



# Moodle look&feel: the road to UX mastery

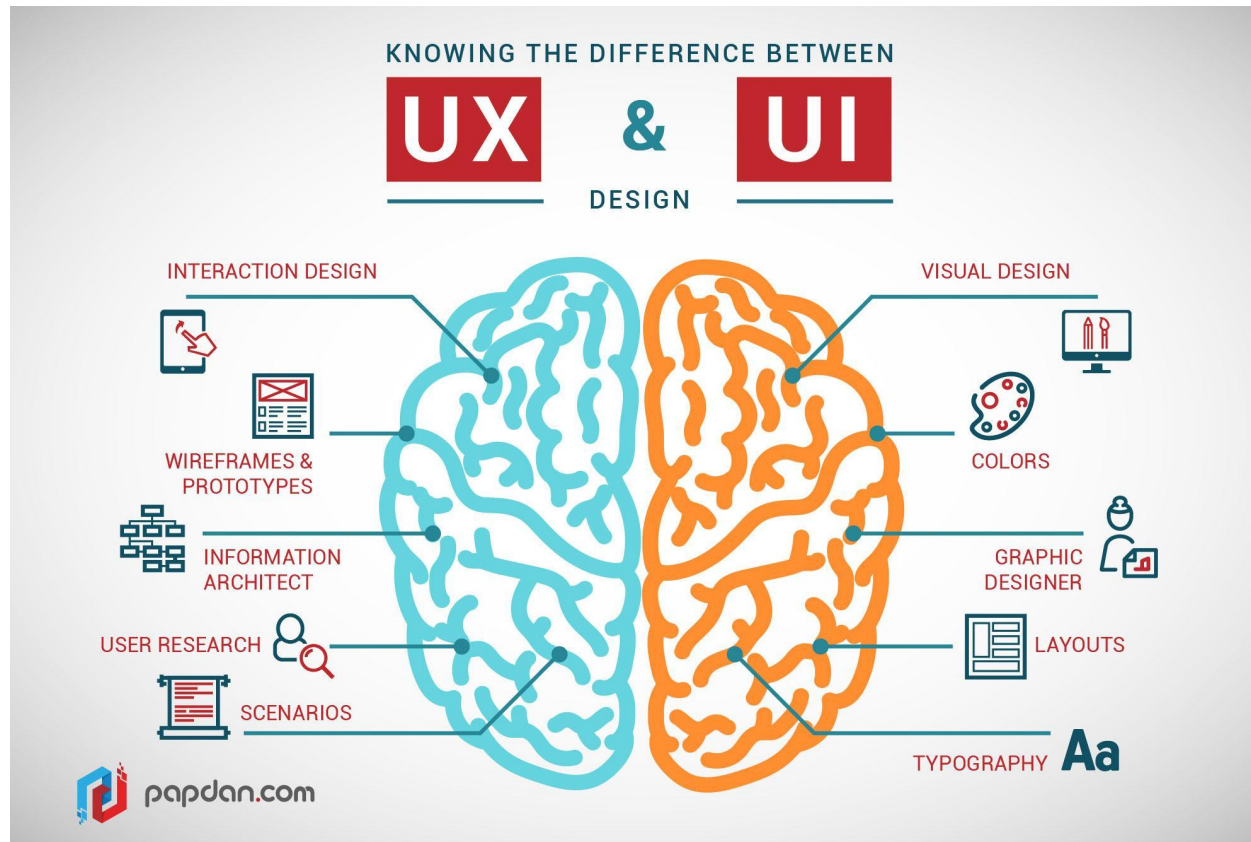
Salvador Banderas (FUNIBER)

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



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# UX vs. UI



Knowing the Difference Between #UX and #UI Design, Papdan.com,  
accessed 30 November 2020, <<https://www.papdan.com/>>



# UX principles

- Predict user behavior
- Reduce cognitive load
- Oversimplify functionality
- Build the road to “Go back”
- Clarify call to action
- Allow for differences in skill-set
- Manage errors effectively

<https://www.lollypop.design/blog/2019/august/7-ux-design-principles/>

## Or, simpler:

- Design for your users, not for yourself
- Feedback (Confirmation of Users’ Actions)
- Digestibility (Don’t Let Your User Down with Long Piece of Content)
- Clarity (Don’t Make Users Think)
- Familiarity (Make Your Design Using Familiar Things)

<https://uxplanet.org/5-principles-of-ux-design-d1579e7267db>



# UX/UI and minorities

<https://www.menti.com/>

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# UX/UI and minorities – Cross-cultural design

- Power distance index
- Individualism vs. collectivism
- Masculinity vs. femininity
- Uncertainty avoidance
- Long-term vs. short-term orientation
- Indulgence vs. Restraint

<https://uxdesign.cc/how-culture-impacts-ux-design-6443a80319f3>



# UX/UI and minorities – Examples: language

- The case of Arabic:
  - Right to left, but numbers left to right
  - Usually requires bigger fonts (see Noto by Google)
  - Using English - Only ~5% of global content in Arabic

<https://www.freecodecamp.org/news/designing-for-the-arab-user-basics-arabic-ux-for-business-6ff29d4c7c60/>



# UX/UI and minorities – Examples: colors

- Colors perceived different depending on cultural background

<https://design4users.com/design-for-diversity-of-cultures-perception-of-colors/>

- The case of the Druze: colors with meaning: each color pertains to a metaphysical power called *ḥadd*, literally "a limit", as in the distinctions that separate humans from animals
  - Green for *ʿAql* "the Universal Mind/Intelligence/Nous",
  - Red for *Nafs* "the Universal Soul/Anima mundi",
  - Yellow for *Kalima* "the Word/Logos",
  - Blue for *Sabiq* "the Potentiality/Cause/Precedent", and
  - White for *Tali* "the Future/Effect/Immanence".

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Druze>





# UX/UI and minorities – Inclusive design

- Recognize exclusion
- Solve for one, extend to many
- Learn from diversity

<https://www.microsoft.com/design/inclusive/>





# Moodle Themes

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# Moodle Themes

- Default themes: Boost and Classic
- Free and paid themes in the directory and external sources

<https://moodle.org/plugins/browse.php?list=category&id=3>

- Creating a custom theme based on Boost or Classic

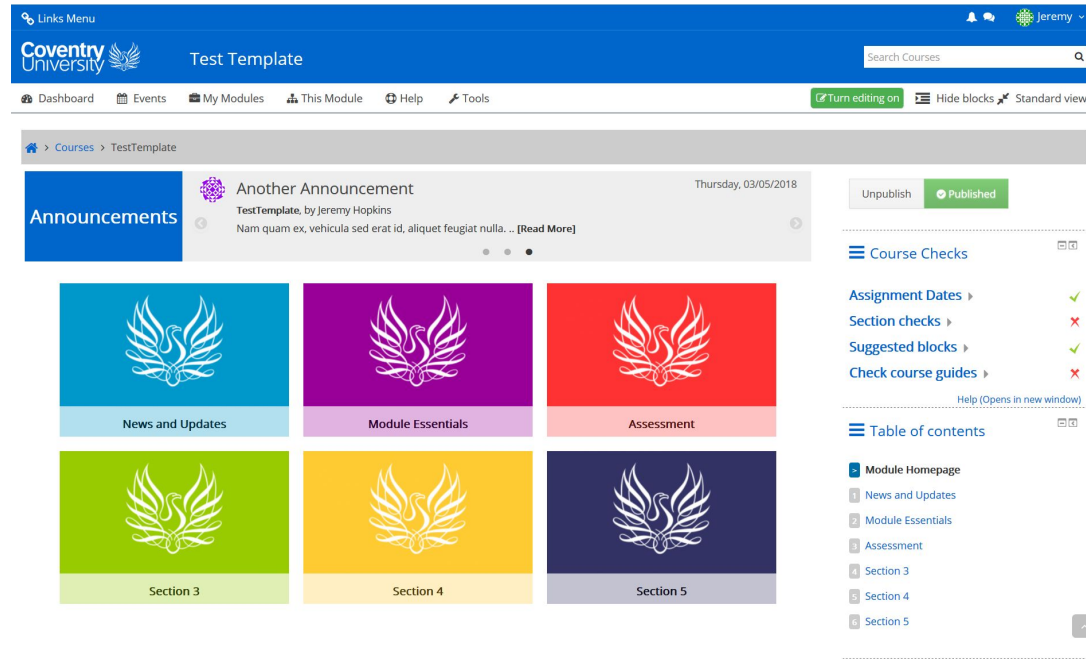
[https://docs.moodle.org/dev/Creating\\_a\\_theme\\_based\\_on\\_boost](https://docs.moodle.org/dev/Creating_a_theme_based_on_boost)

[https://docs.moodle.org/dev/Creating\\_a\\_theme\\_based\\_on\\_classic](https://docs.moodle.org/dev/Creating_a_theme_based_on_classic)



# Moodle Themes – Example: Adaptable

[https://moodle.org/plugins/theme\\_adaptable](https://moodle.org/plugins/theme_adaptable)

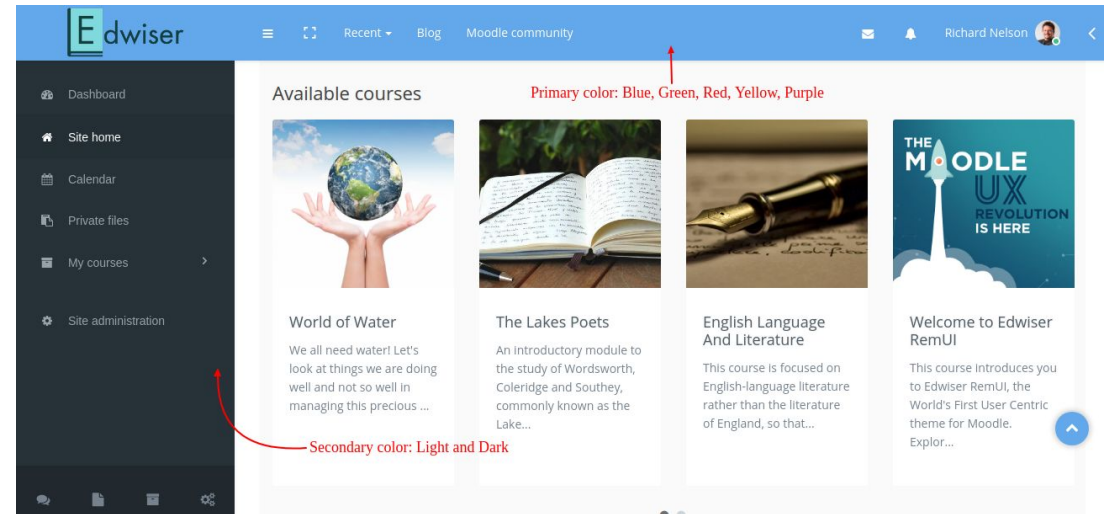


The screenshot displays a Moodle course interface with the Adaptable theme. At the top, there is a blue navigation bar with the Coventry University logo, the course name 'Test Template', and a search bar. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with icons for Dashboard, Events, My Modules, This Module, Help, and Tools. The main content area features an 'Announcements' block with a post titled 'Another Announcement' by Jeremy Hopkins, dated Thursday, 03/05/2018. Below the announcement are six colored tiles representing course sections: 'News and Updates' (blue), 'Module Essentials' (purple), 'Assessment' (red), 'Section 3' (green), 'Section 4' (yellow), and 'Section 5' (dark blue). To the right of the tiles is a 'Course Checks' sidebar with a list of items: 'Assignment Dates' (checked), 'Section checks' (unchecked), 'Suggested blocks' (checked), and 'Check course guides' (unchecked). Below the checks is a 'Table of contents' sidebar with a list of course pages: 'Module Homepage', 'News and Updates', 'Module Essentials', 'Assessment', 'Section 3', 'Section 4', and 'Section 5'.



# Moodle Themes – Example: Edwiser RemUI

<https://edwiser.org/remui/>



# Editing Moodle theme: no-code version

The screenshot shows the Moodle Boost theme configuration page. At the top left, there is a menu icon and the text "LOVEDISTANCE". At the top right, there is a notification bell, a chat icon, and the user name "Salvador Banderas Rovira" with a profile picture. The main content area is titled "Boost" and has two tabs: "General settings" (selected) and "Advanced settings".

**Theme preset**  
theme\_boost | preset  
default.scss ▾ Default: default.scss  
Pick a preset to broadly change the look of the theme.

**Additional theme preset files**  
theme\_boost | presetfiles  
Maximum file size: Unlimited, maximum number of files: 20  
Files  
You can drag and drop files here to add them.  
Default: Empty

**Background image**  
theme\_boost | backgroundimage  
Maximum file size: Unlimited, maximum number of files: 1  
Files  
You can drag and drop files here to add them.  
Default: Empty

**Admin bookmarks**  
Bookmark this page



# Editing Moodle theme: code version

```
38     border-width: 1px !important;
39   }
40
41   // LOGIN
42
43   #page-login-index div#region-main-box {
44     background: linear-gradient(284deg, rgba(44, 125, 106, 1) 12%, rgb(25 152 120) 49%, rgba(152, 223, 202, 1) 100%);
45   }
46
47   #page-login-index section#region-main {
48     background-color: inherit;
49     border: 0;
50     box-shadow: none;
51     left: 50%;
52     margin: 0;
53     position: absolute;
54     top: 45%;
55     transform: translate(-50%, -50%);
56     -ms-transform: translate(-50%, -50%);
57   }
58
59   #page-login-index div[role="main"] div.card {
60     background-clip: border-box;
61     -webkit-background-clip: border-box;
62     background-color: rgba(255, 255, 255, .7);
63     border-radius: 25px;
64     border: 0 solid rgba(255, 255, 255, 0);
65     display: flex;
66     flex-direction: column;
67     min-width: auto;
68     padding-top: 30px;
69     position: relative;
70     word-wrap: break-word;
71   }
72
73   #page-login-index div[role="main"] div.card div.card-block {
74     background-color: #f9f9f9;
75   }
76
77   #page-login-index div[role="main"] div.card h2.card-header {
78     background-color: #f9f9f9;
79     border-bottom: 0px;
80     margin-bottom: 0;
81     padding: .75rem 1.25rem;
82   }
```



# SCSS basics: page structure

```
<html>  
  <head>  
  </head>  
  <body>  
  </body>  
</html>
```





# SCSS basics: body structure

```
<body>
```

```
  <header></header>
```

```
  <content></content>
```

```
  <footer></footer>
```

```
</body>
```



# SCSS basics: identifiers and classes (1)

**<div id="identifier">**

- Only once
- Referenced as #identifier

**<div class="class">**

- As many times as needed
- Referenced as .class



# SCSS basics: identifiers and classes (2)

```
div#page-content {  
  background-color: #FFFFFF;  
}
```

```
li.section {  
  color: #FFFFFF;  
}
```



# SCSS basics: variables

```
$primary: #FFFFFF;
```

```
div#page-content {  
  background-color: $primary;  
}
```

```
li.section {  
  color: $primary;  
}
```



# Moodle 4.0: the road to UX

- November 2021
- Three projects:
  - Improved navigation, search and menus
  - Making it easier to create and manage courses
  - Making it easier for students to know what they need to do to complete a course, and know what's next
- How to contribute:
  - creating issues on Moodle Tracker
  - joining the MUA
  - discussing on the Moodle Community Forums

