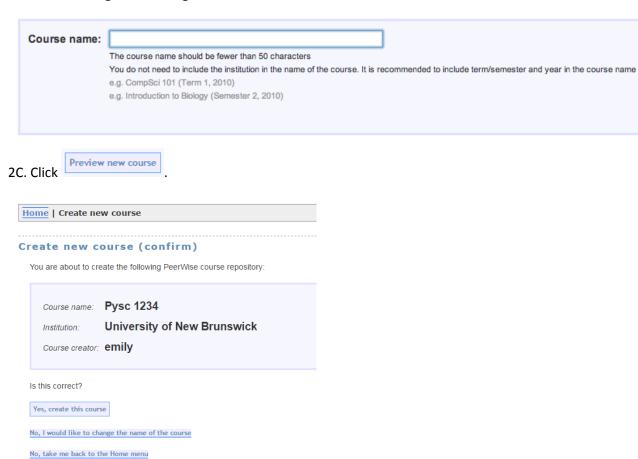
Welcome to PeerWise

PeerWise supports you and your peers in the creation, sharing, evaluation and discussion of assessment questions relevant to your studies.

You design the questions
Creating a question requires you to reflect on what you are learning in a course. Explaining the answer to your question in your own words helps to reinforce your understanding. *If you teach it, you understand it.*

See what everyone thinks
Attempt questions written by your peers, and see how everyone else has answered. Feedback is immediate, you have access to explanations and you can participate in discussions. *See what others think is important.*

Learn from your peers
Search by quality, difficulty and topic to find questions of interest to you. Follow authors who contribute questions that you like, and request help when you need it. *Help your peers, and let them help you.*

PeerWise is simple to use - you can access it anywhere and anytime. New to PeerWise? Find out all you need to know.

Welcome to PeerWise for the
University of New Brunswick

Please log in with your PeerWise account

username:
password:

login »

Forgotten your password? Get a new one
Forgotten your username? Recover it

Like to join? Please register...

Registration is very simple

Follow @peerwise

2A. Create a course. Click Create new course .

2B. Choose a course name. PeerWise recommends that you include the term and semester in the name for easy reference if using PeerWise again in the future.

Course name:

The course name should be fewer than 50 characters
You do not need to include the institution in the name of the course. It is recommended to include term/semester and year in the course name
e.g. CompSci 101 (Term 1, 2010)
e.g. Introduction to Biology (Semester 2, 2010)

2C. Click Preview new course .

Home | **Create new course**

Create new course (confirm)

You are about to create the following PeerWise course repository:

Course name: **Pysc 1234**

Institution: **University of New Brunswick**

Course creator: **emily**

Is this correct?

Yes, create this course

No, I would like to change the name of the course

No, take me back to the Home menu

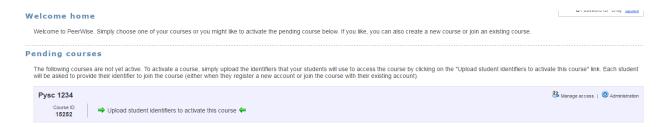2D. The course name, institution and course creator will be displayed. If everything is correct, click Yes, create this course .

3A. Upload student identifiers.

Your course will be displayed as a pending course, until you setup the identifiers. When a student wishes to access your course on PeerWise, they will first need to provide one of the "student identifier" values that you have associated with the course. This will allow you to track the participation of your students. Students only need to enter this identifier value one time - when they register a new PeerWise account (if they have never used PeerWise before), or when they select "Join course" from the Home menu (if they have used PeerWise before). These identifiers can be absolutely any values at all, provided that they allow you to uniquely identify each student. Student IDs are recommended.

Click **Upload student identifiers to activate this course.**

3B. Click [Update identifier list and prompt] .

3C. Confirmation that the identifiers have been added will be displayed as shown below. This should be the same as the number of students in your course.

3D. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click "Home menu".

Your course will now be displayed under the heading **Your Courses**. Note the Course ID that you will need to provide to students.

4A. Provide your students with instructions for accessing your PeerWise course. Click your course name.

4B. At the bottom of the page you will find links to different areas of PeerWise. Click Administration.

Start a new quiz View leaderboards View my badges Provide feedback Administration

4C. You will see three columns: Students, Questions, and Course. Under Course, click View instructions for students.

Course

>>> View instructions for students

>>> View daily usage charts

>>> Define course tags

>>> Define course messages

>>> Choose editor profile

>>> Open access to this course

>>> Delete this course

4D. Copy the displayed instructions to a place where all your students can access it (a class email or D2L).

This term we will be using PeerWise as a place for you to create, share and evaluate assessment questions with your classmates. Start by visiting PeerWise here:

http://peerwise.cs.auckland.ac.nz/at/?unb_ca

If you have not used PeerWise before, just click the "Registration" link and follow the prompts. All you need to do is choose a user name and a password for your PeerWise account.

If you have used PeerWise before, simply log in and then select "Join course" from the Home menu.

To access our course, "Pysc 1234", you will need to enter two pieces of information:

1) Course ID = **15252**
2) Identifier = **Please enter your student identifier for this course**

Link to PeerWise Registration.

Course ID Number: students will need when registering.

Prompt: This will display the customized prompt asking for student ID's.

4E. Click **Back to Administration tab**, when you are done.

5A. Customize the question editing pane. Under Courses, click Choose editor Profile.

The current editor profile is "Videos" and is highlighted below

Plain	○	Basic text editing options only
Images	○	Basic text editing options, including the ability to upload images
Equations	○	Text editing options, image uploading, and a simple graphical equation editor
Videos	○	Text editing options, image uploading, and uploading of YouTube videos
Complete	○	Text editing, image uploading, a simple equation editor and YouTube videos

Save profile selection »

5B. The different editors that are available when students create questions in PeerWise are shown. The default option (highlighted in blue) includes basic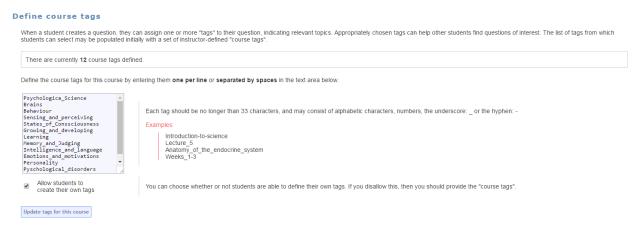 editing and the ability to upload images. However, some subject matter may require a graphical equation editor, or the ability to upload videos for a question, or both. Click **Complete** to allow full functionality for students.

5C. Click ⸢Save profile selection »⸥ .

5D. Click Administration from the breadcrumbs bar at the top of the page.
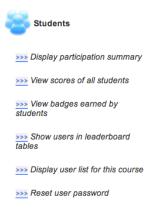
Home | Main menu > Administration > Choose editor profile

6A. Create a Question Tag. When students create questions, they can indicate relevant topics by assigning tasks. As the instructor, you can predefine some of the tags that you expect students might want to use. Example: If a course has several units, you could create a tag for each unit name. Under Courses, click Define Course Tags.

6B. Enter one tag per line, without spaces. The example below shows the tags that might be used in an Introductory Psychology course.

Define course tags

When a student creates a question, they can assign one or more "tags" to their question, indicating relevant topics. Appropriately chosen tags can help other students find questions of interest. The list of tags from which students can select may be populated initially with a set of instructor-defined "course tags".

There are currently **12** course tags defined.

Define the course tags for this course by entering them **one per line** or **separated by spaces** in the text area below.

Psychologica_Science
Brains
Behaviour
Sensing_and_perceiving
States_of_Conssciousness
Growing_and_developing
Learning
Memory_and_Judging
Intelligence_and_language
Emotions_and_motivations
Personality
Pyschological_disorders

Each tag should be no longer than 33 characters, and may consist of alphabetic characters, numbers, the underscore: _ or the hyphen: -

Examples:
   Introduction-to-science
   Lecture_5
   Anatomy_of_the_endocrine_system
   Weeks_1-3

☑ Allow students to create their own tags

You can choose whether or not students are able to define their own tags. If you disallow this, then you should provide the "course tags".

Update tags for this course

6C. Optional: Restrict students from creating their own tags by unchecking the box: Allow students to create their own tags.

6D. Click Update tags for this course (to save your tags).

6E. Click Administration from the breadcrumbs bar at the top of the page.

7A. Provide another instructor with administrator access to your course. Make sure you are in the Administration area. Under Students, click Display user list for this course.

Students

>>> Display participation summary

>>> View scores of all students

>>> View badges earned by students

>>> Show users in leaderboard tables

>>> Display user list for this course

>>> Reset user password

7B. Students that have claimed an identifier, as well as current administrators and their identifiers will be displayed. Click Edit administrator identifiers.

Administrators		Students	
Edit administrator identifiers		Edit student identifiers	
Administrator username (identifier)	Unclaimed identifiers	Student username (identifier)	Unclaimed identifiers
emily (emily)			100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110

7C. Enter the identifier into the box. This should not be the same as a student's identifier.

Identifier:

To grant another user administrator access to this course: Simply enter any unique "identifier" for this new administrator into the "identifier" field on the left.

A new user can then create an account using this identifier, or an existing user can log in and join the course using this identifier, and they will then have administrator access to this course.

Create new administrator identifier

7D. Click Create new administrator identifier.

7E. Provide the instructor with the same instructions you gave the students in your course. However, they will need to enter the identifier that you just created for them, rather than what the students were asked to use (student numbers).

8A. The course is setup. Students can begin posting and responding to questions using PeerWise.

9A. Moderate your course. There may be too many questions to follow them all. You may just want to track total participation.

9B. Click Administration.

View leaderboards View my badges Provide feedback Administration

9C. Click Display participation summary.

9D. View the total number of questions, answers and comments by each student.

14 students active in this time period

Summary includes: **All questions**
Activity between **Wednesday 16th of October 2013 03:23:14 PM** and **Friday 19th of May 2017 02:31:34 PM**

Display in order of: Username Identifier Questions Answers Comments (Currently showing only active students. Instead, show all students)

Download table to disk

Username (if active)	Identifier	Questions (non-deleted)	Answers (all)	Comments written	View contributions
anstudent	133	0	3	1	view
eatkinso	300	3	1	0	view
emily	emily	0	3	0	view
emilyc	105	0	2	0	view
lucky	104	0	1	0	view
martin	martin	14	10	5	view
mnormandeau	101	4	4	3	view
student	301	3	0	0	view
student2	302	3	0	0	view
testuser1	250	1	2	0	view
testuser2	251	0	5	1	view
testuser3	252	1	3	1	view
testuser4	253	1	3	0	view

9E. Click view next to any students name to view the actual questions written by the student.

View student contributions

This page summarises the contributions made by the following student:

Student: **anstudent**
Institution: **University of New Brunswick**
Course identifier: **133**

with respect to:

All questions

between:

Wednesday 16th of October 2013 03:23:14 PM
and
Friday 19th of May 2017 02:31:34 PM

Summary

Active questions:	Comments written:	Ratings submitted:	Answers submitted:	
0	**1**	**1**	**3**	
			Correct	Incorrect
			1	**2**

(according to question author's suggested answer)

9F. Click Administration to go back to the Administration tab.

4 QUICK TIPS

Assessment

The PeerWise website suggests motivating your students to use the program by assigning a participation mark between 2-5%. They suggest requiring students to author 1-2 questions and respond to 20 questions. Of course this will depend on your class size. Requiring your students to author too many questions may result in lower quality questions.

Badging

PeerWise has a badging system with three levels of badges basic, standard and elite. Students earn badges for writing questions, responding to questions, commenting on questions, providing feedback, helping to improve answers to questions among other things. Requiring students to acquire a number of badges from each of the three levels, can also be included in a participation mark, but may also be intrinsically motivating to the student.