



Contributing to Jorum

Learning and teaching resources created by teaching staff take a great deal of valuable time and effort to produce, so why should you contribute them to Jorum?

Overview

Jorum is a JISC-funded free online repository service for teaching and support staff in UK Further and Higher Education Institutions. Our aim is to help build a community for the sharing, reuse and repurposing of learning and teaching materials.

Jorum consists of two services: Jorum Contributor (putting resources in) and Jorum User (getting resources out). We would like to invite staff from institutions and project teams that have developed learning resources to contribute them to Jorum.

What can be contributed?

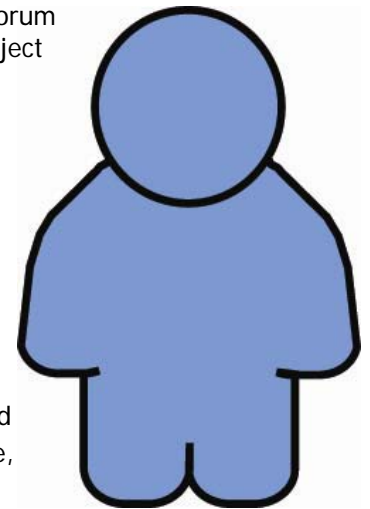
Jorum hosts a range of learning and teaching materials, from single file assets (documents, diagrams, animations) to more complex content packages (objects made up of several elements such as images, text and self-assessment exercises).

The resources cover a broad range of subject areas, relevant across Further and Higher Education. Jorum relies upon contributions of resources and so the type, size and topic of the learning materials is reliant upon those depositing.

Learning resources in Jorum are made available to teaching and support staff who incorporate them into their teaching. Teaching materials support staff in using the resources and delivering them to students. The resources can be used freely for educational purposes as part of blended learning, classroom or online learning activities.

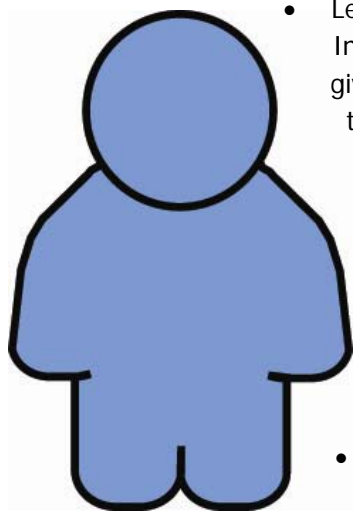
Why Contribute?

- ▶ Play an important role in the advancement and sustainability of e-learning on a national level.
- ▶ Many projects need to disseminate resource outputs to comply with their funding. Jorum can help fulfil this requirement, enabling you to promote your achievements to a national audience for free.
- ▶ Jorum offers a “keepsafe” for publicly funded project outputs, which in the past have often been lost to the community at the end of funding.
- ▶ Jorum aims to facilitate communities of practice and foster online relationships and links between peers across the UK.
- ▶ Jorum offers the facility for any College or University in the UK to store some or all of its learning and teaching resources in the repository, and share them with colleagues across the UK.



➤ Help Jorum Users save time and effort by offering them ready-made resources, or the ability to repurpose existing ones.

➤ For Contributors, the advantages of the system are numerous:



- Legal security – Jorum has a robust licensing system for the expression of Intellectual Property Rights. Contributing Institutions sign a Deposit Licence giving permissions to other Jorum Users to use the resources. Resources are tagged with metadata ensuring that IP rights, including those of third parties, are expressed.
- Authenticated Access – Jorum is Athens authenticated, ensuring resources are securely accessed by the educational community.
- Metadata and Cataloguing – Descriptions of resources in Jorum conform to accepted standards, meaning they can be easily found by users. Jorum also funds information specialists to assist with attaching metadata.
- Workflow – Jorum has developed a workflow process that can be tailored to the needs of contributors.
- Contributors will benefit from professional management of their data and support services at the EDINA and MIMAS data centres. We also offer technical support, along with registration, user support, training and promotional services.

Common Concerns

Why would I share content? – It might be worth something!

- The value in most e-learning materials is how they are contextualised in the learning environment, rather than in any re-sale value to competitors or the commercial sector.

Why would I share something that took me a long time to produce?

- You should share precisely because it took you a long time to produce! It saves other staff from re-inventing the wheel, and if they also contribute their materials, you will benefit from them.

The content is mine and I don't want to give away my rights!

- In most cases, your institution will own IPR in the material produced during the course of your employment. Your institution retains copyright in the materials, and simply licenses them to HEFCE.

The licensing process looks complicated and time consuming!

- The Jorum licensing model is comprehensive in order to protect all parties' interests. Getting the Deposit Licence completed and signed will take a little effort, although only one licence is required per institution. For help you can contact support@jorum.ac.uk or use the support material on our website.

I don't have time to donate content to Jorum!

- Submitting content does take a little time, but we will do our best to assist you and make the process as easy as possible. In addition, we provide assistance from information specialists, who will create most of the catalogued record for you so that the content can be found and used by others.

My content won't be of any use to anyone else!

- Users benefit from accessing this content "as-is", but can then develop resources by modifying and repurposing them to enrich their students' learning experience.