Plugin Name: Tutor LMS Instructor Availability Scheduler

Overview

The Tutor LMS Instructor Availability Scheduler plugin is designed specifically for instructors, allowing them to define their availability using a Google Calendar-based interface. Students can then book sessions based on the available time slots set by the instructors.

Features

1. **Instructor Availability Management**
   - Instructors can set their availability for 1-hour slots from 8 AM to 11 PM.
   - A dedicated page for instructors to select available time slots.
   - The availability is applied for the entire day.
   - Instructors can schedule their availability only for the next 5 months.
   - Instructors can mark a leave for the entire day.
   - Instructors can cancel availability in case of an emergency and provide a reason for cancellation.
   - Availability will be directly synced from Google Calendar.
   - Any existing events in Google Calendar will block availability for booking.
   - Once a time slot is booked, it is added to the instructor's Google Calendar.
   - If a session is canceled, the time slot becomes available again for booking.
   - **Recurring availability settings:** Instructors can set recurring availability on specific days of the week to avoid manually scheduling each week. Recurring availability can also be overridden for specific dates.
   - **Custom session durations:** Instructors can define session durations (30 min, 45 min, 1 hour, etc.) instead of only 1-hour slots. Overlapping with other booked slots will be prevented. Buffer times between sessions can be configured.
   - **Booking conflict prevention:** The system ensures that once a time slot is booked, it cannot be double-booked unless the earlier session is canceled.
   - **Advanced Instructor Availability Controls:** Instructors can set availability for specific course types (e.g., only for Webinars or Consultation Classes). They can also configure different availability schedules for weekdays vs. weekends.
2. **Multi-Instructor Coordination**
   - Allows multiple instructors to collaborate on a single event.
   - Enables students to book sessions with co-instructors if their primary instructor is unavailable.
3. **Instructor-Centric Booking System**

- Students can view the available time slots set by the instructor.
- Students can only book sessions based on the instructor's predefined availability.
- Tutor LMS Pro integration ensures that all bookings are linked directly to the instructor's profile.
- Prevents booking overlapping with existing Google Calendar events, ensuring the instructor's time is managed efficiently.
- **Payment integration for paid bookings:** Instructors can enable paid sessions where students must complete payment before booking via Stripe, PayPal, or other gateways.
- **Booking confirmation & refund support:** Instructors can define cancellation policies, and refunds may be processed accordingly.
- **Discount & coupon support:** Instructors can offer promotional discounts and coupons for paid bookings.

4. **Instructor Event Categorization**
   - Three types of instructor-led events: Webinars, Consultation Classes, and College Lectures.
   - Each event is categorized to ensure better organization for the instructor.
   - No overlapping of events within the same time slot to prevent double-booking.
   - Events are automatically categorized and managed in the instructor's Google Calendar.
   - **Event priority handling:** If an instructor schedules a session in a slot already occupied by an event, priority rules will determine whether the booking can proceed.

5. **Admin Controls for Instructor Management**
   - Admin can view and manage all instructor availability schedules.
   - Ability to override instructor schedules if needed.
   - Control refund policies for paid bookings.
   - Admin can enable or disable payment features for specific instructors.

6. **Integration with Google Calendar and Zoom for Instructors**
   - Google Calendar API is used to fetch and update instructor availability.
   - Blocks unavailable slots based on existing events in the instructor's calendar.
   - Automatically adds booked sessions to the instructor's Google Calendar.
   - Removes or updates events if availability changes or sessions are canceled.
   - Categorizes events as Webinars, Consultation Classes, or College Lectures.
   - Automatic Zoom link generation for booked sessions.
   - **Email & App Reminders:** Automated email and in-app notifications for scheduled sessions (sent to both students and instructors before their booked session). Reminders can be configured for different intervals (24 hours before, 1 hour before, etc.).

Pages

1. Availability Schedule (Instructor-Specific)

- This page allows instructors to schedule their availability.
- Displays a list of 1-hour time slots from 8 AM to 11 PM.
- Availability is fetched and updated in real-time with Google Calendar.
- Instructors can mark leave for the entire day.
- Instructors can cancel availability and provide a reason.
- Instructors can define recurring availability and custom session durations.

2. Upcoming Events (Instructor-Focused)

- This page displays all scheduled events for instructors in ascending order of time.
- The earliest event appears at the top.
- Events are categorized as Webinars, Consultation Classes, or College Lectures.
- Events sync in real-time with Google Calendar.
- Ensures that once a slot is booked, it cannot be booked again unless canceled.

Workflow

Instructor Side

1. **Login to the Tutor LMS instructor dashboard.**
2. **Navigate to the "Availability Schedule" section.**
3. **Connect and sync Google Calendar.**
4. **Select available 1-hour time slots from 8 AM to 11 PM.**
5. **Save availability settings.**
6. **Availability is stored in Google Calendar and displayed to students.**
7. **Can schedule availability only for the next 5 months.**
8. **Can mark leave for the entire day.**
9. **Can cancel availability in case of an emergency and provide a reason.**
10. **View upcoming events on the "Upcoming Events" page, sorted in ascending order.**
11. **Set recurring availability for selected days of the week.**
12. **Define custom session durations with buffer times.**

Student Side

1. **Login to the Tutor LMS student dashboard.**
2. **Go to the "Book a Session" section.**
3. **Select an instructor and view their available time slots.**
4. **Book a session in an available slot.**
5. **Pay for the session (if required).**
6. **Receive confirmation and meeting link.**
7. **Receive email and in-app reminders before the session.**

8. **Booked session appears in the instructor's Google Calendar.**

Future Enhancements

- Additional customization for instructor recurring availability.
- More payment gateway options tailored for instructor earnings.
- Enhanced analytics and reporting for instructor bookings.
- Mobile app integration for instructor push notifications.
- Support for instructor group bookings and bulk session purchases.
- Advanced event priority conflict resolution for instructors.

Conclusion

This plugin enhances Tutor LMS Pro by providing a structured scheduling system specifically for instructors, allowing them to define availability, categorize events, handle payments, and seamlessly sync with Google Calendar for streamlined booking and scheduling. The instructor-focused approach ensures better control over time management, session planning, and revenue generation.