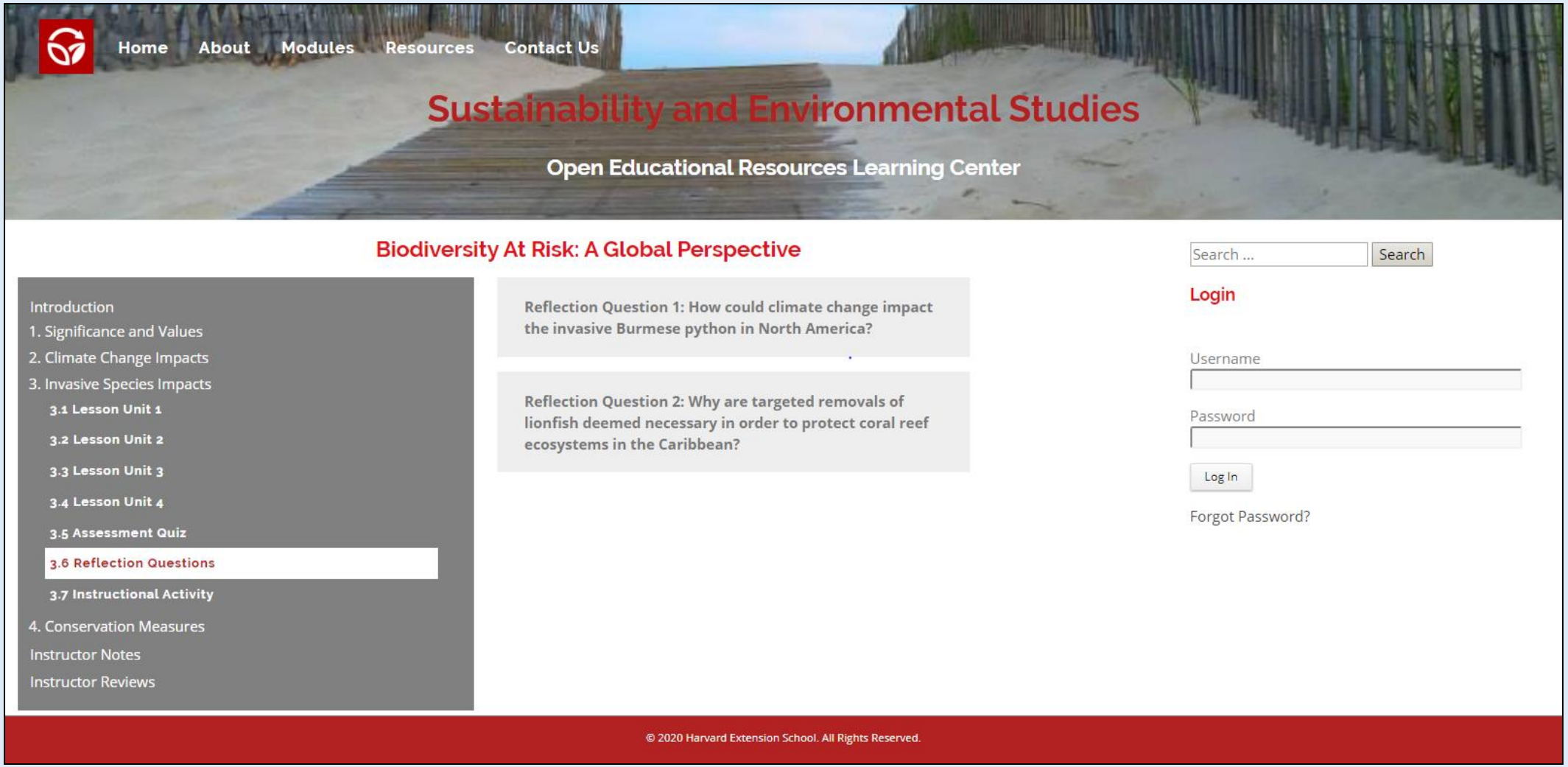
An Open Educational Resource Learning Management System for Sustainability and Environment Studies



Harvard Extension School Video

John Reilly

May 11, 2020

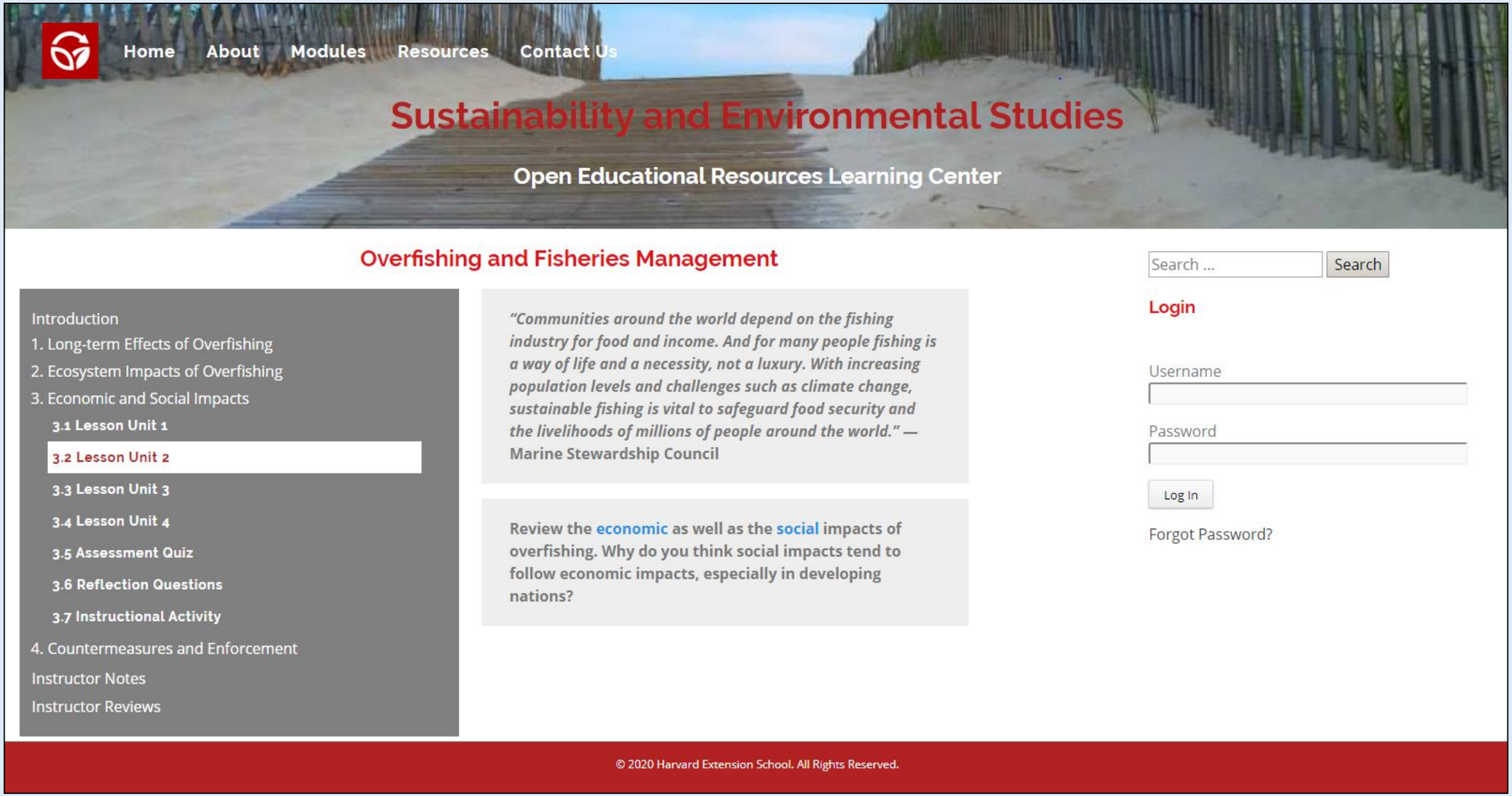
Capstone Project Combining Two Masters Degrees

Completion	Harvard Extension School Degree
Spring 2016	ALM, Sustainability and Environmental Management
Spring 2020	ALM, Digital Media Design

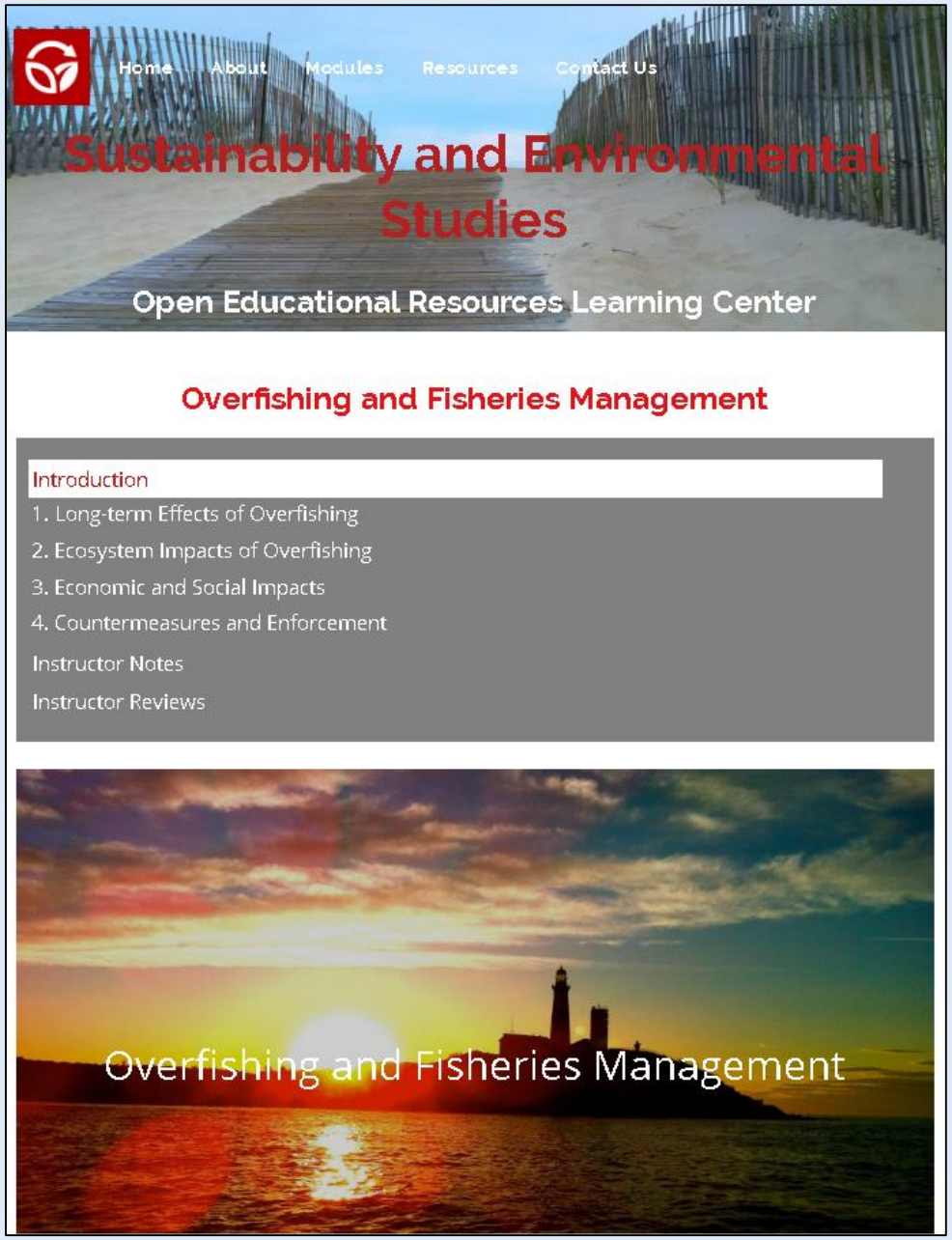
Problem and Solution

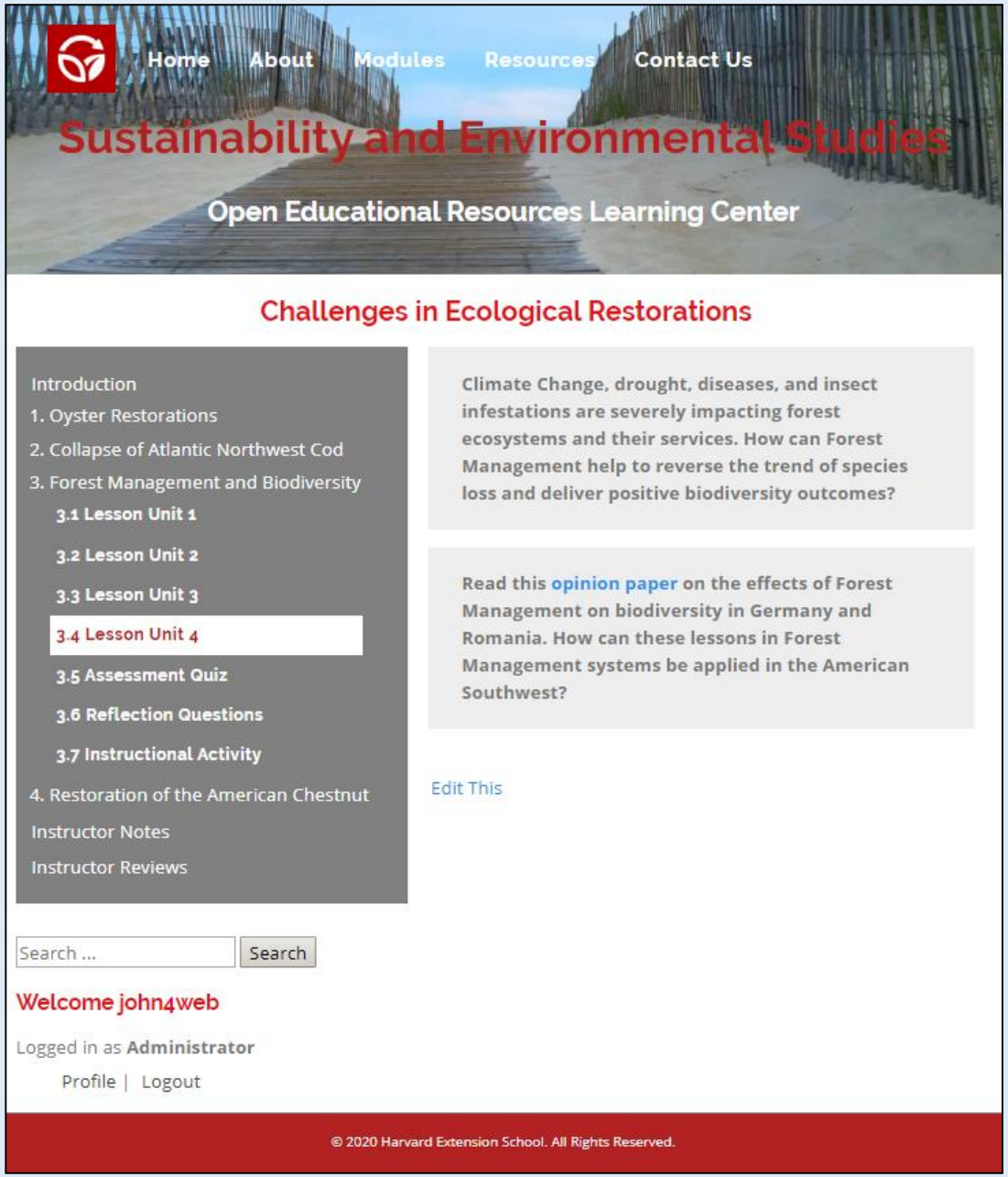
eLearning Resources for Sustainability and Environmental Studies
Existing eLearning resources are often too general and not focused on what environmental students need to learn.
Demand, though, continues to grow at a rapid pace as online education becomes more prevalent and mainstream.
The Solution was to develop a Learning Management System to complement instructor teachings by delving deeper into environmental topics and issues in order to promote enduring understandings.

Used Sustainability and Environmental Management Degree to curate Instructional Content



Combined With the Digital Media Design Degree for Website Development

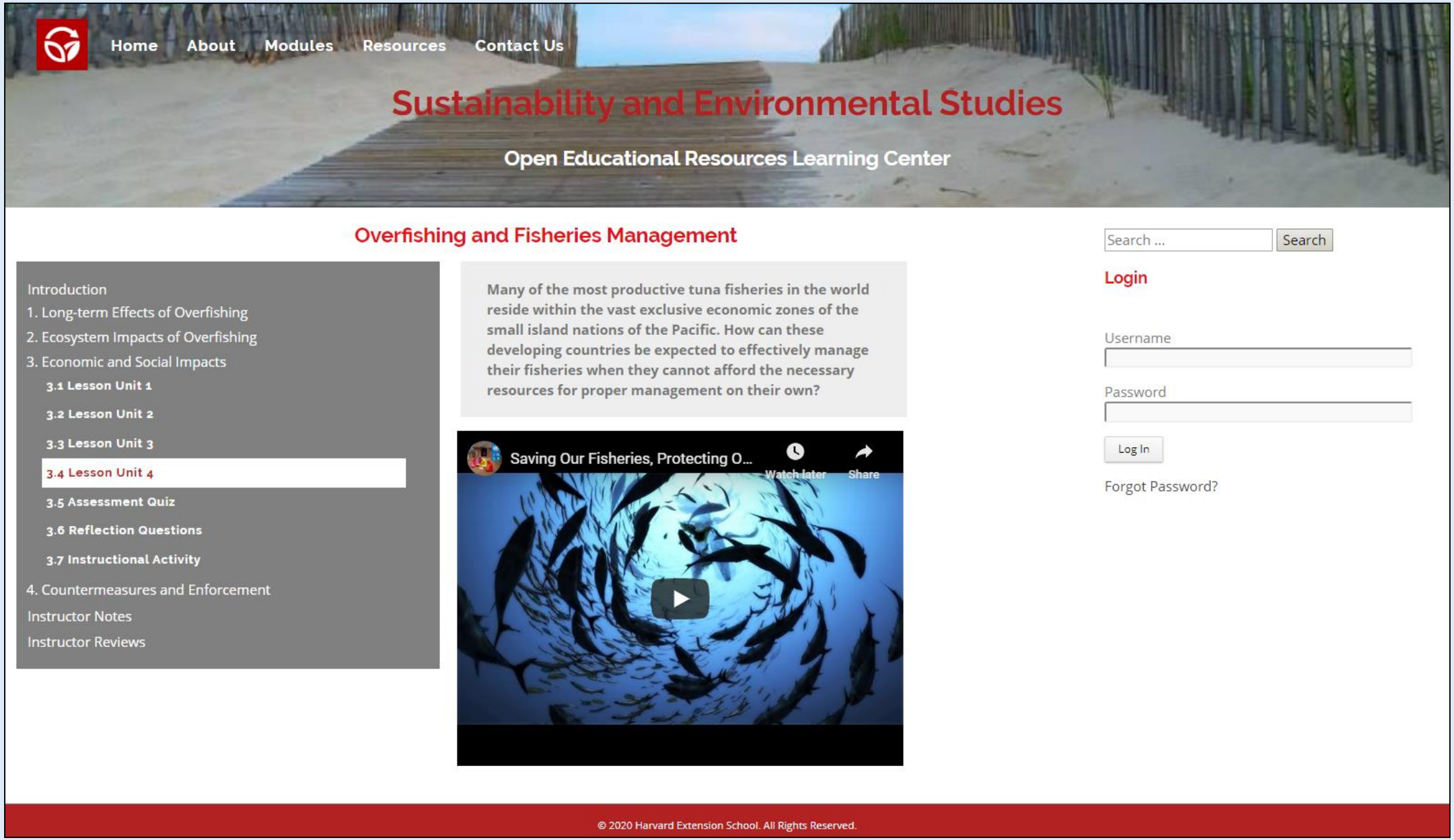




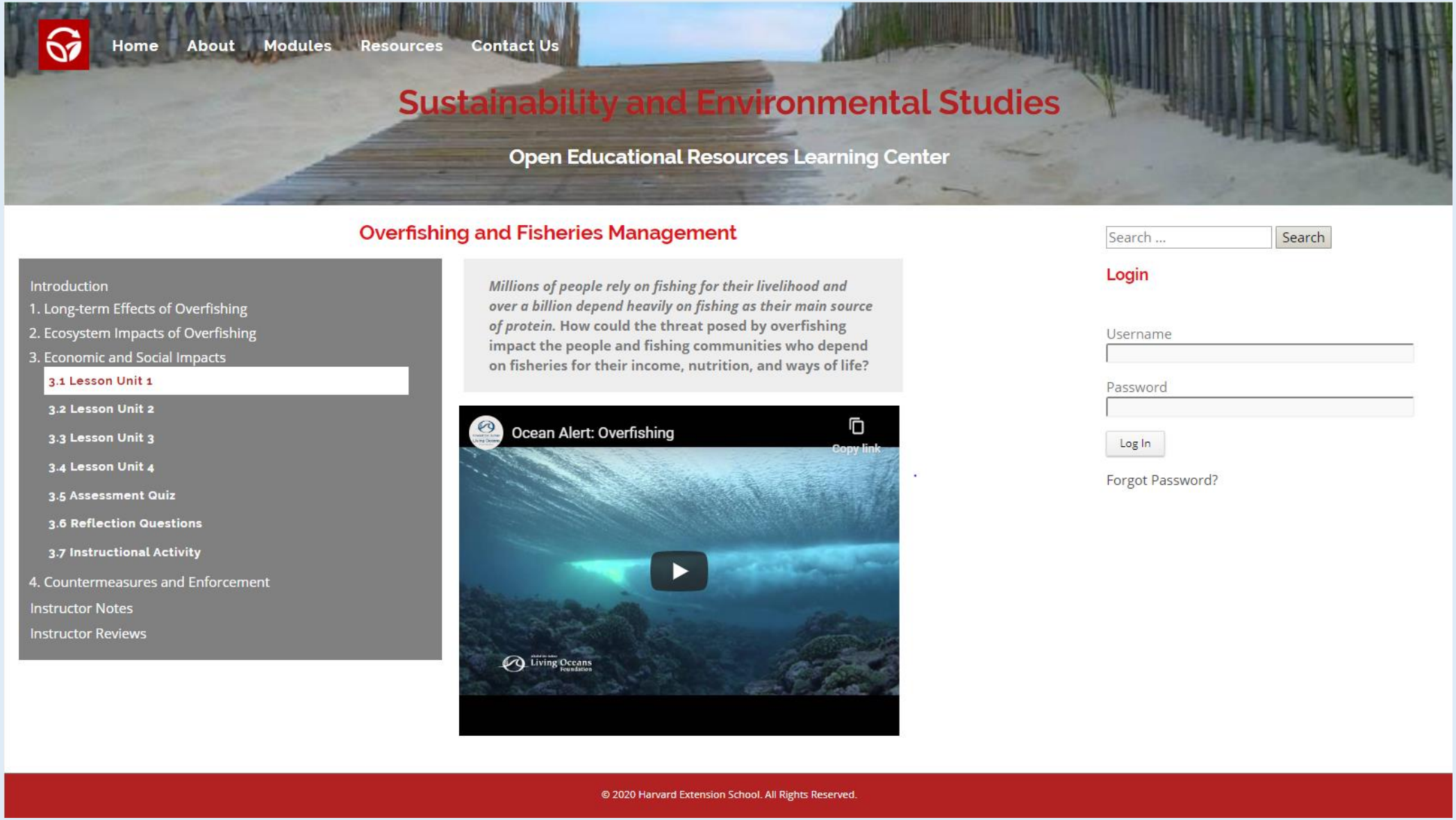
and Instructional Design using Understanding by Design Approach.

Methods to Capture Student Attention and Promote Enduring Understandings
Designing instruction to achieve specific learning goals (Backward Design).
Having a Big Idea as the focus point for instruction and assessment.
Using hooks to capture student attention.
Chunking instructional content into smaller, more manageable pieces to improve retention.
Using repetition in instruction to reinforce learning concepts.
Crafting essential questions and statements of enduring understandings.

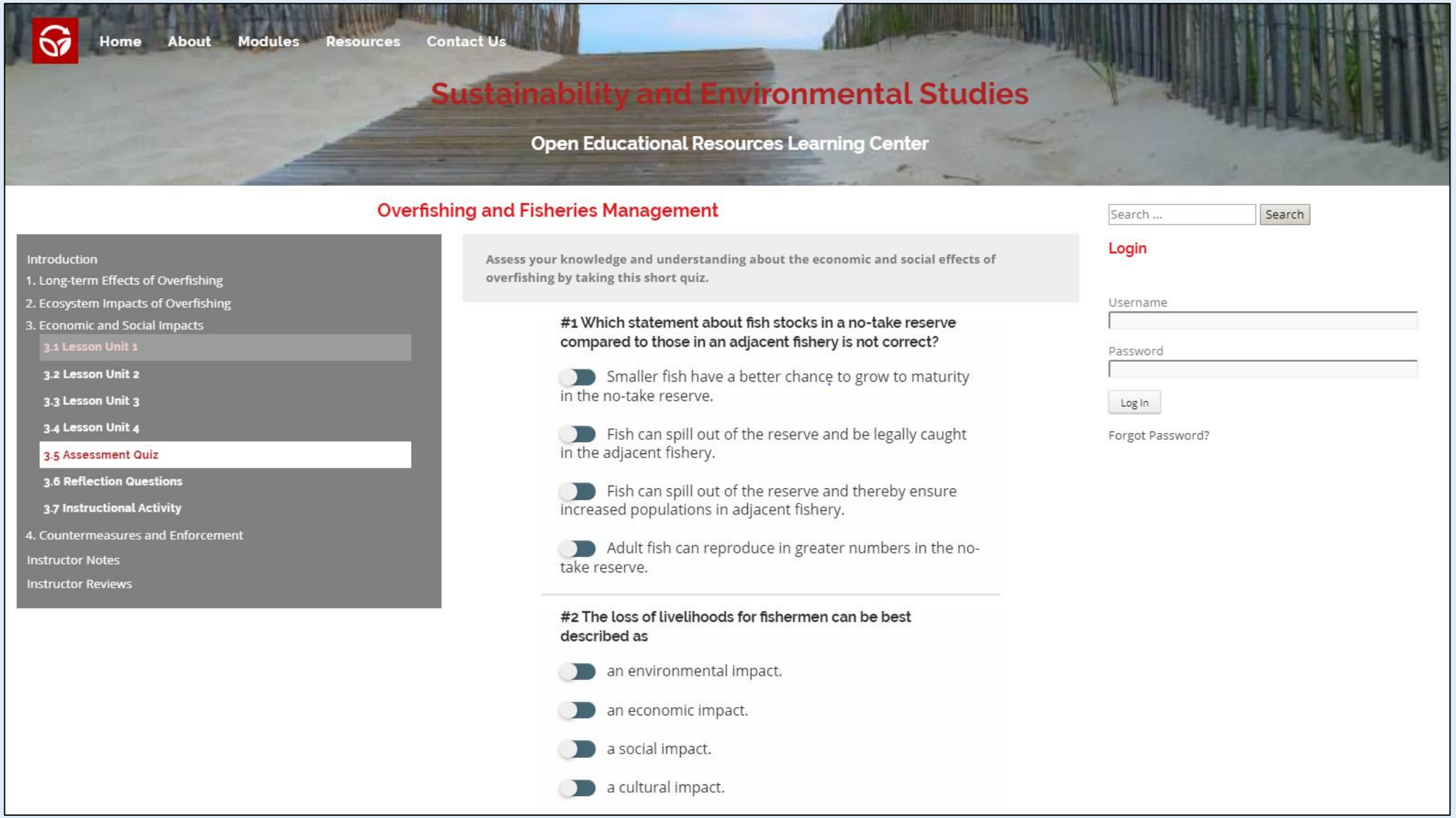
As a Proper Demonstration, Four Lesson Modules with Four Lessons Each Were Curated. More Than Enough Instructional Content for an Entire Semester.



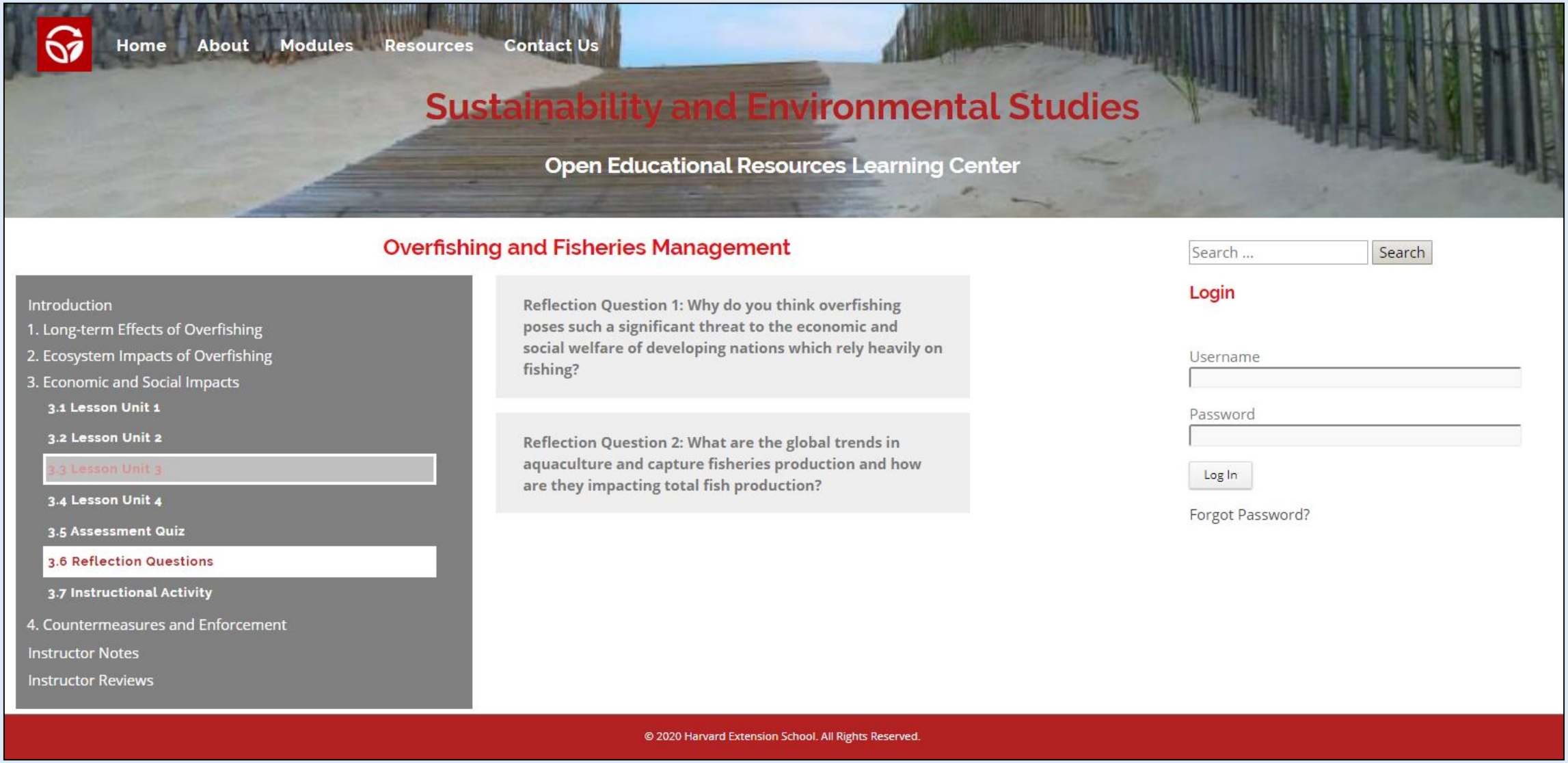
Each Lesson is comprised of four smaller, more manageable sized Lesson Units,



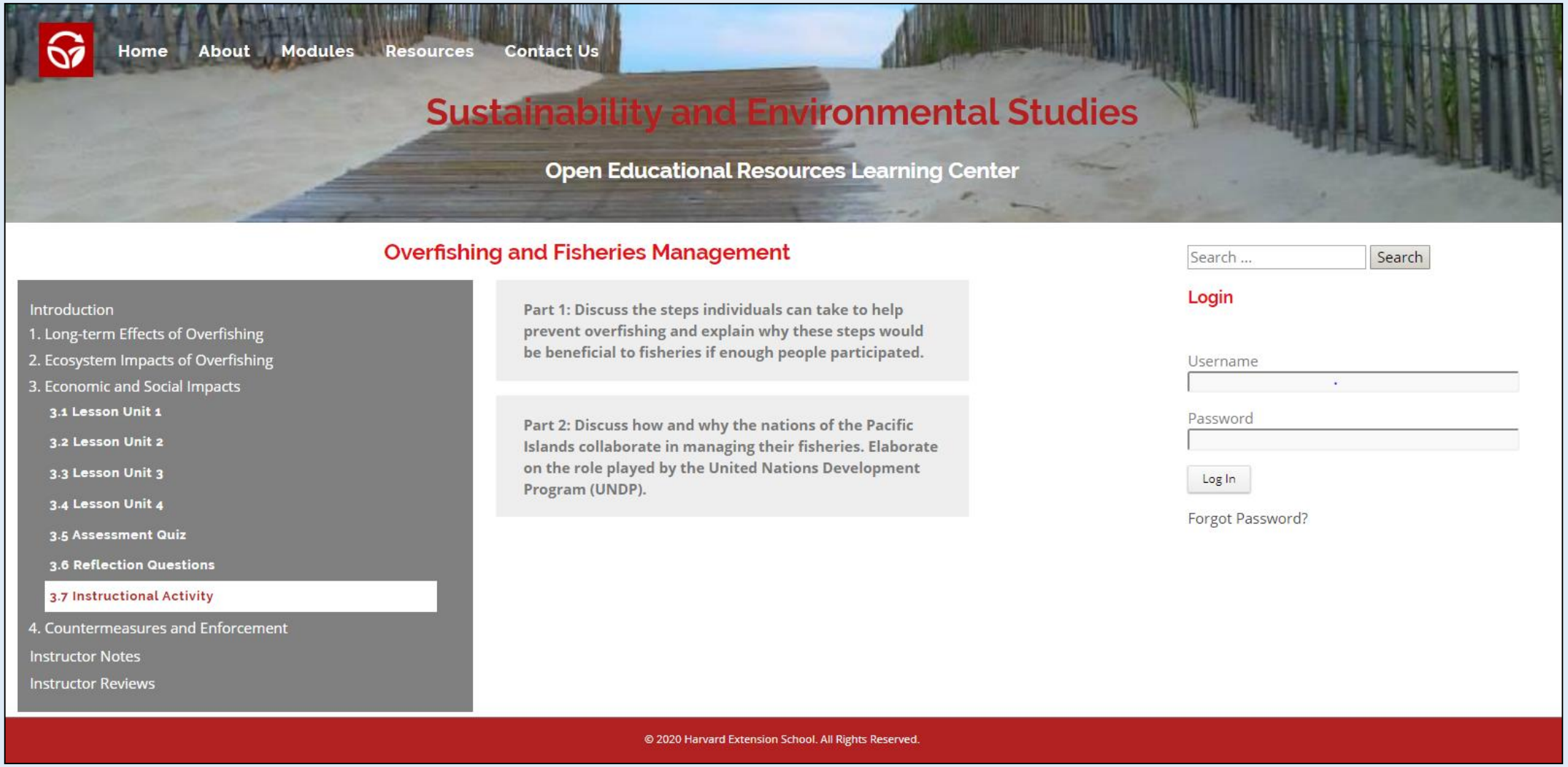
a short Assessment Quiz which consists of five essential questions as indicators of student understanding,



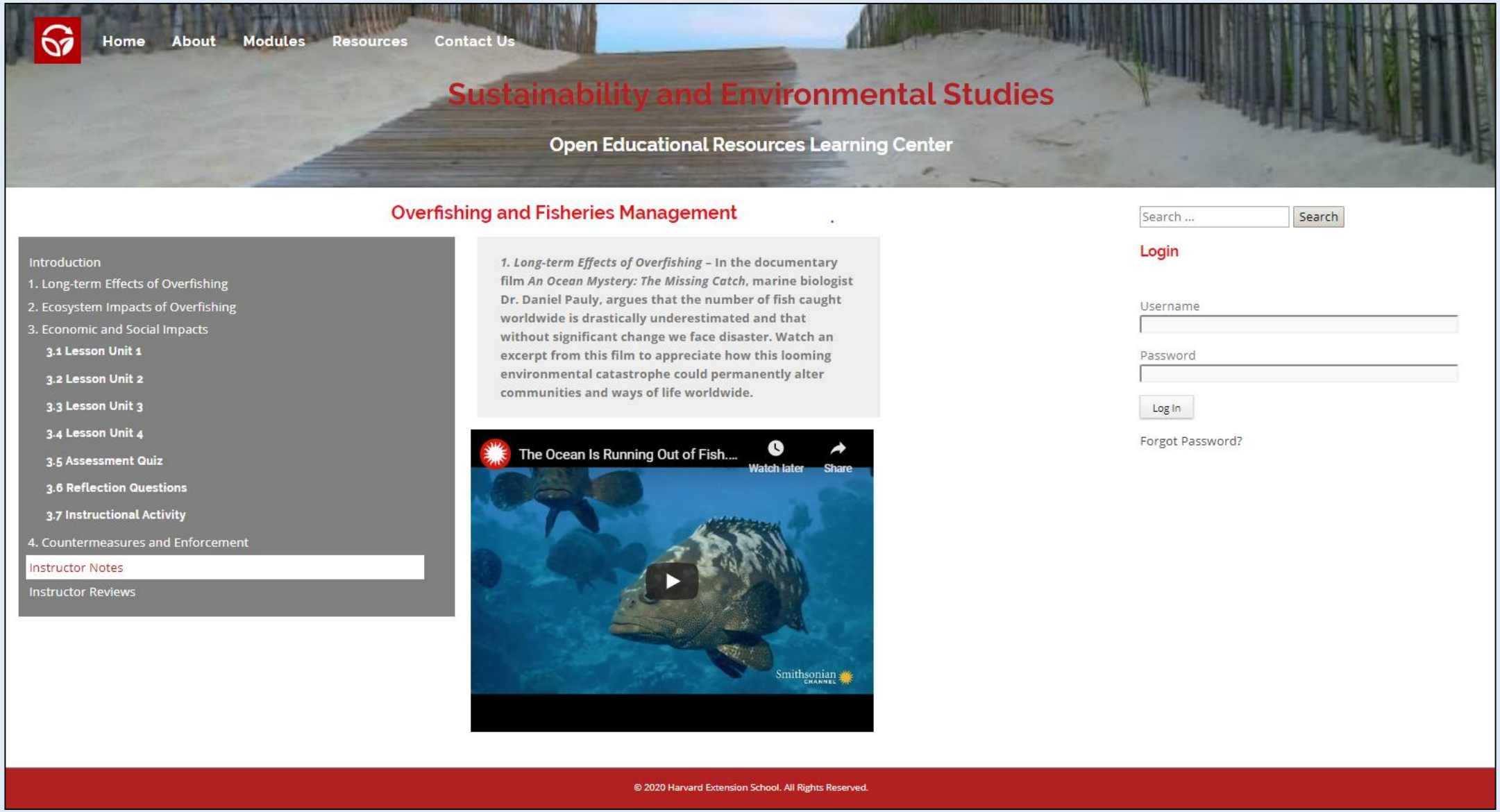
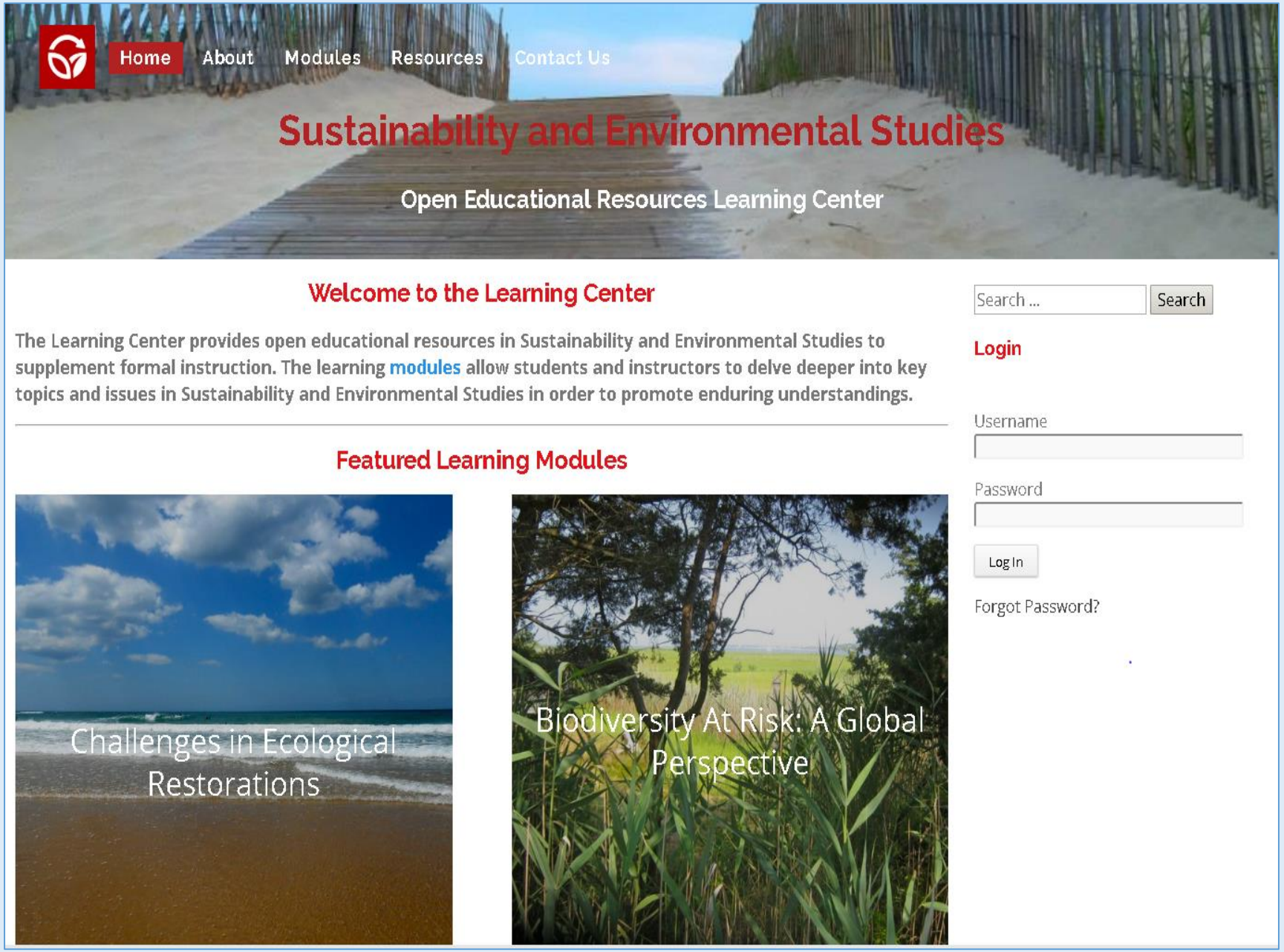
two Reflection questions which can be given as assignments to assess understanding,



and two Instructional Activities which are meant to reinforce the enduring understandings of the lesson.



Instructors can supplement lessons with their own curated content by posting to the Instructor Notes and Instructor Reviews sections.



Visit the demonstration site for the LMS at http://johnr1.sgedu.site/wp/.