



DASHBOARDS IN L²P

by CiL-Support-Team | March 2016



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1. What is a Dashboard?

The dashboards in L²P are individually configurable summary-pages which store the information out of one or several courserooms into one central place. The preferred information will be provided by apps that can be manually chosen from the L²P-Appstore and then these apps will be added to the dashboards. These apps can quickly be sorted via Drag & Drop and the size can quickly be adjusted. Thereby every Dashboard is meant to be individually adjusted to the user's needs.

2. Personal Dashboard

The PERSONAL DASHBOARD in the L²P-Foyer is the initial page after the login. The apps stored in the Dashboard display information from all courserooms of the user. The app MY COURSES provides direct access to all events of the current semester, the app NEXT WEEK EVENTS displays all upcoming events with information concerning date, time and lecture room and the app LAST WEEK LEARNING MATERIAL provides all newly added documents from the Learning Materials area of the last seven days. Currently there are eight apps dedicated for the Personal Dashboard, further apps will follow. You can get to the Personal Dashboard anytime by clicking the L²P-logo in the upper left or by clicking on My L²P in the breadcrumb.

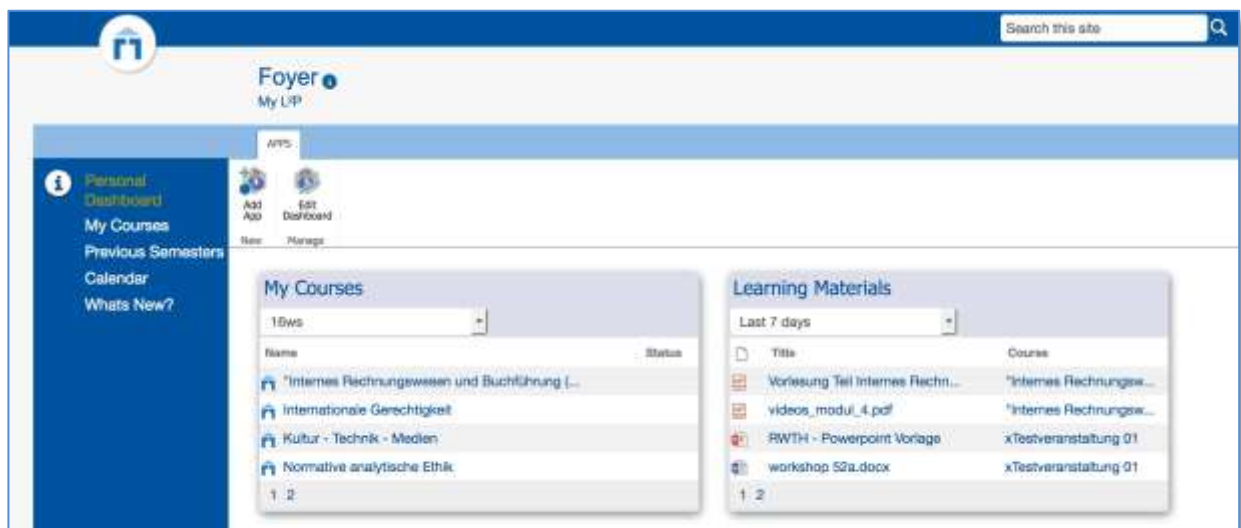


Fig. 1: PERSONAL DASHBOARD including two Apps.

3. Course Dashboard

The COURSE DASHBOARD bundles the information of a single courseroom. Different from the PERSONAL DASHBOARD the COURSE DASHBOARD is split into a COURSE AREA and a PERSONAL AREA (Fig. 2). Both areas are separated through a thin blue line, at which the COURSE AREA is placed above and the PERSONAL AREA is placed below this separating line. In addition, the app's colours of the two areas are different from each other.

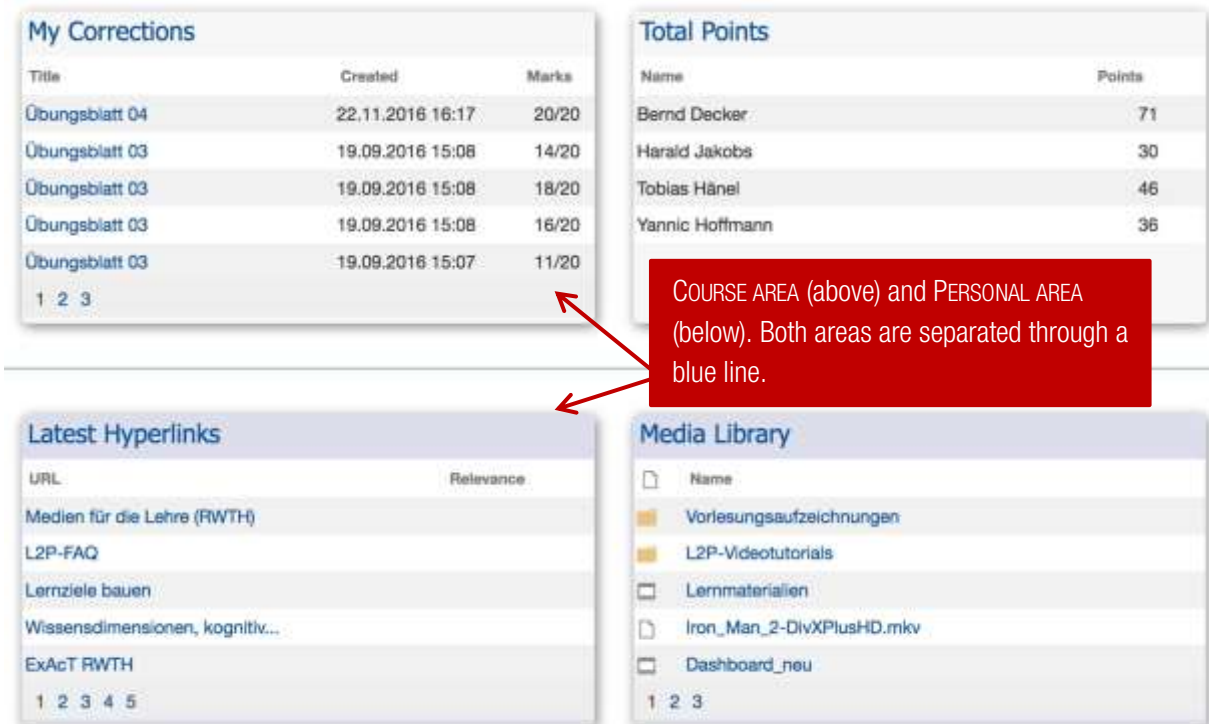


Fig. 2: Split Coursedashboard.

Which Apps are going to be displayed at the Course area in which size and order is decided by the courseroom's managers only. Apps that are ordered here are always visible for all course participants. The lecturers can ensure that all course participants see all relevant and current information at a glance.

At the PERSONAL AREA of the Course Dashboard all users (independent of their predetermined role) can add Apps concerning their personal needs, if the information provided in the Course area is not sufficient. These Apps can only be seen by the individual user.

4. Group Dashboard

Also the workspace in the group area comes with a Dashboard. Currently here are two Apps preinstalled (Fig. 3): Groupchat and Documents (where each group can administer their needed documents). Further Apps will follow.

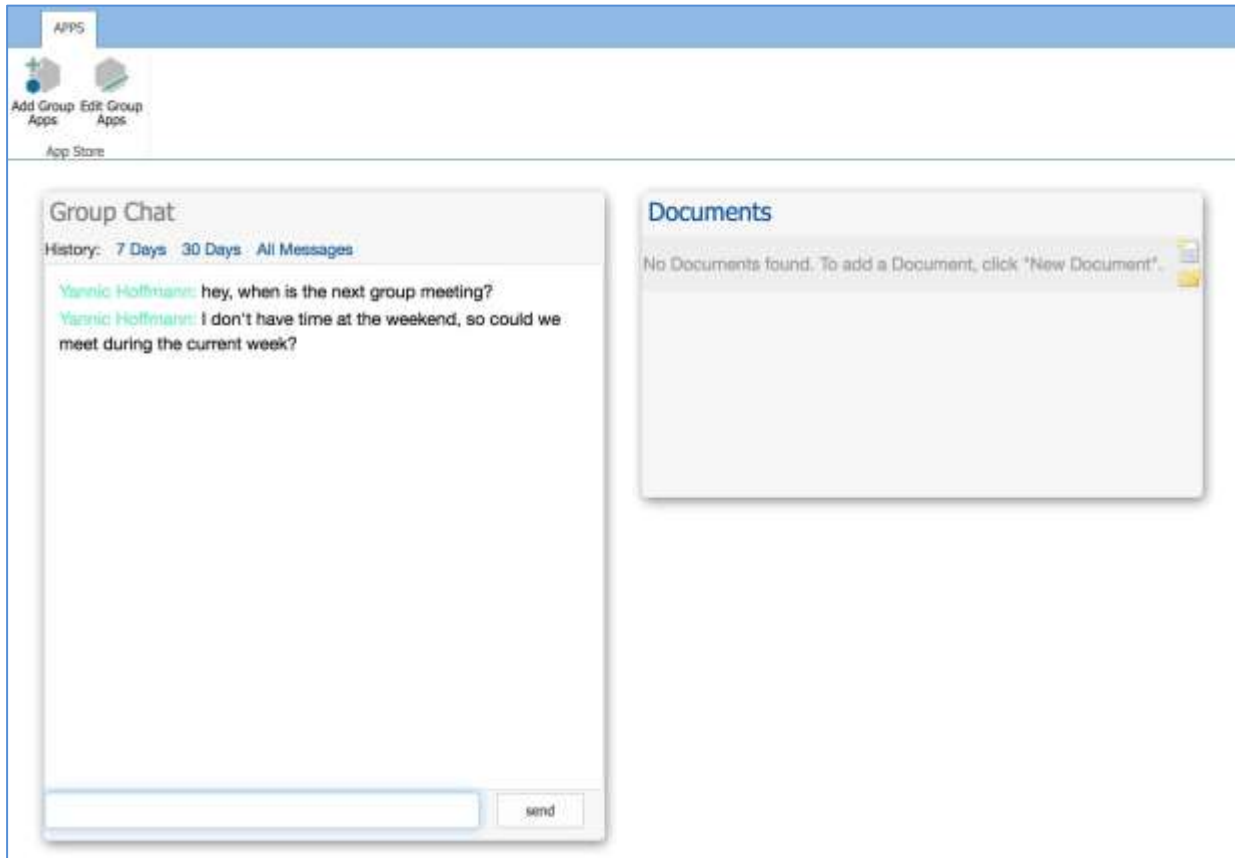


Fig. 3: Group Dashboard with 2 preinstalled Apps.

5. L²P-Appstore

All Apps for the different kinds of Dashboards are stored in the L²P-APPSTORE. This store is context-sensitive, that means if you click on ADD APP there only will be displayed those Apps that fit the particular Dashboard.

The Apps are organized in different categories and are described in short texts (s.b. Fig. 4). The users can evaluate and comment on the Apps to contribute to their constant improvement (s.b. Fig. 5).

6. Editing Dashboards

The process of adding, editing and deleting Apps equally works for all L²P-Dashboards. Here it is explained using the example of the COURSE DASHBOARD. Since the Course Dashboard is split into COURSE AREA and PERSONAL AREA it is possible to add, edit and delete Apps in these two areas. Here we focus on the COURSE AREA.

6.1. Adding Apps

1. Call the COURSE DASHBOARD of your Courseroom. Then click in the menu bar on ADD COURSE APP. This will open the L²P-APPSTORE (Fig. 4).

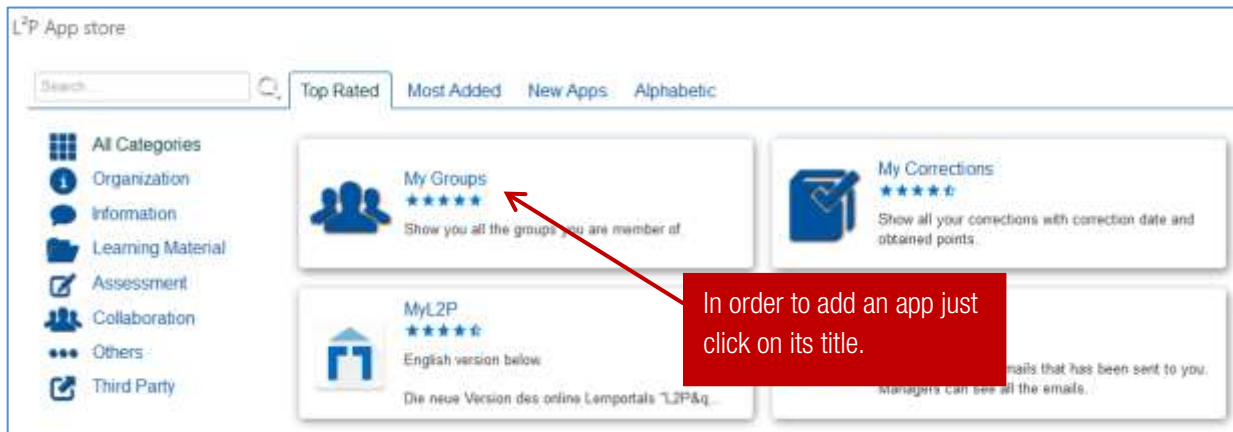




Fig. 4: Overview of the apps given in the L²P-APPSTORE.

2. Here you will find all apps that you can add to the COURSE DASHBOARD. These apps are ordered by categories to facilitate searching for the right app. Every App is described by a short text. The stars represent the evaluation of the users. In order to add an app just click on its title.

- There will be displayed further information through a popup-window, for example how often the specific app has been installed, an option to evaluate the app and a comment field for suggestions for the L²P-developers. By clicking  you install the app to the Course Dashboard. If this app is already installed, you get  instead of ADD APP.

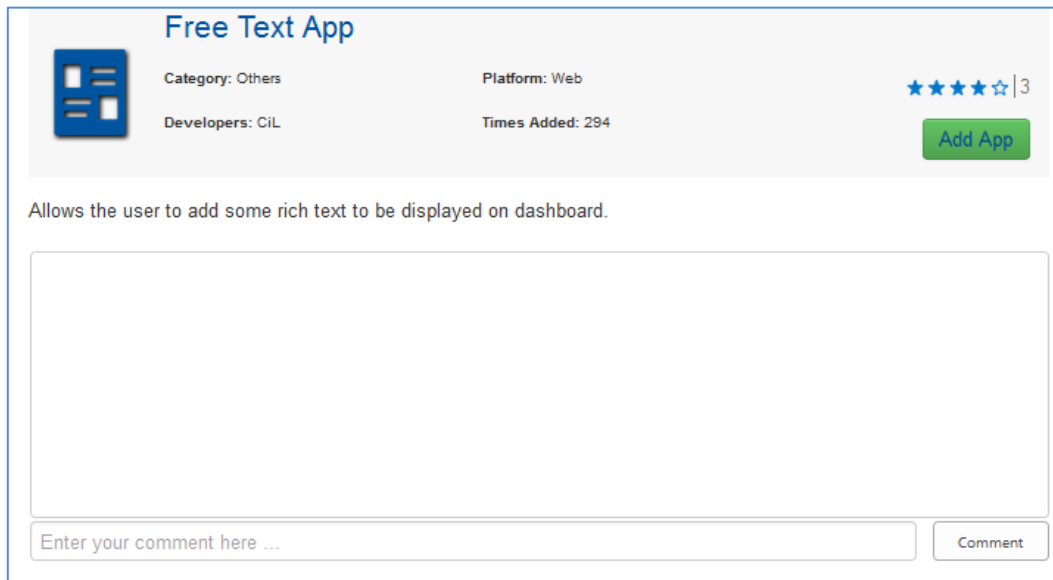



Fig. 5: Detailed view of an App with the option to evaluate, a comment field and a button to add the app.

- After adding an app, the popup automatically closes and you can again choose other apps. To leave the L²P-APPSTORE, simply click on  in the upper right corner. All recently added apps will now be loaded to the Dashboard.

6.2. Editing Apps



- If you want to restructure the apps, customize their size or delete some of them from the Dashboard, click in the menu bar on EDIT COURSE AREA.
- Changing order: Pull the app with pressed left mouse button to the desired position.

Hint: Make sure that the app you want to replace is highlighted in blue. Only then you are able to replace the highlighted App through a different one.

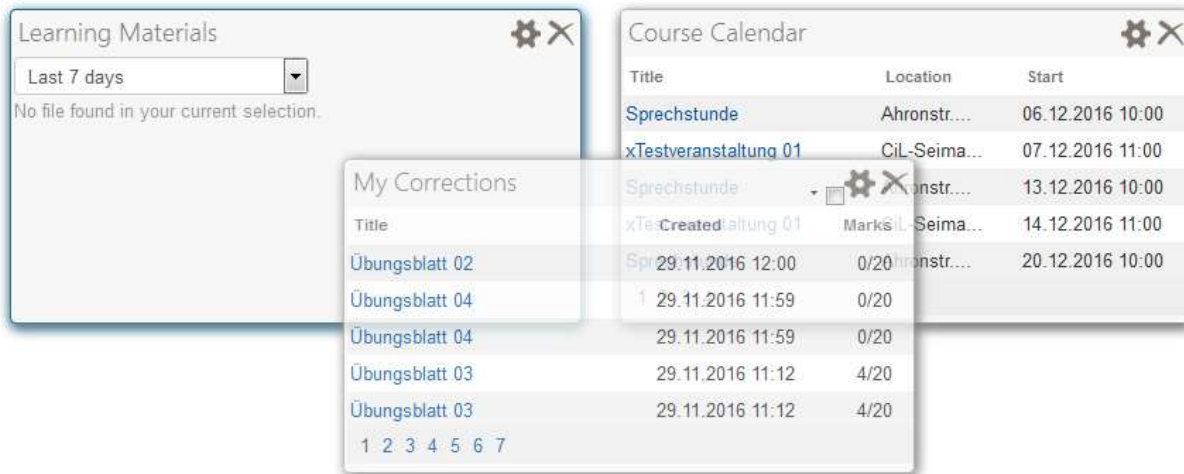






Fig. 5: sorting Apps in the Dashboard.

3. Adjusting size: Click on the gear-wheel  in the upper right and choose the desired size. Clicking on SAVE will save all your newly edited adjustments.
4. Delete: Click on the cross  in the upper right and confirm the security request.
5. Über BEARBEITEN BEENDEN kehren Sie zum DASHBOARD zurück.

6.3. Evaluating Apps

The users can evaluate and comment on apps and in doing so the users are contributing to their constant improvement. In order to evaluate an app or comment on one, call the L²P-Appstore and search for the desired app. To evaluate the app, just click on the desired number of stars. Comments can be placed in the comment field and will be displayed to every user. By clicking on the cross  in the upper right, you return to the L²P-Appstore. By clicking again on the cross  in the upper right, you return to the Dashboard.

7. Exception Free Text App

Different from other apps, you can add the free text app multiple times to a Dashboard. In addition, the users determine title and content of the app by themselves. You can add as many texts, images, charts etc. as you like. We present to you two possible fields of application for the COURSE DASHBOARD in order to facilitate the learning process for your students. Because the COURSE DASHBOARD is the homepage of the courseroom, this information is always immediately accessible.

7.1. Typical application 1: Greeting & Aid to orientation

A short text to greet the students and inform them about the content of the course, upcoming appointments, general effort and the form of the exam and also with the help of direct links to each courseroom's sector explain, which pages are used in which particular way. By doing so, the first days of orientation will be dramatically facilitated for the students. By adding a picture of the lecturer, you can personalise the courseroom a bit more. Indicating the support mailing adress facilitates contacting in case of having questions concerning the lecture (s. Fig. 6).

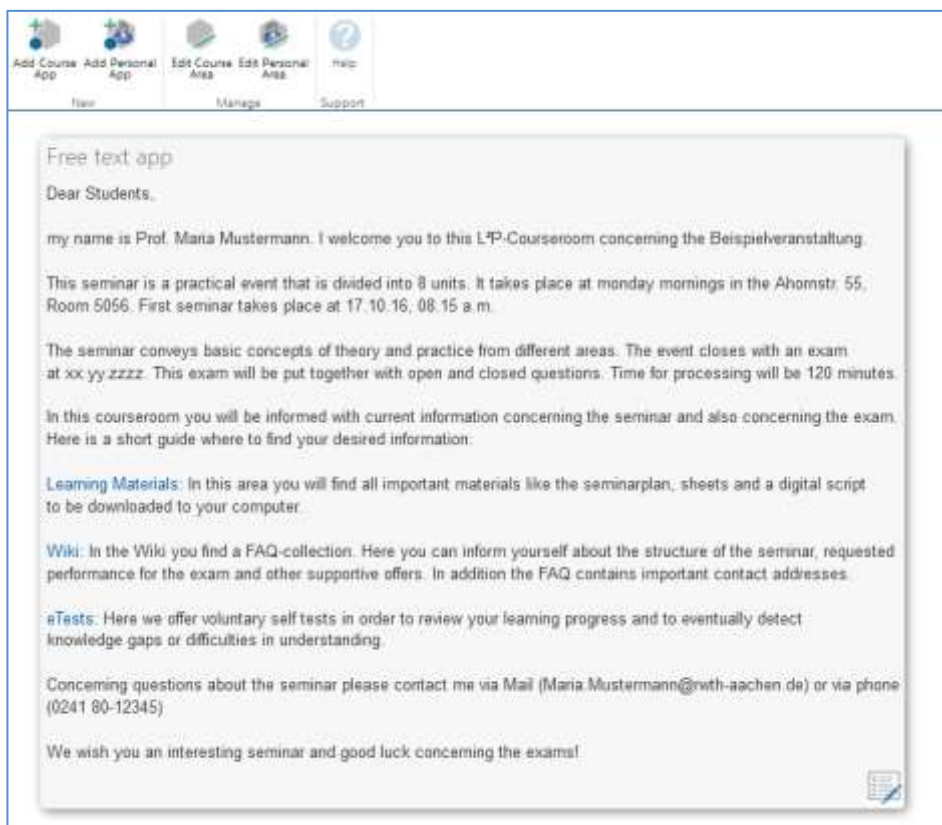


Fig. 6: Free Text App with information concerning a seminar.

7.2 Typical Application 2: Learning-Matrix

An ordered by date table that links all materials and exercise offers and creates an overview of how these elements are associated (s. Fig. 7). The links have to be manually added to each table element.

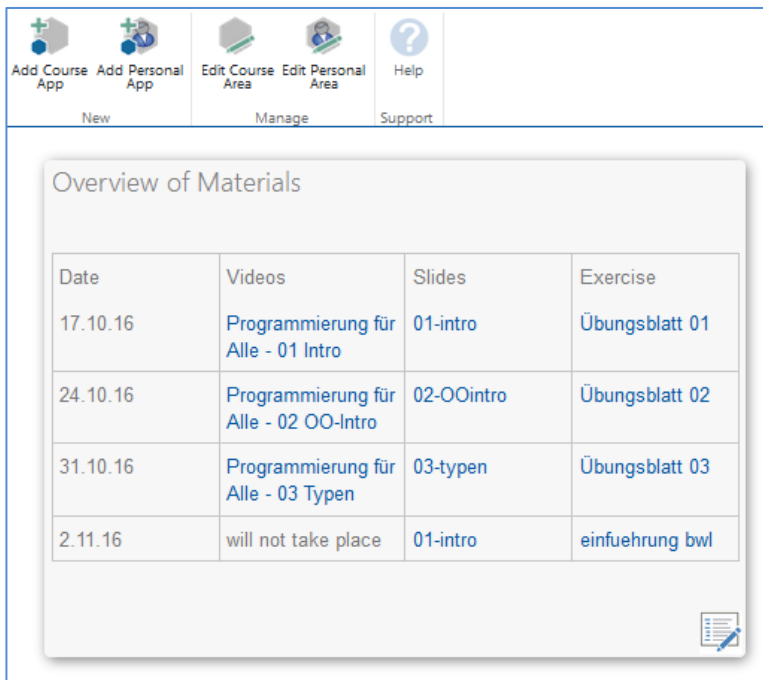
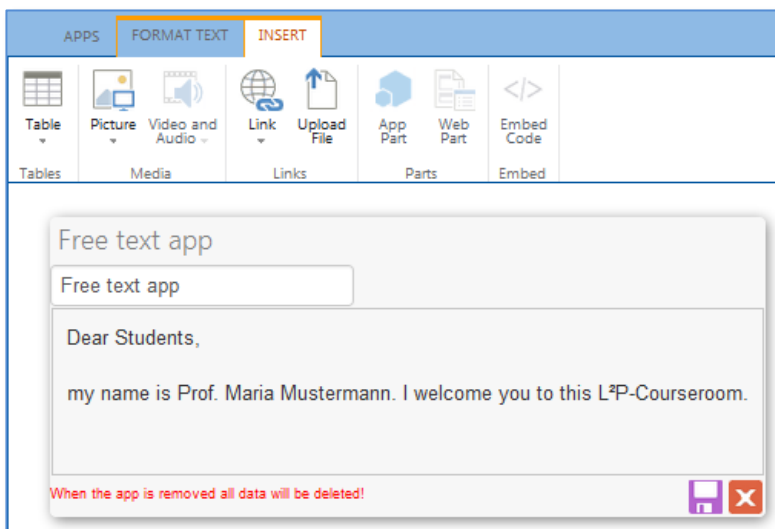


Fig. 7: Freetext-App with Learning-Matrix

7.3 Edit the Freetext-App




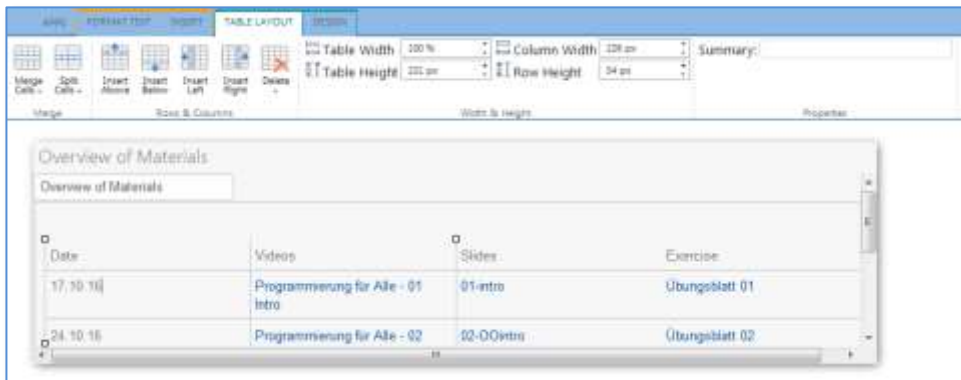
By clicking on the edit symbol  you switch to the edit-mode. Here you can edit the title and add as much text as you want as also integrate charts, pictures or even Hyperlinks (s. Fig. 8). Audio- or video files should be uploaded to the Media Library and can be added as a link. By clicking on the save symbol in the lower right you apply the changes.

Fig. 8: Edit the chart

7.4 Insert a table for the learning matrix



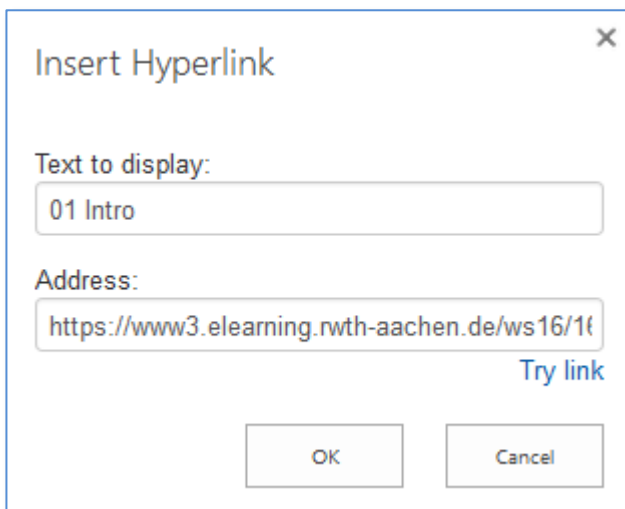
To insert a table for the learning matrix, switch to the editing mode and click in the text field of the app to open the editor. Click the insert tab, select the chart option and specify the column and row number.

Fig. 9: Edit the chart

You can then edit the table and, for example, adjust table width and height as well as column width and height to the content (s. Fig. 9). It is recommended to work with width in percent. For example, in Figure 9, the Date column is reduced to 15% width.

You can also adjust the number of columns and rows at any time. For example, you can use the option DRAFT to specify whether the first row of the table should be displayed as a heading line. It then appears with a gray font color (s. Fig. 9).

7.5 Adding links to table – Variant 1



Once you have created the table, you can start filling it. To provide a link to a document in the learning materials, an exercise sheet or other learning room elements, first copy the link address. Then click in the table field where you want the link to appear. On the insert tab, select link and then select from address. In the pop-up window, you assign a line title to be displayed later and paste the copied link (s. Fig. 10). Click OK to transfer the link to the previously selected table field.

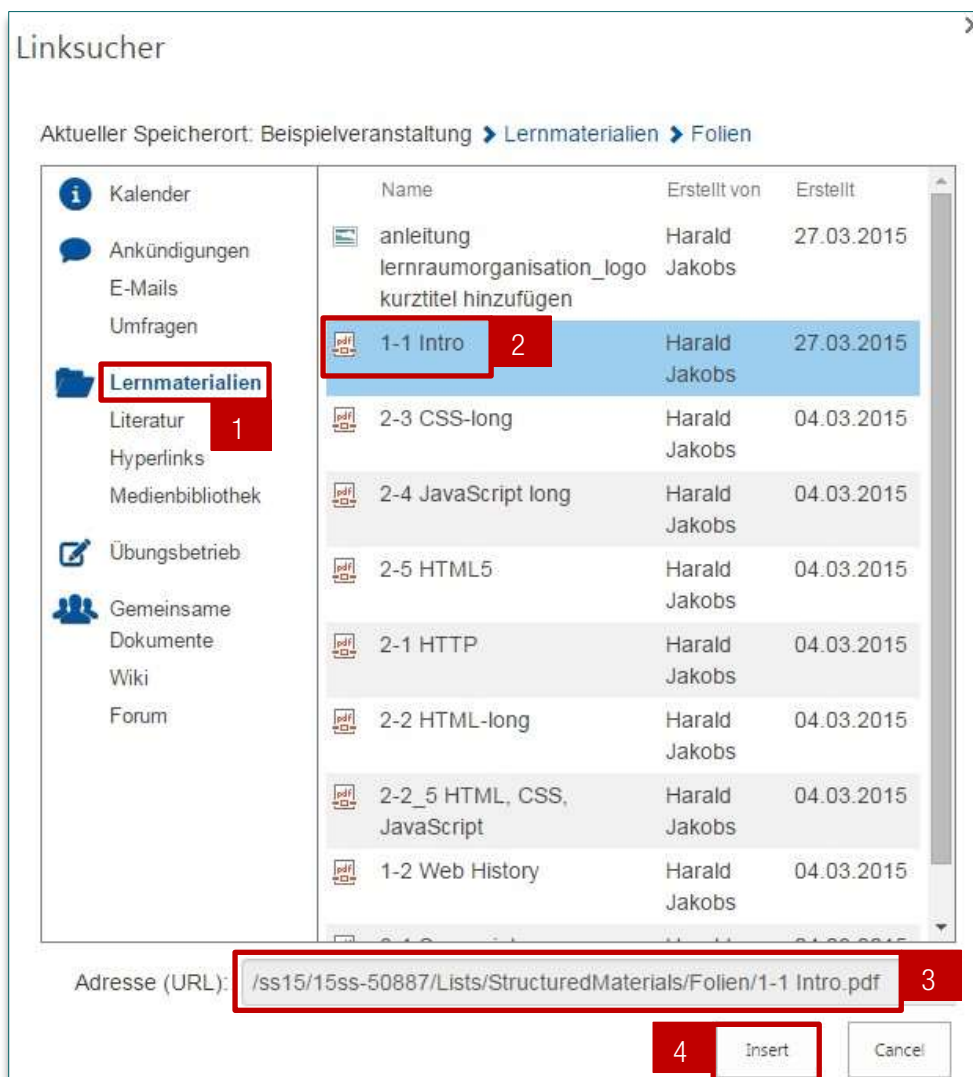
Fig. 10: Adding links to table

7.6 Adding links to table – Variant 2



The second, somewhat simpler variant, is the Link-seeker. Click here again first in the table field, in which the link should appear. On the Insert tab, select Link, and select From L²P (s. Fig. 11).

Fig. 11: Linksucher aufrufen



Then navigate to the desired location in the learning room, for example to a slide set in Learning Materials (Fig. 12, Step 1) in the pop-up window. Clicking on the slide set (Fig. 12, Step 2) takes the address (URL) into the selection field (Fig. 12, Step 3). By INSERT the link is placed in the previously selected table field (Fig. 12, Step 4). The file name of the slides appears as a hyperlink text.


Fig. 12: Link auswählen mit dem Linksucher

7.7 Optimize the app size

In order for the content of the app to be displayed completely and without scrollbars, you need to adjust the size of the



Abb. 13: Adjust the app size

app. To do this, we go here from the example scenario COURSE DASHBOARD. Click on EDIT COURSE AREA and through  open the app settings. Select the desired size (s. Fig. 13). After saving, the size is adapted to the content.

8 Apps from third-party vendors

The L²P-APPSTORE also contains apps from third-party vendors, eg app developing interested students. They can program their apps against the L²P-API and connect to the platform through the standardized authentication process, OAuth. Once the data protection officer of the university has checked the app, it can be linked and used in the L²P-APPSTORE.

Current examples are the [SYNC MY L²P](#) application, which allows students to easily synchronize their newly uploaded documents with their computer in order to always have the latest materials, as well as the mobile app [MyL²P](#), which supports the mobile L²P-Access for Android devices.

9 Suggestions for apps

If you have suggestions for new apps, please send them to [L²P-Support](#). We will try to implement your wishes.

You can leave suggestions for the improvement of existing apps in the comment field of the respective app (s. Fig. 5).