

gTurnos: block for Moodle which manages the
delivery of turns
MANUAL OF USE

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What is gTurnos?

gTurnos is a block for Moodle, which manages the delivery of turns. It considers necessities of teachers and students.

The idea was born to computerize the way of registering in practices of the labs at my university: in a sheet on the door.

The problem of the teacher is that the list is not compact, and could be infraloaded or overloaded.

About the student, it does not always consider his necessities, for instance a student could need a turn in the morning because he works in the afternoon.

gTurnos always provides compact lists and, as in queue, those users that register before have higher priority.

Supported versions

gTurnos was developed under Moodle 1.6.2, and it was successfully tested under the latest exiting versions: 1.6.3 and 1.7.

It requires MySQL and PHP. About PHP versions, there is a version of gTurnos to PHP 5 and another one to PHP 4.

Installing gTurnos

The install process of gTurnos is the same as any other block of Moodle:

- Uncompress the packet, and copy the directory *gturnos* into the directory *blocks* in your Moodle installation.
- Access as *admin* in Moodle, and install the block:
 - Clicking on "*Admin*", in previous versions to the 1.7.
 - Clicking on "*Notifications*", in version 1.7 or later.
- The block will be automatically installed. Once the process finishes, it shows information about it:

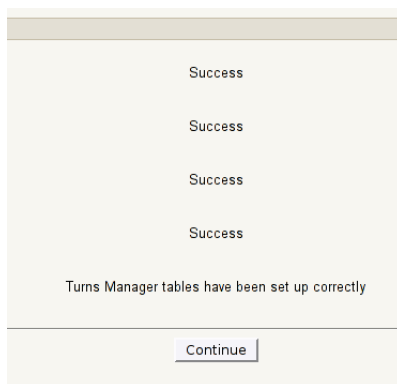


Figure 1: Information after a successful installation process

Using gTurnos

Once it is installed, a teacher with edition privileges in a course can add an instance:

Turn editing on -> *Blocks (Add...)* -> *Turns Manager*

Teachers menu

The teachers menu has the next options:

- Configure delivery blocks.
- See students by registry order.
- Delivery list preview.
- Close delivery list

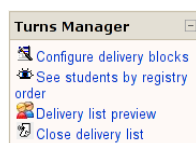
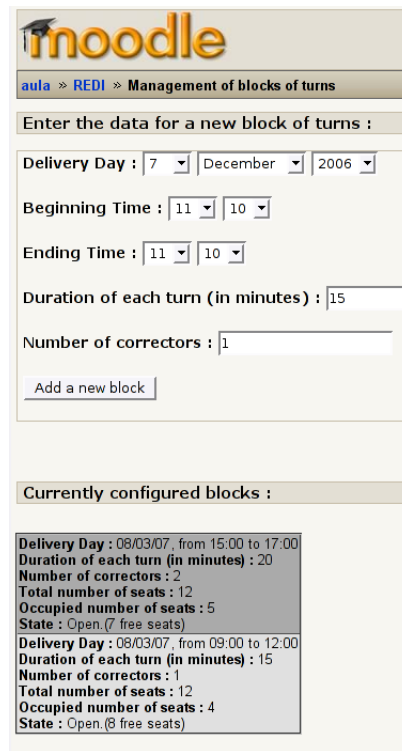


Figure 2: Teachers menu

Configure delivery blocks

The first step the teacher have to do, is to determine the delivery ranks. A form with available options and information about the blocks configured at the moment is showed:



moodle

aula » REDI » Management of blocks of turns

Enter the data for a new block of turns :

Delivery Day : 7 December 2006

Beginning Time : 11 10

Ending Time : 11 10

Duration of each turn (in minutes) : 15

Number of correctors : 1

Add a new block

Currently configured blocks :

Delivery Day : 08/03/07, from 15:00 to 17:00 Duration of each turn (in minutes) : 20 Number of correctors : 2 Total number of seats : 12 Occupied number of seats : 5 State : Open.(7 free seats)
Delivery Day : 08/03/07, from 09:00 to 12:00 Duration of each turn (in minutes) : 15 Number of correctors : 1 Total number of seats : 12 Occupied number of seats : 4 State : Open.(8 free seats)

Figure 3: Configuration of the delivery blocks

The more delivery blocks he configures, the more flexibility will have the students. The application guarantees that for each block ever a compact list will be generated.

Visualization of registered students

Clicking on "See students by registry order", the teacher can access to the information about the registering process of students:



		
aula » REDI » See registered students and their preferences		
Registered students in Redes I		
Turn : 08/03/07, from 15:00 to 17:00		
Name	Preference	Registered since
Bender Doblador Sanchez	P	07/12/06 , 11:06
Vincent Vega	T	07/12/06 , 11:06
Philip J Fray	P	07/12/06 , 11:07
Ismael Casado	P	07/12/06 , 11:07
David Rozas Domingo	T	07/12/06 , 11:08
Turn : 08/03/07, from 09:00 to 12:00		
Name	Preference	Registered since
Fry Farnsworth	T	07/12/06 , 11:04
Eric Cartman	P	07/12/06 , 11:04
Stewie Griffin	P	07/12/06 , 11:05
Uma Thurman	T	07/12/06 , 11:05

Figure 4: Information about registering process

Delivery list preview

Accessing to the preview, the teacher can see the distribution of turns for all students:



[aula](#) » [REDI](#) » Turns assignation preview

Turns list for : Redes I

Turn : 08/03/07, from 15:00 to 17:00

Time	Name
15:00	Bender Doblador Sanchez
15:00	Philip J Fray
15:20	Ismael Casado
15:20	David Rozas Domingo
15:40	Vincent Vega

Turn : 08/03/07, from 09:00 to 12:00

Time	Name
09:00	Eric Cartman
09:15	Stewie Griffin
09:30	Uma Thurman
09:45	Fry Farnsworth

Figure 5: Delivery list

Close delivery list

When the teacher decides that the inscription time has finished, he makes the list definitive clicking on this link.

Once the process is confirmed, the registered students will see their dates as definitive, and there will be no possibilities of registering on closed blocks.

Do you like to close the delivery list?
Doing this, the registration of new students will not be allowed and the registered ones will be informed tha the date is definitive.

Figure 6: Closing a delivery list

Students menu

If the student is not registered, a "Register" option is showed when he access to Moodle:

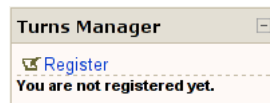


Figure 7: Register option

The registering process is simple: the student have to choose one of the available turns and his preference:

 A screenshot of a Moodle page. At the top is the Moodle logo. Below it is a breadcrumb trail: 'aula » REDI » Turns block registry'. The main content area is titled 'Available turns in Redes I'. It lists two turns: '1# 08/03/07, from 15:00 to 17:00' and '2# 08/03/07, from 09:00 to 12:00'. Each turn has a radio button next to it. Below the list is a 'Desired time' field with a dropdown menu currently set to 'As soon as possible'. At the bottom is a 'Register' button.

Figure 8: Registering form for students

Once the registering process is confirmed, a provisional date is showed in the main course page:



Figure 9: Provisional date

This date can change until the teacher closes the list. At that moment, the student will see the date as definitive.

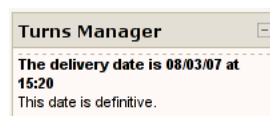


Figure 10: Definitive date

FAQ

- Is it possible to change the generic title "Turns Manager"?
Yes, a teacher can change the title of the block for each course:
Turn editing on->Edition(icon)->Title of the block->Save changes
- In how many languages can I use gTurnos?
Currently in Spanish and English.
- Can I add new blocks later?
Yes, you can add new blocks later, even if there were students registered in another blocks. This is useful, for instance if we need more seats than we configured initially.
- Can I find more documentation about the application?
Yes, you can find more information about gTurnos in the project documentation:
https://sourceforge.net/project/showfiles.php?group_id=181240 (in Spanish)
Visit www.gturnos.sourceforge.net to be aware about news.

Contact

If you are using or will use gTurnos, you have any doubt, suggestion, problem, ... please, contact me on david.rozas@gmail.com or post a message in:
<http://moodle.org/mod/data/view.php?d=13&rid=571>
THANKS!.

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