

BRIGHTSPACE: CREATE A HOMEPAGE



Teaching and Learning Support Service, uOttawa

CONTEXT

The **Homepage** is the first page that you see when you log into **Brightspace** or access a course in the platform. A **Homepage** is widget-based. **Widgets** are sections of content that provide information and links to tools, courses, and personal settings. For example, a **Homepage** can point to **Brightspace** Learning Environment tools (e.g. **Announcements, Content, Quizzes**), or an **External URL**. You can create, edit, delete, customize, and preview the **Widgets** in your organization.

There are two types of **Widgets** available for **Homepages**:

- **System Widgets** – standard **Brightspace Widgets**
- **Custom Widgets** – **Widgets** specific to uOttawa

MAKE A COURSE HOMEPAGE THE ACTIVE HOMEPAGE

All courses are initially set up with a default course **Homepage** by your system administration. However, you can create your own active **Homepage** for your course.

There are three types of course **Homepages** you can use:

1. **Widget-Based** allows you to design your course **Homepage** using various **Widgets** that link to different **Brightspace** items (e.g., **Announcements, Content, Quizzes**)
2. **Tool** allows you to set a particular system tool (e.g., **Discussions**) as your course **Homepage**
3. **External URL** allows you to set an external web page as your course **Homepage**

CREATE/EDIT A HOMEPAGE

1. In the Navbar, click on “**Course Admin**”
2. Click on “**Homepages**”
3. You then have two options:
 - A. Click “**Create Homepage**” to create a new **Homepage**; OR
 - B. Click on the title of an existing **Homepage** to edit that **Homepage**

Note: you can only modify custom **Homepages** that you created. The standardized uOttawa **Homepages** (i.e. **Page d'accueil des cours - Courses Home Page** et **UO-Page d'accueil uOttawa Home Page**) cannot be modified directly. You can however create a copy of the standardized **Homepage** by clicking on the downward pointing arrow next to the title and selecting “**Copy**”. You can then modify that copy to create your own custom **Homepage**.

4. Fill in/Modify the “**Name**” field
5. In the “**Description**” field add details if you wish
6. Using the drop-down select the “**Type**” (i.e., **Widget-based, Tool, or External URL**)

Create Homepage

Name *

Enter a Name

4

Description

Enter a Description

5

Type

Widget-based

6

Header

Include homepage header

{OrgUnitName}

Restore Default Header Text

What replace strings can I use in a custom title?

Save and Close

Save

Cancel

- When you are done creating, click “**Save and Close**”
- Then to make your newly created **Homepage** the active one for your course, use the “**Active Homepage**” drop-down menu to select desired **Homepage**, and click “**Apply**”

Homepages Widgets

Select a homepage to use in this org unit. Selecting the default option means your homepage will reflect any changes made

Create Homepage

Active Homepage

Demo Home

Apply

-- Default --

01. Page d'accueil des cours - Courses Home Page

02. UO-Page d'accueil uOttawa Home Page [Master] Page

Accueil

Demo Homepage

Page d'accueil par défaut des cours.

Default Home Page for Courses.

Shared to this org unit

WANT TO LEARN MORE OR NEED HELP?

Want to learn more about **Brightspace Homepages**? Check out the [online Brightspace help guide](#) or visit the Techno-Pedagogy walk-in lab located in Vanier Hall Room 1020.