How do I restrict student access to a course before or after the course dates?

As an instructor, you may be able to restrict student access to your course before or after the course participation dates. By default, course participation dates are limited to term dates. You can restrict students from viewing the course before or after term dates. Or, if your course has set course participation dates, you can restrict students from viewing the course before or after the set course dates. For more information, view the interactive Student Course Visibility and Participation flowchart and Course Participation Access During and After Course Dates.

Please be aware that the settings for student access are already set by your institutional admin. If settings are available to you, you can modify them for your course. If settings are locked, you cannot change the settings for your course.

Restrict students from viewing course before term or course start date: When a student enrolls in a future course, the course displays in the Future Enrollments section in the student's Courses list. Once a course is published, the course displays an invitation to join the course. When students join a future course, they can view course content at any time before the course begins. If your course participation dates are limited to term dates, you can restrict students from viewing course content before the term start date by enabling the Restrict students from viewing course before term start date option. If your course participation dates are limited to set course dates, you can restrict students from viewing course content before the course start date by enabling the Restrict students from viewing course before course start date option. Course dates override term dates. If the course start date is after the term start date, you must enable this option if you want to restrict access before the course start date. If course participation is limited to set course participation dates and a start date has not been added, students can access the course prior to term start date.

Restrict students from viewing course after term or course end date: Once a course has concluded, students can still view the course but all content is displayed in a read-only state. If your course participation dates are limited to term dates, you can restrict students from viewing course content after the term end date by enabling the Restrict students from viewing course after term end date option. If your course participation dates are limited to set course dates, you can restrict students from viewing course content after the course end date by enabling the Restrict students from viewing course after course end date option. Course dates override term dates. If the course end date is after the term start date, you must enable this option if you want to restrict access after the course end date. If course participation is limited to set course participation dates

and an end date has not been added, students can access the course after the term end date.

Notes:

- Although any changed section dates override course dates, student access restrictions cannot be set at the section level, and restriction options apply to all sections within the course.
- Restricting student access does not apply to users who do not have course enrollments and are accessing the course through Public or Institution visibility options.

Open Settings

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In Course Navigation, click the **Settings** link.

Set Restriction Options

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Courses may be assigned to the Default Term or a specific term [1]. By default, students will be able to participate in the course within the term dates [2]. However, your course may allow students to participate within course dates [3] and have set course start and end dates [4].

By default, student access checkboxes are not selected, meaning students can view courses before and after term or set course dates. To retain this default for the course, do not select any checkboxes.

To restrict students from viewing a link to the course before the term start date, click the **Restrict students from viewing course before term start date** checkbox [5].

To restrict students from viewing a link to the course before the set course start date, click the **Restrict students from viewing course before course start date** checkbox [6]. If the course start date is blank, students can access the course before the term start date.

To restrict students from accessing the course after the term end date, click the **Restrict students from viewing course after term end date** checkbox [7].

To restrict students from accessing the course after the set course end date, click the **Restrict students from viewing course after course end date** checkbox [8]. If the course end date is blank, students can access the course after the term end date.

View Warning Message

Note: If the selected date for the End date occurs before the Start date, a warning message displays.

Change Student Access

The default checkbox settings are passed down from the account level. By default, student access checkboxes are not selected, meaning students can view and access courses before and after course participation dates.

Depending on your admin, the student access setting may vary in your course.

View Locked Setting

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If your admin has locked one or more settings, locked settings are grayed out and cannot be changed.

View Unlocked Settings
If your admin has not locked one or more settings, you can change the settings for your course as necessary. If any settings are already selected, the selection indicates the default for the entire institution.

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