

The Ultimate List of WordPress LMS Plugins

Turn Your Wordpress Site Into an Online School

The Ultimate List of WordPress LMS Plugins for Online Courses



So you're planning to create an online course. That's awesome!

Quick question: Are you going to use a WordPress LMS (Learning Management System) plugin for that? Which one?

You might want to try a WordPress LMS plugin if you want to keep your online course completely under your own control, by hosting it on your website and not on a big multi-course marketplace or a third party hosted LMS service.

Plugins are one of the simplest ways to manage a self-hosted online course. Like a separate layer over the top of your WordPress, a plugin

adds the features you want to add without affecting the way the rest of your site works underneath. It's kinda like installing a new app on your phone.

The main thing a WordPress LMS plugin usually does is create custom post types in your WordPress back end, such as courses, lessons, and quizzes as well as your usual posts and pages. Some LMS plugins stick to the essential features; others offer more advanced features ranging from student forums and analytics to built-in sales and payment processing.

So if you want to host your course on your own site, but don't want the extra work of switching to a new WordPress theme that's specifically designed to be an LMS, you can get a lot of the same functionality by installing a WordPress LMS plugin to your site instead. :-)

But which one to choose?

To save you some research time, I've prepared a handy list of the best options. Take a look, and then we'll talk decision-making.

Wordpress LMS Plugins: The Ultimate List

Here's my list of WordPress LMS plugins worth considering. Some of them I've used myself; some have been used by the Mirasee team, and some come recommended by other users.

Go ahead. Take a deep breath and dive in. Your WordPress LMS plugin is in this list, waiting for you to discover it.

Accessally



Cost: \$79/month to \$947/year

Integrations: PayPal, Stripe, Infusionsoft, Ontraport, ConvertKit,

ActiveCampaign

Features: Memberships; Course creation workflow wizard; Content drip delivery; Offer launch windows; Sales & payment processing; Affiliate marketing

Average rating: 5 out of 5

Download & install: https://ambitionally.com/accessally/#buy_option

More info: https://ambitionally.com/accessally/

CoursePress



Cost: Free

Integrations: MarketPress, WooCommerce, PayPal

Features: Quizzes; Certificates; Automated assessments, grading and

reporting; Marketing; Content drip delivery

Average rating: 3.1 out of 5

Download & install: https://wordpress.org/plugins/coursepress

More info: http://coursepress.org/

Educator 2



Cost: Free

Integrations: PayPal, Stripe, WooCommerce

Features: Quizzes; Grading; Membership; Prerequisites

Average rating: not rated (the original Educator plugin had a 3.8 out of 5

rating)

Download & install: https://en-gb.wordpress.org/plugins/educator/

More info: https://educatorplugin.com/

Good LMS



GoodLayers®

Cost: \$31

Integrations: PayPal, Stripe, Authorized.net, Paymill

Features: Quizzes; Certificates and badges; Course sales pages

Average rating: 4.1 out of 5

Download & install: https://codecanyon.net/item/good-lms-learning-management-system-wp-plugin/9033850?s_rank=17

More info: http://support.goodlayers.com/

LearnDash



Cost: \$19 to \$299

Integrations: WooCommerce, Stripe, 2Checkout, BuddyPress, bbPress,

Zapier, Slack

Features: Certificates and badges; Quizzes and assignments;

Prerequisites; Content drip delivery; Membership; Sales and payment

processing

Average rating: 4 out of 5

Download & install: https://www.learndash.com/pricing-and-purchase/

More info: http://www.learndash.com/

LearnPress WordPress LMS Plugin



Cost: Free

Integrations: PayPal, Stripe, WooCommerce for sales & payment

processing; BuddyPress, bbPress for forums

Features: Prerequisites; Quizzes; Certificates; Course categories and

tags

Average rating: 4.2 out of 5

Download & install: https://wordpress.org/plugins/learnpress/

More info: http://learnpress.io/wordpress-lms-plugin-for-your-courses/

Lifter LMS



Cost: \$0 to \$499

Integrations: You can buy add-on integrations with PayPal, Stripe, WooCommerce, Infusionsoft, Ontraport, Mailchimp, iDevAffiliate and AffiliateWP

Features: Built-in payment processing; Prerequisites; Certificates; Membership; Gamification

Average rating: 4.2 out of 5

Download & install: https://wordpress.org/plugins/lifterlms/

More info: https://lifterlms.com/

LucidLMS



Cost: Free

Integrations: WooCommerce, BuddyPress, PayPal

Features: Course outlining; Quizzes; Certificates; Time-limited course

access

Average rating: not rated

Download & install: https://wordpress.org/plugins/lucidlms/

More info: https://lucidlms.com



Cost: \$0 to \$127

Integrations: Watu for creating tests; PayPal and Stripe for payment processing

Features: Certificates; Gradebooks and grading points system; Shopping cart and coupons if you upgrade to Namaste! Pro

Average rating: 4.5 out of 5

Download & install: https://wordpress.org/plugins/namaste-lms/

More info: https://namaste-lms.org/

Sensei



Cost: \$129 to \$299

Integrations: Sensei is made by WooCommerce so it integrates with WooCommerce plugins for membership, sales and payment processing; you can also get Sensei's own add-ons for features such as certificates and course progress indicators.

Features: Prerequisites; Quizzes; Lesson tags; Course analytics; Manual or automatic quiz grading; Language translation and localization

Average rating: Not rated

Download & install: https://woocommerce.com/products/sensei/

More info: Demo site at http://demo.woothemes.com/sensei/? _ga=1.259478797.645800754.1490629793

teachPress



Cost: Free

Features: Assessments; Enrollments; Features aimed at academics, such as BibTeX compatibility

Average rating: 4.8 out of 5

Download & install: https://en-gb.wordpress.org/plugins/teachpress/

More info: https://mtrv.wordpress.com/teachpress/

WORLDCLASS

Cost: \$0 to \$455/month

Integrations: Stripe, PayPal, MailChimp, Salesforce, Zapier, Google Drive

and many others

Features: Quizzes and tests; Course sales pages and payment processing; Analytics; Gamification; Memberships; Social logins and single sign-on; Your own mobile app

Average rating: 5 out of 5

Download & install: https://wordpress.org/plugins/worldclass-lms/

More info: https://www.worldclass.io/

WP Courseware



Cost: \$99 to \$175

Integrations: WooCommerce, Ontraport, Digital Access Pass, WishList Member, MemberPress, OptimizePress, BuddyPress,

Features: Course prerequisites; Content "drip" delivery; Quizzes and surveys; Certificates; Email notifications;

Average rating: not rated

Download & install: https://flyplugins.com/wp-courseware/#buy_wpcw

More info: https://flyplugins.com/wp-courseware/

WPLMS



Cost: \$29 to \$145

Integrations: PayPal

Features: Quizzes, assignments and exams; Certificates; Course sales

pages; Messaging system

Average rating: not rated

Download & install: https://codecanyon.net/item/wplms-learning-management-system-for-wordpress/15485895?s_rank=38

More info: Demo site at

http://mobilewebs.net/mojoomla/extend/wordpress/wplms/

Zippy Courses Plugin



Cost: \$199 to \$299

Integrations: PayPal, Stripe, Ontraport, Infusionsoft, AWeber,

MailChimp, Constant Contact, GetResponse

Features: Content drip delivery; Universal login for multiple courses;

Offer launch windows

Average rating: not rated

Download & install: https://zippycoursesplugin.com

More info: https://zippycoursesplugin.com/docs/

Did you see a plugin you like the look of in the list above?

If you didn't, I'm sorry to tell you those are the top WordPress LMS plugins available, so if none of them meets your needs, a plugin might not be the right solution for you. No problem! You can still explore other tools for online course creation until you find the right fit.

If you **do** think one of the above plugins might be right for you, let's take a moment to run through a couple of quick checklists that will help you avoid disappointment.

What to Look For in Any WordPress Plugin

No matter what you want a plugin to do, a few things are always worth checking before you install it. Use this short checklist to guide you:

- Has the plugin been updated recently? Say, in the past 6 months? In the past year? If not, the developers might have stopped working on the software, which means a greater chance of compatibility issues
- (as WordPress itself is continually updated) and less support for the user.
- Do the developers resolve support tickets? If you don't see a lot of support tickets on the plugin page in the WordPress Plugin Directory, that may mean the developers have their own support system elsewhere. But if you see a lot of support requests and they're going unanswered, you can't rely on the developer to help you out with any technical questions or problems.
- **Have they provided screenshots?** And if so, does it look like a tool you could use or does it look like a scary mess? (View screenshots at maximum size, otherwise you can't judge this fairly.)
- Is it compatible with the latest version of WordPress? If the plugin doesn't work with the version of WordPress you're using, all sorts of things can go wrong. I've tried out plugins that broke my sales pages, made my student forum disappear, and even once crashed my entire website because of compatibility issues! (Don't worry, none of *those* plugins is on this blog post.)
- **Do its users like it?** WordPress Plugin Directory user ratings are pretty reliable indicators of how well a plugin works for its users. 4 stars or higher is ideal. Be aware that when a new update to the plugin rolls out, you might see 1-star ratings and reviews that say "It's broken! This sucks!" If the developers are on the ball with support, that'll be temporary and you'll see good reviews again after a few days.
- Where can you learn more about it? Most good developers will provide plenty of information about how to install, configure, and use your new WordPress LMS plugin, so check the plugin's listing in the WordPress Plugin Directory for a link to the developers' own site or forum. If you don't see a link there, try typing the plugin's name along with the words "WordPress LMS plugin" into Google or whatever search engine you prefer.

You should be able to answer all the questions in that list about any plugin you're considering installing. The WordPress Plugin Directory includes all these details in the plugin listings, and if you're browsing other directories (like CodeCanyon or GitHub), you'll usually see similar info. If you can't answer all the questions, you don't have enough information to make the best decision.

OK, now that you know what to look for in *any* plugin, let's move on to the type of plugin we're really here for.

What to Look for in WordPress LMS plugins

WordPress LMS plugins range from basic course creation helpers (a couple of custom post types and an index page that shows every piece of the course in the right order) through to full-surround, course-building business systems with analytics, marketing, sales, and payment processing tools as well as student engagement features.

To help you narrow down your options and find an LMS plugin that suits you, ask yourself these questions when you look at plugins for online course creation:

- Does it have the feature set you'll need to deliver your course in a
 way that works for your students, for example, if you specifically
 want to use video, live online classrooms, or instant feedback on
 quizzes?
- What custom post types does it give you?
- Does it integrate with other tools and plugins you're already using or plan to use?
- How much, if anything, does it cost?
- Is it easy to customize?
- Does it help with tasks beyond learning management, such as marketing or sales? Or will you need to set up and integrate other tools for those tasks?
- Does it let you export and download your data? This could become important if you decide to switch to a different learning management solution, or you want to analyze data in a way the plugin doesn't support.

 What do the plugin's users say about it? Can you find reviews from students as well as teachers?

When you're hunting for the right WordPress LMS plugin for *you* and *your* course, there is no single right or wrong answer to look for. What matters is that you're happy with your choice and your students are happy with your course.

If you've spotted a plugin on my list that looks like it could be "the one"

for your course-building adventures, and it holds up to scrutiny when you go through both those checklists...

...then my work here is done! :)

Do your due diligence before you install a new plugin, then when you're ready to go ahead, try setting up a short course *and* logging into it as a student so that you can experience your LMS plugin's features from both sides.

I'm excited to hear what you'll create.:)

Sophie Lizard is Mirasee's Content Strategist. She is also a pro blogger and copywriter, and amateur parent. Her specialty is making money with words. Follow her on her blog and Twitter.

This article first appeared on the Mirasee website.

FREE Webinar: Course Builder's Blueprint

Discover How to Launch Your Course and Enroll Your First (Or Next!) 5, 50, or even 500 Paying Students... FAST!

JOIN THE WEBINAR