What is "Syl_all"?

"Syl_all" is a method to display a single syllabus page, instead of multiple sessions on a CourseWorks site. When students click on “Syllabus”, they will just see your one-page syllabus.

Since this is a mode that was added after the initial CourseWorks setup to meet a specific need, its usage is a bit arcane.

How do you use it?

In order to activate Syl_all, three things must be true:

1. There must be two sessions. The first one will not be visible, so it doesn’t matter what it contains or is named.
2. The second session must be named “Syl_all”, with the initial capital letter.
3. There must be a text box in the “Syl_all” session named “Class Plan”.

The contents of the “Class Plan” text box will be displayed as a one-page syllabus. That will be the only thing displayed in Syl_all mode!

If any of these three things are changed (the first session is deleted, the second session is renamed, etcetera) the syllabus will no longer display in Syl_all mode, but will revert to individual sessions.

Activating Syl_all Mode

A “shortcut” to activate Syl_all mode is as follows: Go to the Syllabus link, click on “Create Session”, and note that there is a paragraph labeled “Bypass sessions” which describes the intended use of the Syl_all mode. Clicking on the “Click to activate” link will automatically create the necessary two sessions, as described above. (See Fig. 1)

Note that if you already have syllabus sessions in place, the “Click to activate” link will modify your second session to meet the Syl_all mode requirements.

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Fig. 1
Fig. 2

**Using Syl_all as a placeholder**

The most common use of Syl_all mode is as a placeholder—that is, you can post the entire syllabus for students to view while you organize it into sessions within CourseWorks. To do this, activate Syl_all mode as described above. Then create your syllabus sessions, starting with the first one in Session 3. No matter how many sessions exist after the initial two, the syllabus will remain in Syl_all mode as long the above three items are true.

Once you have created all of the later sessions, simply delete Sessions 1 and 2 (the Syl_all sessions). This will move the later sessions up (so Session 3 will become Session 1) and put the syllabus back into the default multi-session mode.

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**CourseWorks Support:**

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For CourseWorks technical support and troubleshooting, please call the Help Desk: (212) 854-1919